



Journey by Air

Since the 1930s several regional airports have operated on the South Shore and Cape Cod: Hanover, Middleboro, Plymouth, New Bedford, Falmouth and Hyannis. These airports offer links between larger towns and Boston for commuter flights.

Plymouth's airport opened in 1934 when the first plane landed at Craig Farm on South Meadow Road. Plymouth was one of several linking airfields on the coast, including Hyannis, Plymouth, Hanover and Boston. Small planes could land at any in case of severe weather or emergency. In 1936 Mayflower Airlines started commuter service to Boston and Cape. It was not feasible and ended in a few months. The airports were also used for communication. In the late 1930s mail was transported by air from Plymouth.

During World War II, the Plymouth airport was purchased by the military and run as a satellite of Squantum Naval base in Quincy for primary training of fighter pilots. The airport had about a dozen biplanes and two buildings. The 1950s saw improvements to the airfield. After the war, the Town of Plymouth purchased airfield from government for \$1 in 1952. The airstrips were first paved in the 1950s. By the 1970s activity had increased, as commuter planes began using the airfield.

Travelers in southeastern Massachusetts use Logan Airport in Boston and Green Airport in Providence for travel and business on commercial airlines. As Logan Airport became overcrowded, Green Airport has become more popular.

In the 1990s Plymouth's airport is home to 160 single and twin engine aircraft. While there is no regular commuter service, it is used by corporate and recreational planes. Plymouth Airport is the regional headquarters of the Boston medical evacuation helicopters. With Logan Airport so busy, the Plymouth airport serves as a convenient entrance point into the community.