

London Stansted Airport: Summer 2026 (S26) Scheduling Capacities

(all times in GMT)

Runway:

Hours (GMT)	Max Number Operations R60 (Deps or Arrs)	Max Number Operations R60 (two way)	Max Number Operations R15 (Deps or Arrs)	Max Number Operations R15 (two way)
0000-0059*	24	36	9	13
0100-0159*	24	36	9	13
0200-0259*	24	36	9	13
0300-0359*	24	36	9	13
0400-0459*	24	36	9	13
0500-0514	35 Dep or 24 Arr.	47	9	13
0515-0529			9	13
0530-0544			9	13
0545-0559			9	13
0600-0614	33 Dep or 28 Arr.	50	9	13
0615-0629			9	13
0630-0644			9	13
0645-0659			9	13
0700-0714	33 Dep or 25 Arr	50	9	13
0715-0729			9	13
0730-0744			9	13
0745-0759			9	13
0800-0859	28 dep, 24 Arr	42	9	13
0900-0914	27	42	9	13
0915-0929			9	13
0930-0944			9	13
0945-0959			9	13
1000-1014	28	50	9	13
1014-1029			9	13
1030-1044			9	13
1045-1059			9	13
1100-1114	28	46	9	13
1115-1129			9	13
1130-1144			9	13
1145-1159			9	13
1200-1214	28	48	9	13
1215-1229			9	13
1230-1244			9	13
1245-1259			9	13
1300-1359	28	45	9	13
1400-1414	28	46	9	13
1415-1429			9	13
1429-1445			9	13
1445-1459			9	13
1500-1514	28	49	9	13
1515-1529			9	13
1530-1544			9	13
1545-1559			9	13
1600-1614	28	47	9	13
1615-1629			9	13
1630-1644			9	13
1645-1659			9	13
1700-1714	30	50	9	13
1715-1729			9	13
1730-1744			9	13
1745-1759			9	13
1800-1814	28	50	9	13
1815-1829			9	13
1830-1844			9	13
1845-1859			9	13
1900-1914	28 Dep or 27 Arr	42	9	13
1915-1929			9	13
1930-1944			9	13
1945-1959			9	13
2000-2059	27	42	9	13
2100-2114	31 Arr. or 24 Dep.	42	9	13
2115-2129			9	13
2130-2144			9	13
2145-2159			9	13
2200-2214	24 Dep or 31 arr	36	9	13
2215-2229			9	13
2230-2244*			9	13
2245-2259*			9	13
2300-2359*	24	36	9	13

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NOTES:

- 1 DFT Night Quota restrictions apply during the hours marked *.
- 2 Planning restrictions limit the total number of annual passenger and cargo air transport movements in a year to 264,000. (PATM 243,500 Catm 20,500) The Coordinator will ensure this limit is not breached.
- 3 The peak hour runway limits have been agreed on the understanding that during those busy periods departing aircraft may be subject to an average wait at the holding point of about ten minutes.
- 4 The Antonov 124 cannot depart during the period **22:00z-06:00z** and requires 4 consecutive departure slots.
The Antonov is not restricted on arrivals
- 5 Max number of operations in 5 minutes (R05 limit):
 - 5 dep. ATMs and 4 arr. ATMs
 - with the exception of 0455-0459: 7 dep. ATMs and 2 arr. ATMs

Load Factors (%):

	Scheduled services	Charter services	Dom. Arrivals	CTA Arrivals
Mondays	93	96	91	91
Tuesdays	93	96	91	91
Wednesdays	93	96	91	91
Thursdays	93	96	91	91
Fridays	93	96	91	91
Saturdays	93	98	91	91
Sundays	93	98	91	91

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Terminal:

Hours	Departures ¹	Arrivals International ²	Arrivals Domestic ²	Arrivals CTA ³
0000-0059	5500	4450	750	700
0100-0159	5500	4450	750	700
0200-0259	5500	4450	750	700
0300-0359	5500	4450	750	700
0400-0459	5500	4450	750	700
0500-0559	5500	4450	750	700
0600-0659	5500	4450	750	700
0700-0759	5500	4450	750	700
0800-0859	5500	4450	750	700
0900-0959	5500	4450	750	700
1000-1059	5500	4450	750	700
1100-1159	5500	4450	750	700
1200-1259	5500	4450	750	700
1300-1359	5500	4450	750	700
1400-1459	5500	4450	750	700
1500-1600	5500	4450	750	700
1600-1659	5500	4450	750	700
1700-1759	5500	4450	750	700
1800-1859	5500	4450	750	700
1900-1959	5500	4450	750	700
2000-2059	5500	4450	750	700
2100-2159	5500	4450	750	700
2200-2259	5500	4450	750	700
2300-2359	5500	4450	750	700

NOTES:

- 1 Departures limits are the maximum number of passengers that can be scheduled to depart in any 60 minute period on any type of flight - inclusive of scheduled/charter, International/UK.
- 2 For international arrivals and UK flight arrivals, the maximum are independent.
- 3 CTA arrivals are also modelled at a 15 minute and 30 minute level. Capacity is 380 passengers per 15 minutes and 579 passengers per 30 minutes. Hourly limits are displayed in the above table.
- 4 The Terminal limits set out above are 60 minute capacities. To avoid "bunching" effects the Co-ordinator will cross check capacities over each hour starting at 15 minutes past the hour as well as over each hour.
- 5 **A rolling 2 hours passenger limit of 10,100 departing passengers. No rolling 2 hours limit will be applied for International arrivals**
- 6 A check in desk constraint will be applied for S26 as follows:-
- | Zone | No of Desks | Declaration |
|-----------------|-------------|--|
| Zone A | 15 | 7 |
| Zone B | 15 | 13 |
| Zone C | 15 | 13 |
| Zone D | 14 | 12 |
| Zone E | 15 | 12 |
| Zone F | 15 | 7 |
| Shoreline Left | 12 | 6 desks until 08:30 LT, 10 desks rest of the day |
| Shoreline Right | 16 | 6 desks until 08:30 LT, 14 desks rest of the day |
- Where the check in desk availability causes a constraint, a referral process will be implemented by ACL for the Airport to review and revert.
- 7 New departure slot requests in the hours 23:00 to 04:00 requiring terminal capacity will be referred to the airport to assess resourcing
- 8 Any special operational requests regarding:
Surface access, Check-in, Security, Lounge, Gate, Immigration, Airside coaching
must be communicated to the airport no later than 72 hours before the flight.
- 9 A movement limit of 2 arriving Wide-body passenger movements in any 60 minutes (rolling every 15min.) applies.
Where the WB availability causes a constraint, a referral process will be implemented by ACL for the Airport to review and revert.
- 10 Any new inbound demand which breaches the coordination limits will be referred to the Airport for review.
- 11 Only x3 simultaneous Code E & F aircraft are available within Northside at any one time.
When stands demand causes a constraint, a referral process will be implemented by ACL for the Airport to review.

Cargo:

Only 3 aircraft stands are available at any one time for B747-800 or 2 A380 series aircraft on the main cargo apron.
Total cargo parking demand will also be assessed. Where stand availability causes a constraint, a referral process will be implemented by ACL for the Airport to review and revert.

Business Aviation:

Stansted is designated as fully coordinated airport and therefore each business and general aviation movement requires the prior allocation of a slot.

Night quota:

Government designated night quota limits apply at Stansted.
The night quota period is defined as 2230 - 0500 (GMT) during which DfT have determined that for the Summer 2026 season the number of movements will be restricted to 8100, and the maximum number of night quota points permitted to be 4650.
An assessment of remaining night allocations will be made at slot return deadline.
The Airport also has to manage the night noise footprint during the 8 hour night (23:00-07:00 Local). The maximum number of quota points during this period (including allocation within the DfT limits) will be set at 10,100 for Summer 2026.

Air Noise Cap:

The area enclosed by the 57dB(A) Leq 16hr (0700-2300) contour, when calculated and measured by the Civil Aviation Authority's Noise Contour Model (current version), shall not exceed 33.9sq km.