



Flight Trip Chooser 2.0

Manual for both,  
FSX and FS9 Version



## What's new in Version 2.0

There comes a second Excel sheet named "Flight\_Trip\_Chooser\_2\_0\_Departure\_pick.xls" with the package. Due to the request for having the user to pick a departure airport, I reworked the sheet to make this possible. It was the best to split both, the random and the user picking feature, in two separate files, to prevent confusing each other.

The procedure is quite the same, except that you have to enter your desired ICAO code in the green cell instead of random selection.

Number	ICAO	Latitude	Longitude	Elev. ft	Distance	
9280	EDDM	48.3538333	11.786	1483		
	<a href="#">Departure Info fboweb</a>		<a href="#">Departure flightstats</a>			
	<a href="#">Departure Info WAD</a>		<a href="#">Departure Info Wikipedia</a>			
	<a href="#">Departure Google Map</a>					
Number	ICAO	Latitude	Longitude	Elev. ft.	Distance km	Distance
3	00AL	34.8647	-86.7702	817	7,751.5 km	<b>4,185</b>
4	00AZ	34.3055	-112.1645	3809	9,270.0 km	<b>5,005</b>
5	00B	38.9147	-76.5047	0	6,778.5 km	<b>3,660</b>
6	00C	37.2032	-107.8692	6683	8,784.5 km	<b>4,743</b>
7	00CA	35.3505	-116.8882	2025	8,404.1 km	<b>5,078</b>

After that just follow the procedure (described at the next pages of this manual) to define a range of distance for the available destination airports around the picked departure airport.

Other changes:

- some ICAO codes were changed automatically due to "science" cell format – repaired
- the decimal degree of Lat/Lon coordinates were not exact – repaired
- some hyperlinks didn't work correct – repaired
- there is a version for FSX airports available
- the GoogleMap view is larger than before
- GoogleMap view won't skip to Munich after a while
- the position of the GoogleMap view is exactly centered now, just use the zoom bar to zoom in and keep the map centered
- the hyperlink "flightstats" is new, pretty good content and very complete database



## Introduction

Don't you feel sometimes overwhelmed with that thousands of places you can fly using any modern flight simulation? Most of the time you would choose a flight close to your place or your holiday trip or any other well known places. But how to find adventure flights in the middle of nowhere in a completely unknown area?

The answer is right here: Flight Trip Chooser 1.0

Just open the Flight Trip Chooser 1.0 to get you a random departure airport automatically, chosen from more than 23.000 airports around the world. You will have an automated selection of airports within a distance of 90 nm (the distance is adjustable with a little workaround) around the departure airport on your finger tips.

Before you finally choose your destination you are able to get pretty detailed information (hybrid satellite and map view from GoogleMap, aviation charts, airport information, weather with radar map and so on) about the preselected destinations right away. No need to type anything, just click and go.

When you are happy with one destination just get all that mentioned fancy stuff, hop into the cockpit and fly in whatever weather conditions (ActiveSky recommended) you find there.

To get the most fun out of your flight trip, I recommend you use a real time weather engine like ActiveSky and a flight planning tool like FSNavigator for IFR based flights.

GoogleEarth doesn't need to be installed on your PC since GoogleMap will work with your favourite internet browser via a direct link from Flight Trip Chooser 1.0.

Don't worry about the strange letters on the screenshots. Unfortunately my MSExcel is in German language. Sorry for any inconvenience. I have that trouble every day...

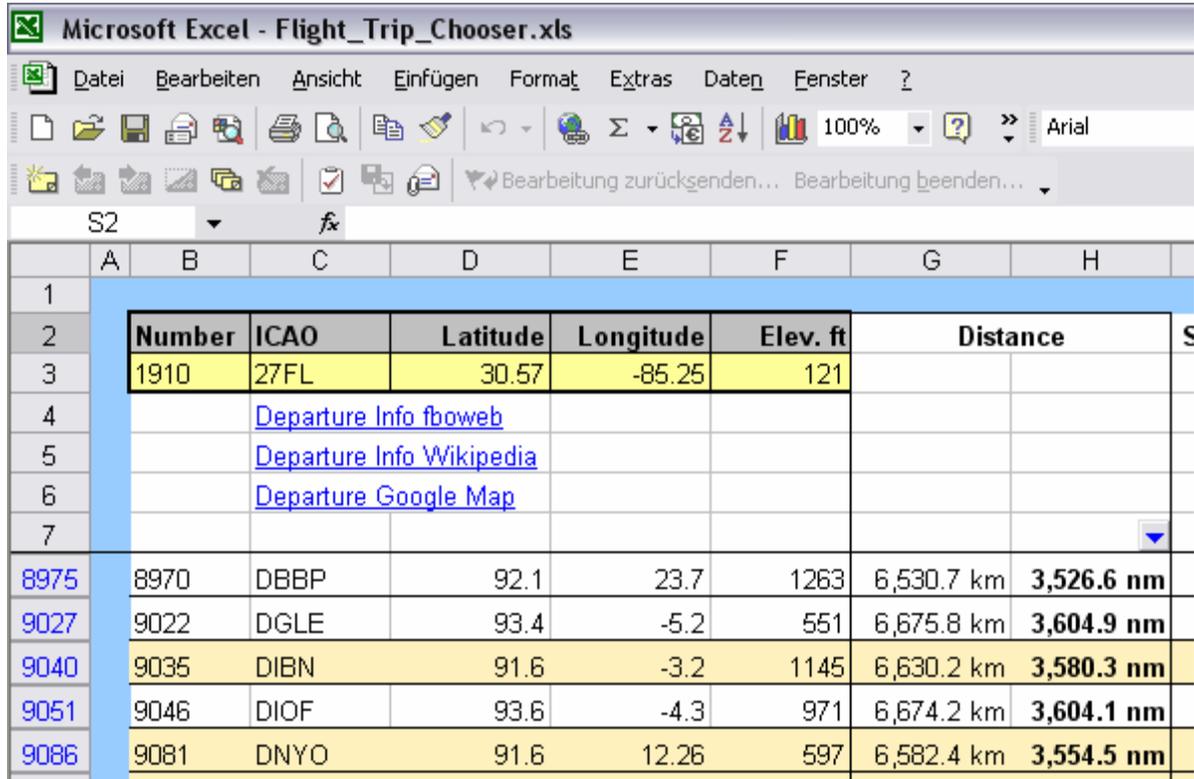
A tutorial flight about GPS navigation is in preparation. It will be available at [www.flying-eddie.com](http://www.flying-eddie.com) as soon as possible.

My Capitols Project could be of your interest. Check my website at <http://www.flying-eddie.com> to find out more.

You will need MSExcel and a connection to the internet to use this tool.

## Getting started to find a departure airport

First of all open the file Flight\_Trip\_Chooser.xls with MSEXcel. It should have a similar look with the following screenshot.



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1								
2		<b>Number</b>	<b>ICAO</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>	<b>Elev. ft</b>	<b>Distance</b>	
3		1910	27FL	30.57	-85.25	121		
4			<a href="#">Departure Info fbweb</a>					
5			<a href="#">Departure Info Wikipedia</a>					
6			<a href="#">Departure Google Map</a>					
7								
8975	8970	DBBP	92.1	23.7	1263	6,530.7 km	<b>3,526.6 nm</b>	
9027	9022	DGLE	93.4	-5.2	551	6,675.8 km	<b>3,604.9 nm</b>	
9040	9035	DIBN	91.6	-3.2	1145	6,630.2 km	<b>3,580.3 nm</b>	
9051	9046	DIOF	93.6	-4.3	971	6,674.2 km	<b>3,604.1 nm</b>	
9086	9081	DNYO	91.6	12.26	597	6,582.4 km	<b>3,554.5 nm</b>	

The grey and yellow box in the top left corner is the random selected departure airport. Every time you hit the F9 key on your keyboard a new departure airport will be selected by random. **Important!**

To get more information just click **once** on “Departure Info fbweb” and **wait**, you will be served with detailed information about the airport within some seconds. Be patient and stop clicking around to confuse your PC and start kicking and yelling coz the dam thing doesn't work like you expect it. Sounds familiar – been there to many times...

If you are not happy with the selected departure airport, please hit the F9 key on your keyboard to get a new random departure airport. If you click on “Departure Info fbweb” again, you will now get detailed information about the new selected airport. Cool huh ;-)

Have a look at the screenshot next page.

The screenshot shows the fboweb.com website interface. At the top, there's a search bar with the text "enter tail #, airport ID, or search". Below it, there are several tabs for "Flight tracking", "Aero Info", "Pilot Services", "Scheduling and Dispatch", and "Operations". The main content area displays information for "27FL WATSON (AIRPORT) PRIVATE".

**QUICK TRACK (FREE!)**

Select Airline:  Enter Flight #:

**3D Flight Tracking!**

**LIVE SUPPORT**

**FBOWEB.COM NEWS**

- September 14, 2006 Flight planning enhanced
- September 11, 2006 Map images not displaying properly for you?
- September 04, 2006 Flight History offline for upgrades
- September 03, 2006 IFR Approach Plates have been updated.

[More news](#)

Select airport as:  Departure  Destination  Current WX  Runways  Frequencies  Remarks  Services  Fuel

Imagine your FBO's ad **HERE** (click me!) ...or **HERE**... (click me!)

**27FL WATSON (AIRPORT) PRIVATE**

Runway Diagram: NO DIAGRAM AVAILABLE

City Map: Ellaville, SR-2 W, 23

Local Radar: Campbellton, FL. Image created 24 17:00 GMT

Location	CAMPBELLTON , FL	Owner Name	TERRY D. WATSON
Latitude	30-57-09.6640N	Owner Phone	904-263-4212
Longitude	085-25-02.7560W	Facility Mgr	TERRY D. WATSON
Elevation	122'	Mgr Address	RT 1, BOX 72
Sectional	NEW ORLEANS	City, St, Zip	GRACEVILLE, FL 32440
Attendance		Mgr Phone	904-263-

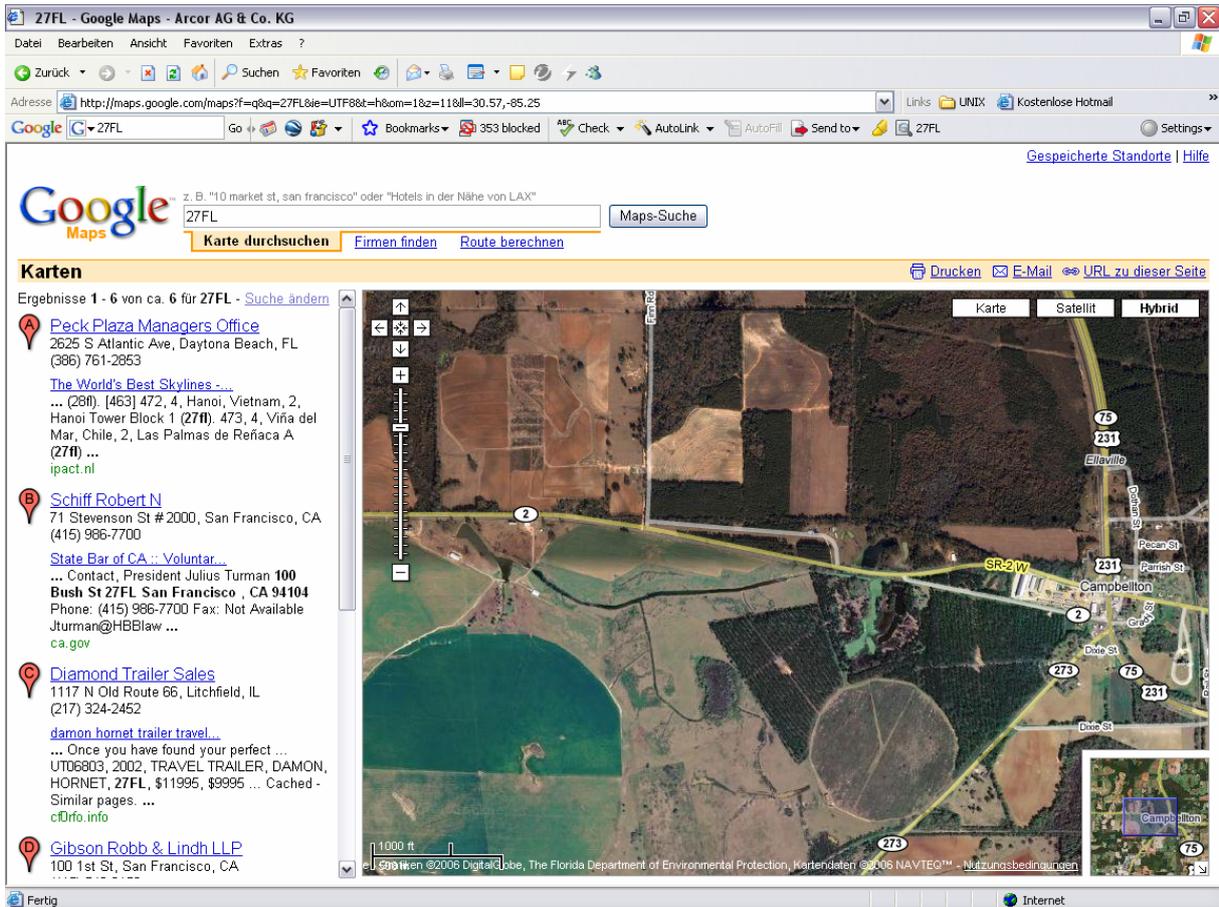
Look at the weather radar. You are really the lucky one if you got ActiveSky installed. It should be fun and challenging to fly through all the red stuff, yeah.

In case there is not enough information available at fboweb give "Departure Info Wikipedia" a try. Anyway keep in mind, the less information the better your adventure.

To get a better overview from your flight trip area, click on the "Departure Google Map" link and give your browser a chance to load the stuff.

If you got eyes like an eagle you might find the departure airport right away. Otherwise check the map with fboweb and zoom to find highways and freeways and those intersections. It shouldn't be that hard to find it if you get used to the handling. Try to move to northwest a bit after the map loaded automatically and zoom in.

Have a look at the GoogleMap screenshot next page.

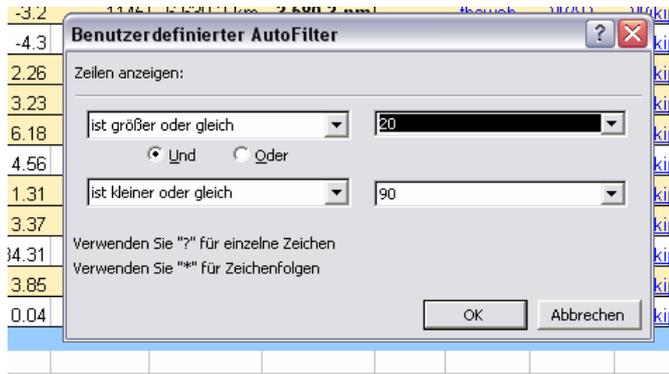


When you are happy with your departure airport we can proceed to the next step.

### Choosing your destination airport

We need to set up the auto filter first. Have a look at cell H7. Click at the little triangle to open the pop up menu and select user defined to bring up the user settings screen for the auto filter.

Longitude	Elev. ft	Distance	Status
-85.25	121		
23.7	1263	6,530.7 km	(Benutzerdefiniert)
-5.2	551	6,675.8 km	1,005.9 nm
			1,008.0 nm
-3.2	1145	6,630.2 km	1,018.1 nm
			1,025.1 nm
-4.3	971	6,674.2 km	1,025.5 nm
			1,025.6 nm
12.26	597	6,582.4 km	1,028.4 nm
			1,030.7 nm
13.23	794	6,573.6 km	1,031.1 nm





The filter settings should say “equals or larger than 20” AND “equals or smaller than 90”. If this is the case you don’t need to enter anything. Just confirm the settings by clicking the OK button.

What’s happening here? Now the filter is picking all destination airports within the given limits. Without this filter you would have to go through the sheet line by line and check every distance field for an appropriate destination for a nice trip. A big deal since we got more than 23,000 lines. If you are fast it wouldn’t take more than 20 hours to pick one ;-)

Number	ICAO	Latitude	Longitude	Elev. ft	Distance	Status						
1910	27FL	30.57	-85.25	121								
		<a href="#">Departure Info foweb</a>										
		<a href="#">Departure Info Wikipedia</a>										
		<a href="#">Departure Google Map</a>										
167	162	04A	31.44	-86.16	299	129.8 km	70.1 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
482	477	0FD9	30.39	-86.7	289	140.3 km	75.8 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
505	500	0GE2	31.8	-85.3	131	136.8 km	73.9 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
540	535	0J0	31.36	-85.14	466	88.4 km	47.7 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
541	536	0J4	31.3	-86.19	312	120.9 km	65.3 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
542	537	0J6	31.22	-85.19	358	72.5 km	39.1 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
877	872	11A	31.53	-85.29	433	106.7 km	57.6 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
888	883	11J	31.24	-84.54	213	100.6 km	54.3 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
1010	1005	14J	31.25	-86.5	259	141.1 km	76.2 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
1089	1084	16J	31.45	-84.25	331	136.5 km	73.7 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
1123	1118	17J	31	-84.53	144	83.7 km	45.2 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
1153	1148	18FD	30.51	-86.4	249	110.3 km	59.5 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
1299	1294	1FL5	30.18	-85.52	0	50.5 km	27.3 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
1368	1363	1J9	30.24	-86.5	20	125.3 km	67.7 nm		<a href="#">foweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>

After using the auto filter it should look like the screenshot above. There are orange and green lines. The green lines represent destination airports between 30 – 60 nm away from your departure airport. The orange lines represents between 20 – 30 nm and 60 – 90 nm distance from your departure airport.

TIP: If you are looking for other distances just enter your desired numbers in the settings screen for the auto filter. Don’t worry about the colours of the lines, they will stay due to the hard coded specifications, so don’t get irritated.



	Number	ICAO	Latitude	Longitude	Elev. ft	Distance	Status				
3	12389	INGO	40.1	-87	906						
4		<a href="#">Departure Info fboweb</a>									
5		<a href="#">Departure Info Wikipedia</a>									
6		<a href="#">Departure Google Map</a>									
7											
55	50	0111	39.53	-86.3	948	87.1 km 47.0 nm	landed	<a href="#">fboweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
99	94	0211	40.4	-86.13	922	81.0 km 43.7 nm		<a href="#">fboweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>
100	95	021N	40.13	-85.32	900	142.8 km 77.1 nm		<a href="#">fboweb</a>	<a href="#">WAD</a>	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">Google Map</a>

In Column I named “status” you can type in the word “landed” to set a remark that you have been there already. Just type “landed” in this cell and hit the return key, the colour will change to magenta by itself for highlighting.

At the right side of the lines you will find four links. Three of them you know already from the departure airport (fboweb, Wikipedia and GoogleMap), but here they are linked to all the different destination airports. The fourth link named WAD (World Aero Data) brings you directly to the desired entry to worldaerodata.com. It’s a pretty complete database with very generic information about airports and nav aids.

When you find a destination airport of your interest, just get your necessary information, print it and go flying. For a challenging VFR flight you should have enough information by now. Try to fly along rivers or highways which you can see at your printed GoogleMap. A tutorial flight about this procedure is in work. In case you can’t find your destination airport this way while flying, just use the GPS aboard. A tutorial flight about simple GPS navigation is in work too.

If you want to fly IFR go ahead and plan your flight (FSNavigator is a good flight planner; very simple flight planning is possible with the MSFS 2004 built in flight planner). If you file your flight plan within MSFS 2004 you will be able to use the MSFS 2004 built in ATC (but no SID and STAR procedures). A tutorial flight will be available soon.

One thing left to say – keep flying and safe landings.

This material is not authorized for real navigation and is not meant to be used for real flight planning.

For further information check my website at <http://www.flying-eddie.com>.