



Glossary of Terms for Private Aviation

Searching for a Private Flight

Air Charter Operator: The party responsible for the safety, maintenance, operations, and licensing of an aircraft on behalf of the aircraft's owner. The operator may or may not be the owner of the aircraft.

Carbon Offset: Carbon offsets are available to purchase as a means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. A single carbon offset is equivalent to a reduction of one metric ton of carbon dioxide.

Empty Legs/Deadheads: These flights are used to reposition an aircraft and contain no passengers. By booking a one-way, empty leg flight, customers chartering this private flight can expect to pay less than a traditional private charter.

Fractional Ownership: As it relates to private air travel, an individual can purchase part of an aircraft and become a fractional owner. Fractional ownership allows the individual to have interests in an aircraft that is operated as part of a company's fleet and are able to use the aircraft on a pay-by-the-hour-(or day)-basis. Fractional owners will also pay a fee to the fractional management company that operates the asset on their behalf.

Jet Card: A jet card is a way to charter a private flight by pre-paying into a company's program. An entry-level jet card will typically require a deposit of \$100,000 to \$150,000 and buys you between 10 and 25 hours of flight time.

Jet Charter: The term used to describe hiring a crew and renting an aircraft for private air travel.

Jet Charter Broker: An agent that works on behalf of a customer's interests to charter a private jet by collaborating with aircraft operators and other service providers.

Private Jet: A private jet is an aircraft that is owned by a private individual or operator.

Private Jet Charter: A private jet charter is the process of hiring a private jet to use for a specific purpose including business or personal travel.

Private Jet Membership: Some companies offer private jet memberships, which require customers to pay an annual fee to unlock private aviation services. Each membership has different stipulations regarding the type of jet you can access, as well as additional fees for other amenities.

Shared Flights: A private jet can be chartered at a lower rate when you book a shared flight. Shared flights allow you to purchase a seat on a scheduled private jet flight, rather than charter the entire aircraft for your trip.

Whole Plane vs. Individual Seats: When searching for a private jet flight, you will want to determine whether you want to charter the whole plane or purchase individual seats. While purchasing individual seats can reduce your total costs, searching and comparing prices on SimpleCharters may allow you to charter a whole plane without paying more.

Booking a Private Flight

Black Out Days: Some private jet operators, memberships, and jet cards have black out days. These are days that your options are limited or unavailable for chartering a private flight. These days often occur during busy seasons or on holidays. When you book with SimpleCharters, you can enjoy maximum flexibility as we do NOT have black out days.

Deicing: When there is a buildup of ice on an aircraft, the plane will require deicing. This process uses a heated mixture of chemicals, sprayed at high pressure, to remove ice from the tail, nose, and wings of the aircraft. When flying in colder months, it is important to remember that deicing may be required prior to your flight and will incur an additional fee.

FET: FET, or federal excise tax, is a tax that is imposed on certain services, activities, and goods. This is assessed on all transportation of people in the United States and within 225 miles of its borders in Canada and Mexico on both private charter and commercial airline flights. As of 2021, it's 7.5% of the total cost.

Flight Advisor: A SimpleCharters flight advisor is a dedicated member of our customer care team that assists customers with finding the right flight and aircraft to meet their travel needs. Our flight advisors are here to help you not only book a private charter, but can also assist with any other help you need to make your trip a success.

Heavy Jet: A heavy jet is an aircraft that has a minimum takeoff weight of 40,001-90,000 lbs. Examples of heavy jets include the Bombardier Challenger 600, the Dassault Falcon 900, and the Gulfstream G-II/III/IV.

Ideal Position Price: Depending on the location of a given aircraft, SimpleCharters can offer our Ideal Position Price for certain flights. When plane positioning allows, we can offer many popular routes with substantial savings for our customers.

Light Jet: A light jet is a small jet that can carry up to eight passengers, with a maximum takeoff weight of 10,001-20,000 lbs. Examples of light jets include the Beechcraft Premier, the Learjet 35, and the Cessna Citation II Bravo.

Midsize Jet: Midsize jets can carry small groups of people further distances than a light jet. Depending on size, the maximum takeoff weight for a midsize jet is between 20,001-30,000 lbs. Examples of midsize jets include the Cessna Citation Excel, the Hawker 800, and the Gulfstream G-150.

Positioning/Repositioning: Positioning refers to the location of an aircraft, after it leaves its originating airport. Repositioning is when an aircraft must leave its current location to be made available to passengers departing from a different location.

Real-Time Pricing: Unlike memberships and jet cards, the pricing on SimpleCharters is shown in real-time. Real-time pricing allows us to deliver the lowest cost for a given flight based on route, plane positioning, and availability.

Recovery: Recovery is the process that occurs when an aircraft experiences an unexpected maintenance event and a new aircraft is procured for your trip. SimpleCharters offers guaranteed recovery, ensuring your trip is not canceled unexpectedly.

Segment Fees: Segment fees are charges required for every passenger per occupied leg of a flight in the U.S. Turboprop: Turboprops are smaller aircraft that use a jet engine that is powered by a turbine driven propeller. Turboprops come in a range of sizes and some examples include the Piper M500, the Cessna 208 Caravan, and the Piaggio Avanti.

Flying Private

Aft Cargo Hold: The aft cargo hold is found onboard the aircraft and is located at the back of the aircraft. It is not accessible during flight.

Balanced Field Length: The balanced field length is the distance required for an aircraft to safely take off, or stop, based on the takeoff weight of the aircraft and conditions of the runway.

Ceiling: In aviation, the ceiling refers to the lowest layer of clouds present and the visibility available based on weather conditions, such as having fog present.

FBO/Executive Terminal: An FBO is a fixed-base operator. FBOs are airport service centers that offer several services to fliers and operators including aircraft maintenance, lounge facilities, cabin supplies, and hangars for aircraft before and after flight. FBOs are colloquially known as the Executive Terminal, where customers board their respective aircraft.

Flight Crew: The flight crew is the staff aboard an aircraft which operates the aircraft during flight. Depending on the size of the aircraft, the flight crew will range in size from just a single pilot to two pilots and a cabin crew.

- **PIC:** The PIC is the pilot in command and is the pilot who is responsible for operating the aircraft during flight and maintaining the safety of everyone aboard the aircraft.
- **SIC:** When a flight has a second pilot, that pilot is known as the SIC, or second in command. All SimpleCharters flights are operated by two pilots.
- **Flight Attendant:** On larger aircraft, one or more flight attendants make up the cabin crew and work to ensure the safety and comfort of all passengers during flight.

Fuel Stops: Many charter flights are nonstop, but when refueling is required to reach the destination, a typical fuel stop will take anywhere from 30-60 minutes depending on the size of the aircraft.

Headwind: Air that is moving in the opposite direction that the aircraft is traveling is known as a headwind.

Knot: The most common unit of measurement for the airspeed of an aircraft is a knot. A knot is equivalent to one nautical mile per hour.

Lavatory: An aircraft lavatory can be defined in one of three ways: a room similar to a bathroom with a washbowl and toilet, an area with just a washbowl, or an area with just a flush toilet. Many private charters include a full lavatory onboard, but depending on the size of the aircraft, this may vary.

Mechanical/Recovery: If there are ever mechanical or maintenance needs that arise with the aircraft you have chartered for your flight, SimpleCharters will procure a new aircraft for your trip. Our recovery guarantee ensures that your trip continues as scheduled.

Nautical Mile: A nautical mile is the unit of measurement used to calculate distances in air navigation.

Payload: Cargo or passengers on a flight are referred to as the payload, or the revenue generating items aboard the aircraft during operation. The payload is not necessary for the operation of the flight itself.

Precipitation: Precipitation is defined as water, in any form, that is present in the atmosphere. Precipitation comes in several forms ranging from fog to snow.

Ramp Access: Ramp access is offered by many FBOs and allows passengers to drive their car right up to the jet. This dramatically reduces boarding time and alleviates the stress of flying with multiple suitcases, pets, and other cargo.

Statute Mile: A statute mile is a measure of distance which equals 5,280 feet.

Tail Number/Call Sign: A tail number is the registration number assigned to a particular aircraft and is painted on the tail. Similar to a license plate, the tail number is a form of identification. A call sign is a combination of letters and numbers used to identify an operator and sometimes the tail number and call sign for a particular aircraft will be the same.

Tailwind: A tailwind is air that is moving in the direction that an aircraft is flying (blowing from behind). For takeoff and landing, headwinds are more favorable than a tailwind.

Turbulence: When there are sudden changes to the airflow during flight, turbulence occurs. During periods of turbulence, and depending on the severity, a pilot may reduce airspeed to alleviate discomfort and avoid plane damage. Turbulence is completely normal and nothing more than a nuisance. It helps to remember that hitting a patch of turbulence during a flight is similar to hitting a bump in the road while driving in a car.

Safety

Approach Minimums: Approach minimums occur when the aircraft has reached the minimum altitude to land. At this point, the pilot must make the decision to land on the runway or go around and re-approach for landing.

ARGUS: ARGUS refers to both ARGUS International and its rating system, of the same name, for aircraft operators. As a specialized aviation services company, ARGUS provides ratings, reports, and other data to help people make informed decisions about who they fly with for charter.

Chief Pilot: The chief pilot is in charge of overseeing flight and ground crew to ensure they are in compliance with federal and state laws, as well as federal aviation regulations.

Contaminated Runway: This term refers to a runway that is covered with standing water, loose snow, compacted ice and snow, or slush, with at least 25% of the surface area covered.

FAA: The FAA, or Federal Aviation Administration, is a subset of the U.S. Department of Transportation and regulates operations of air commerce, aircraft, air traffic control, airports, and navigable airspace throughout the nation.

FAR: The rules put in place by the FAA are known as the Federal Aviation Regulations, or FAR. All air carriers, pilots, and operators that work in the U.S. must adhere to the FAR.

FlightSafety International: FlightSafety International is an aviation training company that was founded in 1951. They have a team of instructors providing courses in aviation safety training and manufacture advanced flight simulators to help provide realistic training experiences.

IFR/VFR: IFR, or Instrument Flight Rules, and VFR, or Visual Flight Rules, are the rules laid out by the FAA for operating any type of aircraft. Both rules apply to how pilots must operate the plane depending on the weather conditions. IFR requires a smaller ceiling above ground and shorter visibility, while VFR requires a larger ceiling and greater visibility.

IMC/VMC: IMC stands for instrument meteorological conditions and VMC stands for visual meteorological conditions. These terms are related to the meteorological conditions during a flight and are the basis for a pilot to decide whether to use IFR or VFR.

IS-BAO: The IS-BAO is the International Standard for Business Aircraft Operations created by the International Business Aviation Council. These standards are codes laid out for flight operations to ensure that safety and professionalism is maintained during all flights.

NBAA: The NBAA, or National Business Aviation Association, was established in 1947 and maintains the environment that promotes successful business aviation both nationally and internationally.

Recurrent Training: To ensure pilots are always improving their skillset, maintaining safety protocols, and learning new practices, they are required to attend recurrent training. These refresher courses are completed on a regular basis throughout the year and some are done annually or biannually. Recurrent training generally includes written and practical evaluations and are often completed in person and online. The FAA regulates the ongoing schedule in which recurrent training must be completed.

Runway Minimums: The minimum length a runway must be for a given size of aircraft to land on safely is known as the runway minimum.

Time in Type: Time in type is the amount of hours a pilot has been at the controls of a certain type of aircraft.

Type Ratings: A type rating is the standard required by the FAA for pilots to operate particular types of aircraft.

Wyvern: Wyvern is a consulting firm that offers aircraft safety auditing to operators in the U.S.

To book now, or speak with a flight advisor with any questions, please reach out to us at (322) 241-5184 or sales@simplecharters.com

