

Visit Rio Vista by Air

Our Regional Airport Has Lots to Offer

Story by Susan Whitesell Photos by RV Muni Airport & Linda Solomon



Aerial shot of Rio Vista Municipal Airport. Photo: <http://riovistacity.com/airport-home/>

Not many towns are accessible by land, river or air. Rio Vista has something special that many towns our size do not – an airport. It was established in 1953 to serve the aviation needs of the local community and the surrounding agricultural lands. The original Rio Vista Airport was closed in 1995, when it was replaced by the new Rio Vista Municipal Airport, 2 miles to the northwest.

According to the city's website, the Rio Vista Municipal Airport, known as Jack Baumann Field, is located on the western boundary of the city of Rio Vista in the heart of California's Delta. On 273 acres of land, the Rio Vista Municipal Airport has a 4,200-foot long, 75-foot wide primary runway, along with a 2,200-foot long, 60-foot wide general aviation runway and a helipad. The airport boasts pilot-controlled runway lights for night flying. A terminal building and 24-hour avgas 100LL facility is also available for your flying convenience. Be sure to check the city's website at <http://riovistacity.com/airport-home/> for comprehensive information about the airport and airport services.

Norm Crabtree, former Aviation Director of Ohio, once said, "The airport runway is the most important main street in any town." Rio Vista's airport is a unique value added asset to our great little town on the river. The airport generates revenue from aviation gas sales and from the rental of 46 hangars, approximately 75 tie downs, and 2 corporate hangars. Rio Vista Municipal Airport has a great future potential for growth. Many of the hangars have electrical outlets and interior lighting. Some have office space and water service. Check the airport web site at <http://riovistacity.com/airport-home/> or call David Melilli at (707) 374-6451 x1116 or Judi Craner at (707) 374-6451 x1122 for more information about available services.

Another attractive amenity is the flight school, provided by Air Force Services Aero Club Flight Training Center.

The center offers training for Private Pilot, Instrument Rating, and Commercial Pilot as well as Private Pilot Ground School two to three times a year, and Discovery Flights all year long. For more information call (707) 374-0081.

Many Rio Vistans are drawn to this community for the airport amenities. With a background in military aviation and attracted by the area's vast waterways, airport volunteer Gerry Nolan and his

wife moved to Trilogy, an over 55 community outside of town, 14 years ago "simply because the airport was here."

For visitors, the fabulous Delta scenery, our charming downtown and local restaurants, including the newly reopened "Larry's" restaurant at Trilogy, are great incentives to fly to Rio Vista. According to Nolan, "We have planes coming and going 24/7 here. We have lots of visitors from the City." Park your airplane either on the outside ramp or hangar for rates unmatched anywhere in the Bay Area. Rio Vista Delta Breeze offers "Dial-A-Ride" transit services to and from Rio Vista Municipal Airport between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m., Monday-Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday. Call (707) 374-2878 at least fifteen minutes in advance for pick up. Another incentive, our competitive aviation fuel prices, draws pilots to Rio Vista.

The sky's the limit. Where else can you tour the great expanse of Delta waterways in less than an hour by air? Come to our airport and realize a whole new aspect of Rio Vista!



Airplanes at the airport. Photo: Linda Solomon