



Guide to
LONDON
GATWICK
AIRPORT

Business
Traveller

In association with **easyJet.com**

CONTENTS

- 03 AIRPORT OVERVIEW
- 06 GETTING THERE
- 07 PARKING OPTIONS/MAP
- 08 WHO FLIES FROM WHICH TERMINAL?
- 09 AIRPORT LOUNGES
- 11 TERMINAL MAPS
- 20 DINING AND SHOPPING
- 21 USEFUL TIPS
- 22 HOTELS AND MEETINGS
- 26 COUNTRY HOUSE HOTELS
- 28 AREA MAP



In association with

easyJet.com

EDITORIAL TEAM

Perry Publications, Cardinal House, 39-40 Albemarle Street,
London, W1S 4TE
tel +44 (0)20 7647 6330
www.businesstraveller.com

Editorial director Tom Otley

Managing editor Michelle Mannion

Art director Annie Harris

Designer Javier Otero

Senior features writer Jenny Southan

Editorial assistants Liat Clark, Rose Dykins

Online editor Mark Caswell

Contributors Prudence Ivey, Lucinda Kingham

Editorial tel number +44 (0)20 7647 6356

Email address editorial@businesstraveller.com

Map design Javier Otero. Terminal and parking maps provided by Gatwick airport. Area map based on Googlemaps and not for navigational purposes.

Publisher Rania Apthorpe

Managing director Julian Gregory

Online sales manager Ahmar Shah

Advertising tel +44 (0)20 7647 6361

Email address advertising@businesstraveller.com

Subscriptions tel +44 (0)844 477 0943

email jhalling@businesstraveller.com





AS THE FIRST “VICTIM” of the BAA sell-off, you would forgive Gatwick for feeling vulnerable, writes Michelle Mannion. Being removed from the bosom of the UK’s largest airport operator might have left another organisation feeling cut adrift but, in fact, the Sussex airport seems liberated.

“Gatwick is fundamentally different in terms of the job we’re doing under the new ownership,” says Simon Edwards, airline business development manager for the airport. “We are competing for business in a way we weren’t before. The new owner [Global Infrastructure Partners (GIP), owner of London City airport] wants a return on its investment, whereas with BAA, I think it’s fair to say the focus was very much on Heathrow. Doing my job before felt almost as if I had one hand tied behind my back, whereas now there is a real focus at board level. It’s such a refreshing change.”

For Angus McIntyre, head of airline business development, the change of hands in December 2009 has allowed Gatwick to take a fresh look at its *raison d’être*. “As part of BAA we were sort of happy with our position in as much as it worked from a group perspective – Heathrow was scheduled business services, Gatwick was point-to-point leisure, Stansted was low-cost. Take us out of that mix and all of a sudden it’s: ‘What do we want to be?’ Nobody’s saying we’re going to be the next Heathrow because that would be an unreasonable aspiration. Equally, we don’t want to be Stansted, so it’s about finding that middle ground.”

What this means is a greater focus on the business traveller – currently about 15 per cent of traffic. “We’ve put far more emphasis on the business-style/premium passenger,”



North Terminal Interchange

McIntyre says. For Gatwick, the corporate market encompasses not only the traditional full-service airlines but the low-cost sector – Easyjet is now its largest carrier, with 33 per cent of the airport’s total slots. Second and third are BA and Thomson, with 17 per cent and 7 per cent respectively, demonstrating the three prongs of Gatwick’s business – low-cost, scheduled full-service and charter.

“Easyjet has come in and stolen the march on the traditional scheduled business market,” he says. “We’ve seen the low-cost model morph up from the no-frills offering of several years ago into a bit of a hybrid – you see that with Air Berlin and Norwegian.” The German carrier moved its Hanover and Nuremberg routes from Stansted in February, while Norwegian added a Helsinki service in May.



THE BILLION-POUND PROJECT

When it comes to capturing the business market, Gatwick has some distinct advantages. While it cannot compete with Heathrow in terms of connectivity and frequency of services, it boasts an affluent catchment area and excellent train links. What it hasn’t perhaps had is the state-of-the-art facilities to attract new carriers, but that is changing.

In June last year, GIP announced it would invest £1 billion in the airport’s infrastructure (building on a redevelopment project began by BAA in 2008). Scheduled to continue until 2014, the works involve revamping the South Terminal, now more than half a century old, and expanding the North Terminal, added in 1988.

On the ground, construction is well under way. In the South, a £31 million single-

entrance forecourt aimed at speeding up the passenger’s journey to check-in is due to be finished by the end of March. The moving walkways from the station (trains to Gatwick arrive into the South) are being refurbished, brighter flooring is being laid in sections, to be finished by the end of the year, and £2.5 million is being spent on wayfinding, with unnecessary signage being taken down and the font sizes enlarged.

Plus, £170 million is being spent on a new baggage system that will allow passengers to drop their case at any vacant space in the terminal (dependent on their airline’s stipulations). This is being put in place in phases until late 2014.

The airport has also reconfigured Norwegian’s check-in zone, with self-service



bag-drops and check-in kiosks so you can print your own label. Edwards says: “We worked hard to get Norwegian’s product right and they’re delighted.” (In the North, BA and Delta also have reconfigured check-in zones with kiosks, and the airport is talking to Easyjet about doing something similar.)

MAXIMUM SECURITY

One of the centrepiece projects in the South is the spacious new security area. Some £45 million is being spent on security in total, with the three previous zones being replaced by a single area upstairs. It is being opened lane by lane – four were operational as we went to press, and there will be 19 by the time it is finished in October, including two premium lanes. “This is going to be the best security area in the world,” says Steve James, South Terminal programme development leader for capital projects, who reports that the new lanes are processing 250 people per hour, up from 160 with the old system.

First, passengers go through a “preparation area” with ironing-board-shaped tables for repacking bags, then put their boarding pass through London Underground-style self-service machines, where they can also scan mobile boarding passes. As James explains, lanes are longer than before so people have more time to take off their jackets and belts before reaching the conveyor. They will also be colour-coded to indicate the shortest queues. Meanwhile, a separate security area for families and those in need of special assistance is in place to speed up the process further. Airside, pier one will be replaced with a new fast-turnaround pier for short-haul aircraft by the end of 2014.

Zoom over to the North on the speedy new shuttle service, open since last July, and you’ll



see changes afoot here too. Home to much of Gatwick’s scheduled traffic, the terminal handles 14 million passengers a year and the plan is to increase that to 17 million. The forecourt has, consequently, been moved further out, and the inter-connected £25 million eastern extension, which will add ticket desks and circulation space, is due to be completed in August or September – at which time check-in will be directly connected by a walkway to the fourth level of a new 1,200-space short-stay car park, open since April. (This level will cost more to park in.)

Security lanes like those in the South Terminal are being added, with two new ones just open, four to follow next summer and the remainder to be converted after that. The North Terminal’s southern extension (yes, confusing...) will follow in October, adding check-in zones, self-service kiosks and bag-drops, and more carousels in arrivals.

By 2014, airside will have extra circulation space, dining and retail. Aircraft stands and gate rooms will be added to pier six, and it’s intended that another level will be added to pier five. Talks are ongoing about how to boost the terminal’s A380 facilities – the airport can currently only handle the



superjumbo with remote stands rather than airbridges, which are a crucial component for many carriers.

Other additions in the North include a new No 1 Traveller lounge (there is also one in the South). Open since May, it’s a welcoming space that costs £25 to access (£20 online), with a business centre, spa, and free wifi, food and drink.

Meanwhile, the train station is getting a £53 million upgrade to improve its aesthetics and add a platform, which will mean the Gatwick Express will have two dedicated platforms. The cosmetic work is due to be complete by the Olympics, with the major construction starting after.

The airport is also phasing in mobile printing facilities near gates heavily used by business



travellers, and is working on what McIntyre calls “a fast-track arrivals product”.

ROUTE AHEAD

With all this in place, Gatwick should be in a stronger position to attract new routes. It is well needed – the impact of the Open Skies



agreement, which saw much of its US traffic defect to Heathrow, means Gatwick now has no direct link to New York, and Qatar Airways chief executive Akbar Al Baker told *Business Traveller* that the airline pulled its Gatwick services in May because “all the American feed we used to get there evaporated with Open Skies”.

Getting some of this market back is, understandably, a major focus: “The core markets we’re massively under-represented in are the US and Asia,” McIntyre says. Edwards adds: “We’ve got active dialogue around transatlantic routes. It’s one of our key targets and we’re having conversations about getting a New York route here.”

As for Asia, the airport is shortly expected to confirm a new four-times weekly Vietnam Airlines service starting in December, with two flights to Hanoi and two to Ho Chi Minh City. McIntyre says: “That is a gem of a route because it is a hotbed of both leisure and trade growth. We are excited because it will have a viral effect on that part of the world.”

Other long-haul routes on the way include a daily Air Nigeria service to Lagos from September 1. The airport is also in discussions with BA franchisee Comair about launching a Durban route, which would be the only direct service from London.

Easyjet, meanwhile, continues to grow its network, which now numbers 92 destinations. In March it added a thrice-weekly service to Amman, in April a four-times-a-week route to Seville, and in June a daily flight to Aberdeen. Jason Holt, Easyjet’s head of Gatwick, says: “The business take-up for Aberdeen is quite high because there’s a lot of oil business coming through the airport.” Other routes he says the carrier is pressing for are Cairo and

Beirut. He adds: “The problem with Gatwick is that it’s now becoming a slot-constrained airfield – it’s the busiest single runway airport in the world. That is going to present some issues so in terms of continued growth, it’s a question of us picking up slots as they become free.”

In the meantime, it is planning to improve its offering for business travellers at Gatwick by offering add-ons such as lounge access. “You can already purchase car parking online [with us] at a favourable price, and the same thing is going to happen with lounges – we’re talking to companies who wish to see if our passengers will purchase time in the lounges as an add-on.”

He adds: “For us, Gatwick is the intuitive business place at an affordable price.” The airport will no doubt be hoping a growing number of frequent flyers agree with him.

■ Visit gatwickairport.com



New South Terminal forecourt





TRAIN

There are various train services between Gatwick and the southeast. The Gatwick Express is the fastest option, providing a direct 30-minute service from London Victoria every 15 minutes between 5am and 23.45pm (5.50am and 12.35am from Gatwick to London Victoria) and less frequently outside these times. There is a set price of £27 for a standard return ticket. Cheaper stopping services are run by several companies. First Capital Connect provides frequent trains to and from central London and costs around £17 for an anytime return to St Pancras International (with a journey time of about 50 minutes) or London Bridge (about 30 minutes). The line continues southbound to Brighton and north to Bedford. Frequent stopping trains between Gatwick and London Victoria – about five per hour – are also run by Southern Railway. An anytime return costs £25, although single fares can be found for as little as £4 when paid for in advance online. Trains also run to Hampshire and Sussex. Gatwick rail station is linked to the South Terminal and a free shuttle service will take you to the North Terminal in a few minutes.

■ gatwickexpress.com, firstcapitalconnect.co.uk, southernrailway.com



BUS

Several coach companies link Gatwick with major cities around the UK. National Express is the biggest and has ticket desks in both terminals. It runs between Victoria and the South Terminal hourly (departing London from 3.30am-11.30pm and Gatwick 5.15am-9.40pm) and takes about 2.5 hours. An open return is £14 but cheaper fares may be found in advance

online. Direct routes also operate as far afield as Poole, Swansea, Bradford and Norwich. Easybus operates a direct service to and from London Earls Court for as little as £2 one-way when purchased in advance online, or £10 on the day. Other routes include the Oxford Bus, which runs hourly throughout the day, costing from £32 return, and the Gatwick Flyer, which connects various Essex locations to the South Terminal. Prices range from £36-£62 return depending on the route.

■ nationalexpress.com, easybus.co.uk, oxfordbus.co.uk, gatwickflyer.co.uk



BIKE

National Cycle Route 21 runs past the South Terminal and the transit to the North Terminal. Cyclists can use car park B for free, and more spots are being added this year. Showers are available, landside and airside, in both terminals.



TAXI

Road Runners UK – which operates at the airport under the name Airport Cars Gatwick – was appointed as Gatwick's official on-airport taxi service provider in June. The firm will take you to central London for a pre-agreed price of about £95, depending on where you are dropped off (an £8 congestion fee may be added if you are dropped within the charging zone). Fares vary widely between cab companies and depending on where you are travelling to, you may be charged extra for meet-and-greet services or if there are delays at the airport. It may be worth checking if the company will keep track

of flight delays and move your booking accordingly. Local taxi firms include Checker Cars, which has offices inside both terminals, and Carline, based five minutes from Gatwick airport. Driving to central London takes about an hour, but factor in traffic delays when calculating your journey time.

■ checkercars.com, roadrunnersgatwick.co.uk, carlineprivatehire.co.uk



CAR

Satnav postcodes are RH6 0PJ (North Terminal) and RH6 0NP (South Terminal). Gatwick is 45km south of London, linked directly to the M23 at Junction 9 and to the A23 London-Brighton road. It is a ten-minute drive from Junction 7 on the M25.



CHAUFFEUR

London-based company iChauffeur serves Gatwick as well as other city airports. Its selection of cars includes Mercedes, Bentley and Rolls-Royce. It offers a meet-and-greet service and can accommodate groups of up to 16 in its luxury minibuses. A journey from central London (postcode W1) to Gatwick in a Mercedes Benz S Class (up to four passengers) costs £150.

Executive Drive operates the free chauffeur service for airlines at Gatwick, including British Airways (Club World passengers), Virgin Atlantic (Upper Class) and Delta (Business Elite) – distance restrictions may apply. Executive Drive uses Mercedes and BMW cars and serves destinations anywhere in the UK. Individual quotes may be arranged by contacting the company.

■ ichauffeur.co.uk, uk-chauffeurcars.co.uk

Short-stay

Short-stay car parks are located a short walk from both terminal buildings. Prices increase by the hour, from £1 for 15 minutes up to £30 for one day, so costs can mount up if you're planning to do more than a quick stop. There are some deals for one- or two-day stays available with advance booking online via parking.gatwickairport.com.

A premium fast-track service is available at the North Terminal, costing between £18 for up to four hours to £40 per 24 hours – it includes a free portage service from the car park to the terminal between 6am and 6pm.

■ gatwickairport.com/parking

Valet parking

A service is available at both terminals and the drop-off and pick-up points are both located in the short-stay car parks. If you phone from the arrivals hall once you land, your car will be ready for you. The service can be booked in advance or you can show up on the day. Prices start from £37 for one night. Your car will be waiting outside the terminal on arrival.

Meet-and-greet company Meteor operates at both terminals. Prices start from about £36 for one night, with additional fees for services such as car washes.

■ meteormetandgreet.com

Long-stay

Several options are available. Long Stay North and South are self-park facilities with free, five-minute coach transfers to the terminals running every ten minutes throughout the day. As neither has a minimum stay limit, it could be more cost-effective to park here for shorter periods too.

Other options include Long Stay Plus, which is available for stays of three or more

days, and the Summer Special car park – open year round for South Terminal passengers and offering a more limited service to the North Terminal. Valet staff will park your car as you make the airport transfer. The free coach to the airport takes four minutes from Long Stay Plus and runs every ten minutes. The Summer Special service is slightly less regular, with three coaches an hour making the five-minute journey.

The drive-up rate for all car parks is £11.50 per day but cheaper prices for longer stays can

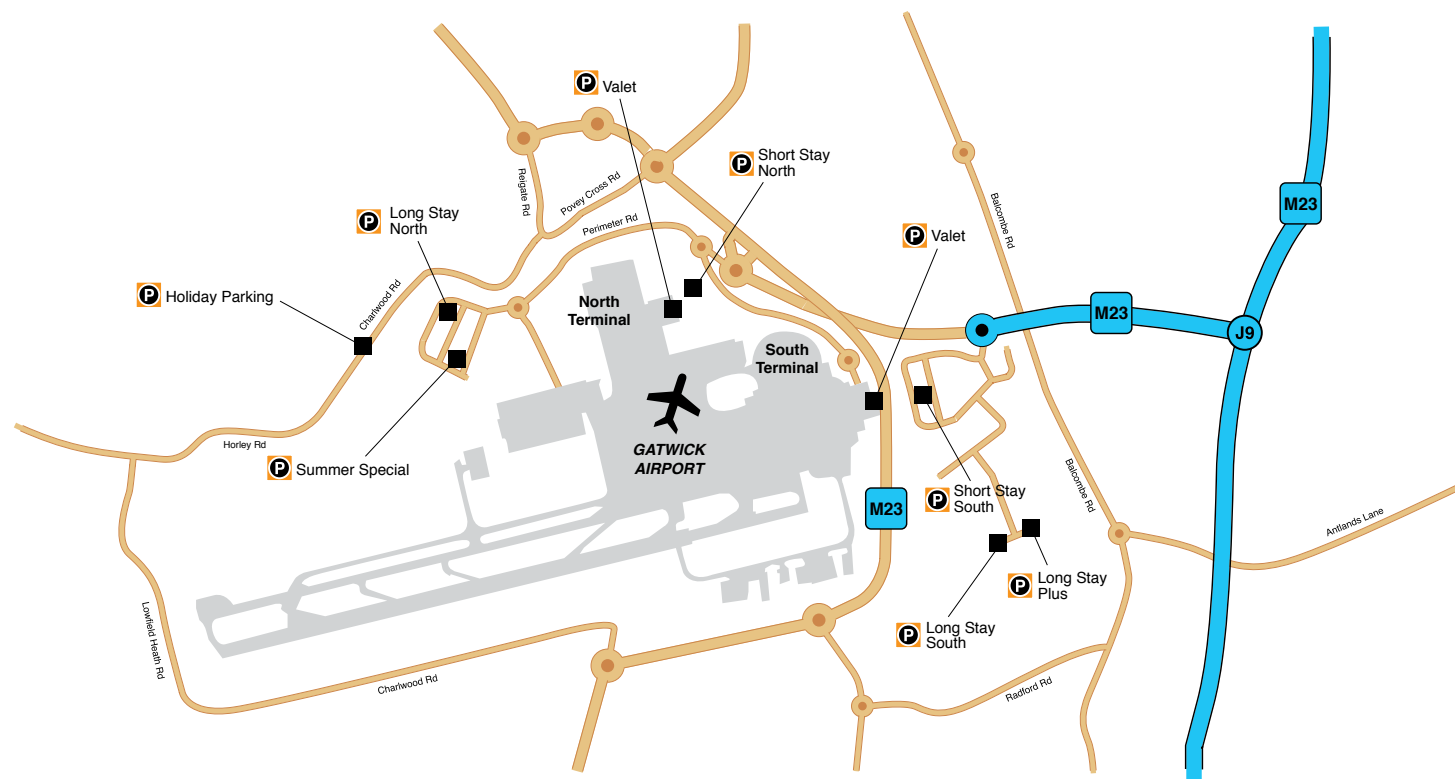
be found by pre-booking online. Seven nights' parking, booked one week in advance, costs just under £10 per day for a standard service.

■ gatwickairport.com/parking

Off-airport long-stay

This is available at three Airparks sites, all within ten to 15 minutes of the airport via free shuttle. You'll find the best value on stays of a week or more, which, if booked far enough in advance, can cost less than £10 per day.

■ airparks.co.uk



POSTCODES FOR CAR PARKS	
South Terminal.....	RH6 0NP
North Terminal.....	RH6 0PJ
North Terminal long stay	RH6 0RN



NORTH TERMINAL

Adria Airways	JP
Air Berlin	AB
Air Seychelles	HM
British Airways	BA
Easyjet	EZY
Emirates	EK
Delta Air Lines	DL
Malev	MA
Meridiana Airlines	IG
Royal Air Maroc	AT
Thomson Airways	TOM

SOUTH TERMINAL

Aer Lingus	EI
Aerosvit	VV
Air Baltic	BT
Air Europa	AEA
Air Malta	KM
Air Moldova	9U
Air Transat	TS
Air Zimbabwe	UM
Alnaser Airlines	MHK
Astraeus Airlines	AEU
Aurigny Air Services	GR
Belavia Belarusian Airlines	BRU
BH Air (Balkan Holidays)	BGH
Bmi	BD
Bulgaria Air	FB
Cimber Sterling	QI
Croatia Airlines	OU
Cubana de Aviacion	CU
Easyjet	EZY
Estonian Air	OV
Flybe	BE
Hellenic Imperial Airways	HT
Iceland Express	HW
Jet2.com	LS
Monarch Airlines	MON/ZB
Montenegro Airlines	YM

Norwegian	DY
Nouvelair	BJ
Onur Air	OHY
Pegasus Airlines	PGT
Rossiya Airlines	FV
Ryanair	FR
SAS	SK
SATA International	S4
Sky Airlines	ZY
Strategic Airlines	STU
Sun Country Airlines	SY
TAP Portugal	TP
Thomas Cook	TCX
Titan Airways	ZT
Torair	OAI
Tunisair	TU
Ukraine International Airlines	PS
United Airways Bangladesh	4H
US Airways	US
Viking Hellas	VKH
Virgin Atlantic	VS





NORTH TERMINAL

Airside lounges in this terminal are located in the Lounge Pavilion, at the far end of the departure lounge.



No 1 Traveller



No 1 Traveller

NO 1 TRAVELLER

Open since May, the No 1 Traveller lounge is an attractive space in which to spend some time before you fly. The paid-for facility costs £25 for three hours (£20 if you book in advance online) and is free for Delta Air Lines Business Elite passengers, Medallion members and Skyteam Elite Plus passengers. Travellers who have bought a return first class Gatwick Express train ticket can also access for free (this special offer is initially running until the end of August). Star Alliance gold cardholders, and gold and

silver cardholders of any airline, get 10 per cent off. Bright and white with plenty of marble, floor-to-ceiling windows and a stylish, retro-boutique feel, the 930 sqm venue has ample seating overlooking the runway, a living wall, a games console room, pool room, children's play area, a mini-cinema, free wifi, a manned bar (all drinks free except for champagne and cocktails), a food bar with snacks such as cakes, fruit and cookies, a bistro area with table service and a menu of free light meals (there is a breakfast buffet in the mornings), newspapers and magazines, board games and departure screens. The spa, which offers massages (from £15 for 15 minutes), facials, manicures and fish pedicures (they nibble your feet inside a tank), showers (£10) and a hairdressers, can be used separately without paying for lounge access, as can the business centre, which costs £15 to access on its own and has computers, drinks and two meeting rooms. The lounge is open 4am-10pm.

■ no1traveller.com

BRITISH AIRWAYS FIRST/CLUB LOUNGES

All of BA's Gatwick flights fly from the North Terminal, so its two lounges are based there. Both were refurbished in 2009 – the Club lounge is for silver Executive Club members and can accommodate 168 passengers, while First is for gold cardholders and holds 79. The lounges are similar in style, featuring furniture and chairs upholstered with Osborne and Little fabric, showers, a bar offering free drinks and a variety of hot and cold snacks throughout the day, flatscreen TVs, computers and a kids' zone with TVs, games and Playstations. Wifi is free throughout. They are open 5.30am-10pm.

■ ba.com



EMIRATES

Located on the floor below the No 1 Traveller lounge, the Middle Eastern carrier's facility is spacious with a classic feel. Featuring touches such as potted plants and gold-plated Rolex wall clocks, it has lots of beige leather seating, two self-service bars with soft and alcoholic drinks (staff are also on hand to serve you), newspapers and magazines, departure screens, a big business centre with PCs, workstations, a printer and phone-charging facilities, free wifi and showers. A food station offers snacks – in the morning hot and cold breakfast items are on offer (eggs Benedict and French toast can be made to order), while options through the day include soup, seafood pie, lamb curry, cakes, cheeses and fruit. The lounge can be used by Emirates first and business class passengers and Skywards gold members. It's open 6am-8.45pm.

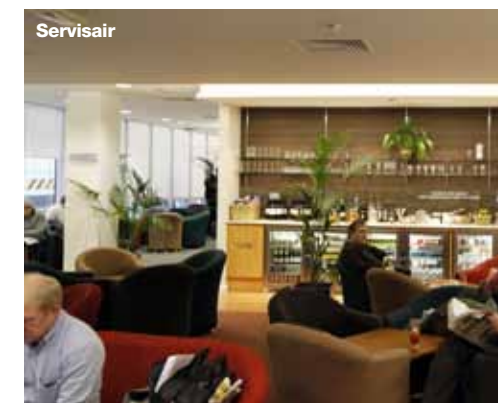
■ emirates.com

SERVISAIR ASCOT EXECUTIVE SUITE

The newest of Servisair's lounges at the airport opened in 2008 and costs £16 to use (£10 for children aged 11 and under). The air

conditioned facility offers free snacks, a bar offering soft and alcoholic drinks, free wifi, newspapers and magazines, phones, a fax machine, and a flight information screen. A meeting area with business facilities is available on request. It's open 6am-9.30pm.

■ servisair.com



SOFITEL ARRIVALS LOUNGE

Located on the ground floor of the Sofitel London Gatwick hotel, directly connected to the North Terminal, this facility is a useful option for people arriving from night flights and travelling direct to morning meetings. Free to BA first, business and full-fare economy class passengers when they present their boarding pass, it otherwise costs £20 to access for four hours. Facilities include 19 shower rooms (you can have your clothes pressed while you freshen up), a seating area with leather armchairs and a fire, a continental breakfast buffet, soft drinks, free wifi, four PCs and four workstations, newspapers and magazines. You can even use the Sofitel's gym, located on the same level. The lounge is open 5am-1pm.

■ sofitelgatwicklounge.com



SOUTH TERMINAL

NO 1 TRAVELLER

Open since 2009, the lounge is located airside on the mezzanine level of departures, by Frankie and Benny's restaurant. Like No 1 Traveller's North Terminal facility, it costs £25 to access, or £20 in advance online – the Gatwick Express offer also applies to this lounge. SAS, TAP Portugal and US Airways business passengers can use it for free, while Star Alliance gold cardholders, and gold and silver cardholders of any airline, get 10 per cent off. It has a manned bar offering soft and alcoholic drinks, various seating areas, a five-metre-high living wall, free wifi, runway views, table football, newspapers and magazines, and a TV and flight information screen. A bistro area serves continental buffet breakfast 4am-11am, along with dishes such as eggs Benedict and Florentine, and a seasonal menu during the day. A spa treatment room on the mezzanine level offers massages, manicures and pedicures at a charge. Open 4am-10pm.

■ no1traveller.com

SERVISAIR ASHDOWN/LINGFIELD LOUNGES

Servisair has two airside facilities in the South Terminal – Ashdown is on the lower level of the departure area and Lingfield on the upper. Ashdown has a capacity of 76, and children aged 12 are not permitted. Entry is £18. Lingfield accommodates 100 people and children of any age may enter – £16 is the entry fee for adults and children aged two and above. Both have runway views, a contemporary feel and a muted colour scheme. They offer free snacks (including cheese and biscuits, crisps, croissants, cakes,



Servisair Lingfield



Servisair Lingfield

cereal bars, fruit and yogurts), soft and alcoholic drinks (champagne is chargeable), free wifi, newspapers and magazines. Ashdown has a flight information screen and a meeting area, while Lingfield has a children's zone with a TV, computer and Playstations. Lingfield was refurbished 18 months ago, at which time Ashdown was given new furniture. Ashdown is open 6am-2pm and Lingfield 5am-10pm.

■ servisair.com



Virgin Clubhouse



Virgin Clubhouse

VIRGIN CLUBHOUSE

Located airside on the upper level of departures, Virgin Atlantic's lounge is open to Upper Class passengers and gold cardholders from 6am to 12pm. It was refurbished in 2009 and features modern, sophisticated décor with splashes of colour. It is divided into different zones, including a concierge and reception area with shoe shine and coat and baggage storage, a family lounge with a playground and TV, and an entertainment lounge and business area, where passengers can make use of the "Internet Forest" (wifi is free) or enjoy Wii and Guitar Hero. There's also a Cowshed Spa, where showers are available, along with treatments including massages, manicures and barbering, an "Internal

Rock Garden" (a relaxation area), and "the Snug", where TV shows and films are screened. The bar and restaurant offer free food and drinks, which can also be served at various "waiter points" throughout the lounge. Dishes on offer include a British breakfast, scrambled eggs and smoked salmon, and American pancakes.

■ virgin-atlantic.com





North Terminal - Check-in

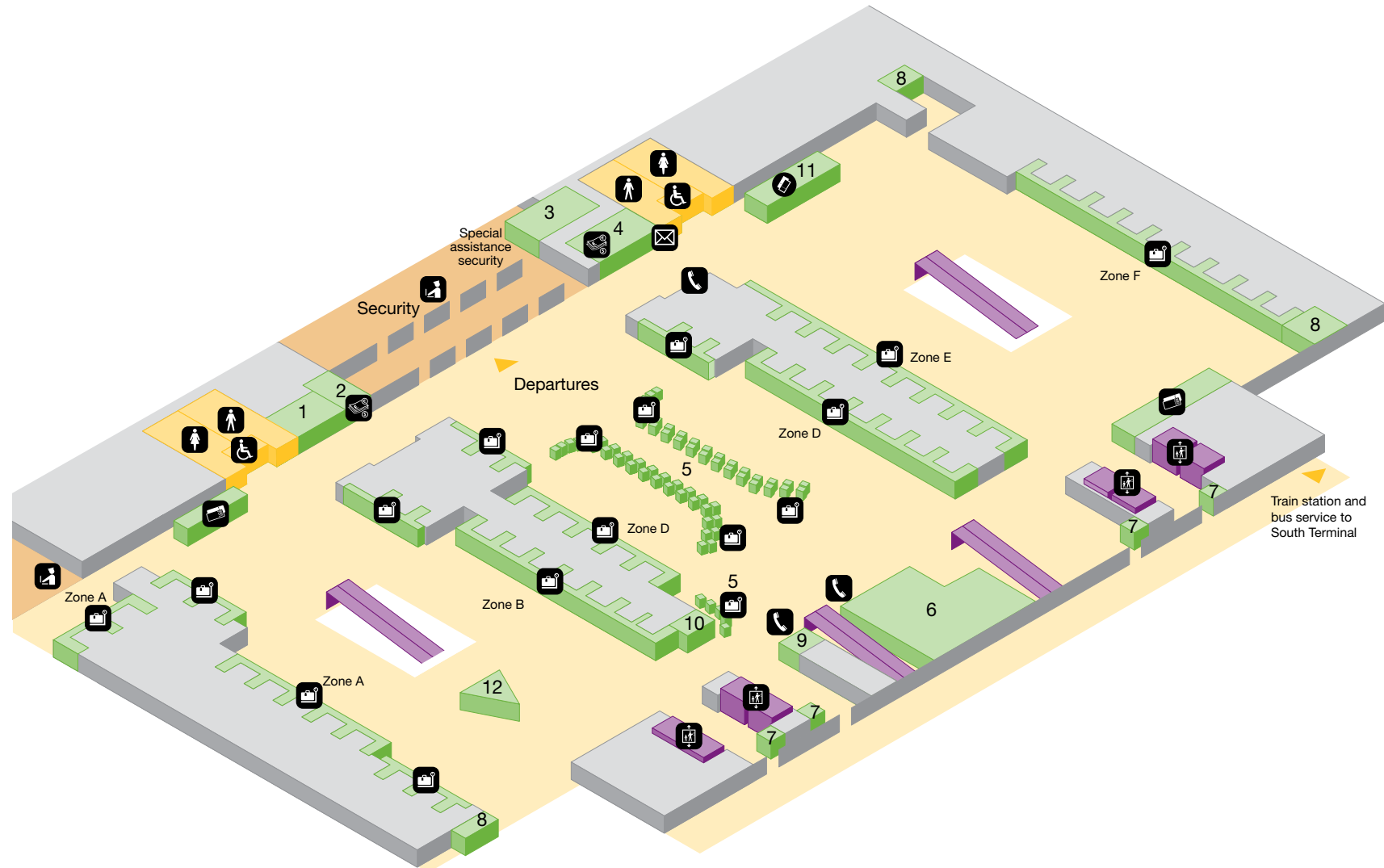
- Public areas
- Passenger areas
- Lift

Amenities

- Accessible toilet
- Toilet men
- Toilet women

Services

- Bureau de change
- Check-in
- Postbox
- Public telephone
- Tickets
- 1 Customs VAT office
- 2 Travelex Bureau de Change with cash machine
- 3 Special assistance help point & reserved seating
- 4 Moneycorp Bureau de Change
- 5 BA self-service check-in
- 6 BA customer services
- 7 Special assistance help point
- 8 Oversized baggage
- 9S Shipping and bag wrap
- 10 Worldwide baggage services
- 11 easyJet ticket desk
- 12 Self-service check-in





North Terminal - The Avenue

- Public areas
- Passenger areas
- Lift

Amenities

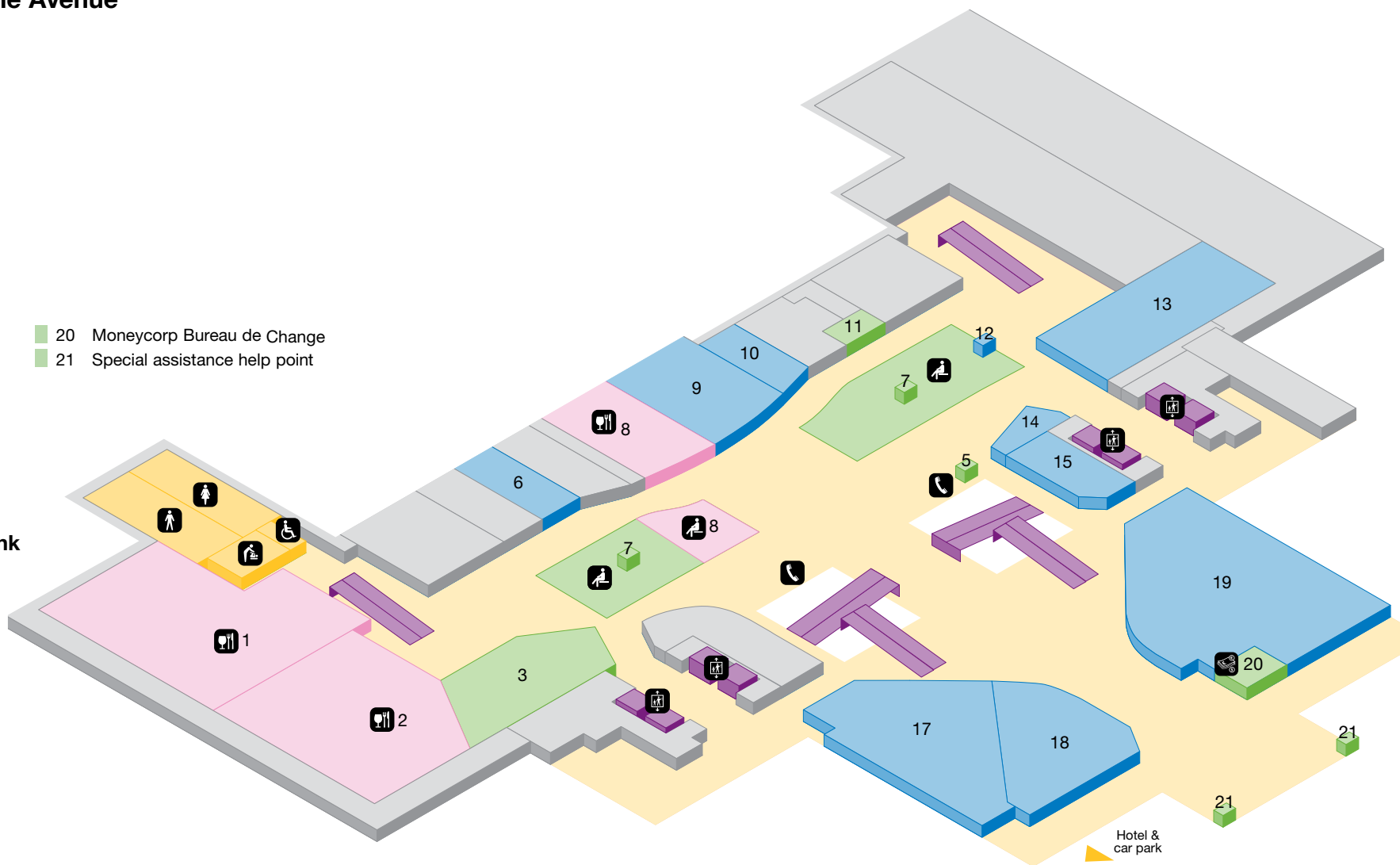
- Accessible toilet
- Babycare
- Toilet men
- Toilet women

Services

- Bureau de change
- Public telephone
- Seating
- 3 Excess baggage
- 5 E-mail post
- 7 Spectrum Internet
- 11 Cash machines
- 20 Moneycorp Bureau de Change
- 21 Special assistance help point

Shops & Food and Drink

- Restaurant /Café
- 1 Joe's Kitchen
- 2 Globe Freehouse
- 6 Bags Etc
- 8 Costa Coffee
- 9 Monsoon
- 10 Accessorize
- 12 Spectrum Internet
- 13 Game Grid
- 14 Rolling Luggage
- 15 Tie Rack
- 17 M&S Simply Food
- 18 Boots
- 19 WHSmith





North Terminal - International departure lounge, lower level

- Public areas
- Passenger areas
- Lift

Amenities

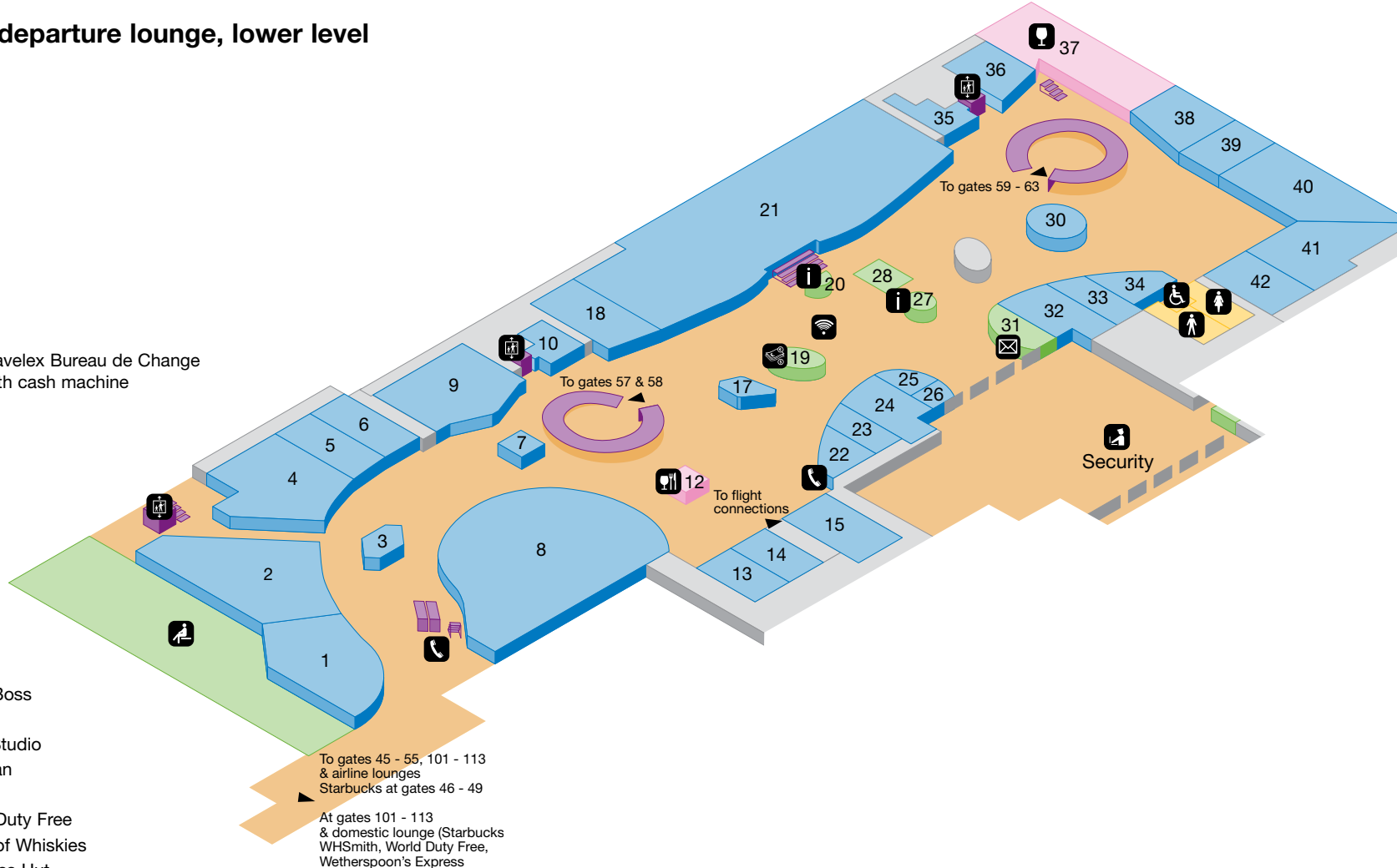
- Accessible toilet
- Toilet men
- Toilet women

Services

- Bureau de change
- Information
- Public telephone
- Seating
- Wireless hotspot
- 19 Moneycorp Bureau de Change with cash machine
- 20 Shopping information
- 27 Flight information / special assistance
- 28 Special assistance seating
- 31 Travelex Bureau de Change with cash machine

Shops & Food and Drink

- | | |
|---|--|
| Bar / Pub | 13 Hugo Boss |
| Restaurant / Café | 14 Mango |
| 1 WHSmith | 15 Shoe Studio |
| 2 Boots | 17 Ray-Ban |
| 3 Best of the Best | 18 Next |
| 4 Dixons Travel | 21 World Duty Free |
| 5 Jo Malone | 22 World of Whiskies |
| 6 The Watch and Jewellery Store | 23 Sunglass Hut |
| 7 Rosetta Stone | 24 Ted Baker |
| 8 World Duty Free | 25 Tie Rack |
| 9 Harrods | 26 Rolling Luggage |
| 10 Hamleys | 30 Dixons Travel |
| 12 Seafood Bar | 32 Fat Face |
| | 33 Rituals |
| | 34 Accessorize |
| | 35 Lacoste |
| | 36 Game Grid |
| | 37 Red Lion |
| | 38 Glorious Britain |
| | 39 WHSmith |
| | 40 HMV |
| | 41 WHSmith Books |
| | 42 JD |





North Terminal - International departure lounge, upper level

- Public areas
- Passenger areas
- Lift

Amenities

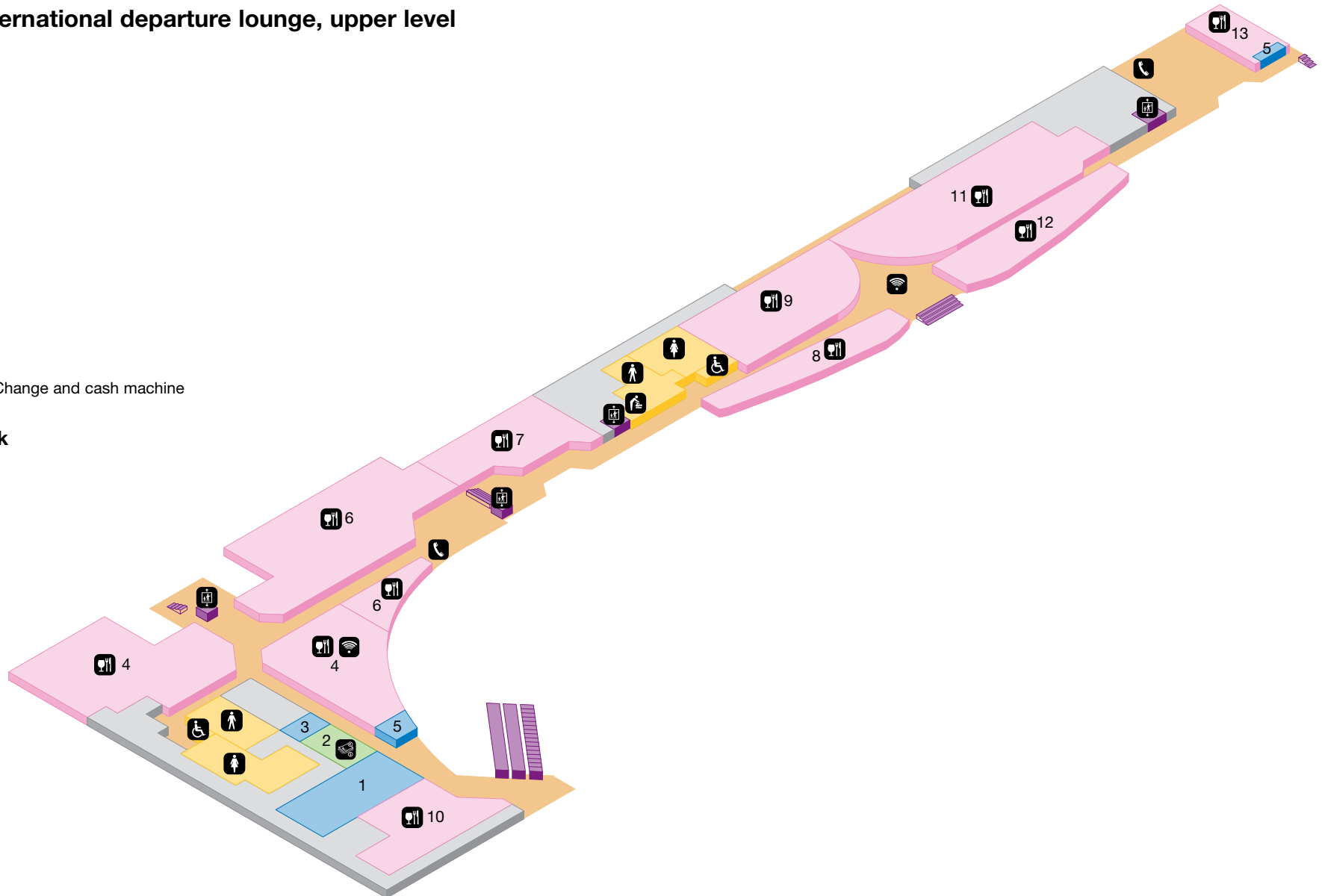
- Accessible toilet
- Babycare
- Toilet men
- Toilet women

Services

- Bureau de change
- Public telephone
- Wireless hotspot
- 2 Moneycorp Bureau de Change and cash machine

Shops & Food and Drink

- Restaurant / Café
- 1 Nike
- 3 Sunglass Hut
- 4 Café Rouge
- 5 Spectrum Internet
- 6 Lloyds No.1
- 7 En Toast
- 8 Shake-A-Hula
- 9 Eat
- 10 Caffè Nero
- 11 Garfunkels
- 12 Armadillo
- 13 Costa Coffee





North Terminal - Arrivals

- Public areas
- Passenger areas
- Lift

Amenities

- Accessible toilet
- Babycare
- Toilet men
- Toilet women

Services

- Baggage reclaim
- Bureau de change
- Information
- Meeting point
- Public telephone
- Smoking area
- Wireless hotspot
- 1 HM Immigration information telephone
- 4 Special assistance help point
- 5 National Express waiting area
- 7 Cash machine
- 8 National Express tickets
- 10 British Hotel Reservation Centre (BHRC)
- 11 Travelex Bureau de Change
- 13 easyBus
- 14 Shopping collection
- 15 Emirates Limousine Services
- 16 BA Solo Flyers meeting point
- 17 Seating Area

Shops & Food and Drink

- Restaurant / Café
- 2 Costa Coffee
- 3 World Duty Free Arrivals Shop
- 6 WHSmith
- 9 Spectrum Internet
- 12 Gamegrid





South Terminal - Check-in

- Public areas
- Passenger areas
- Lift

Amenities

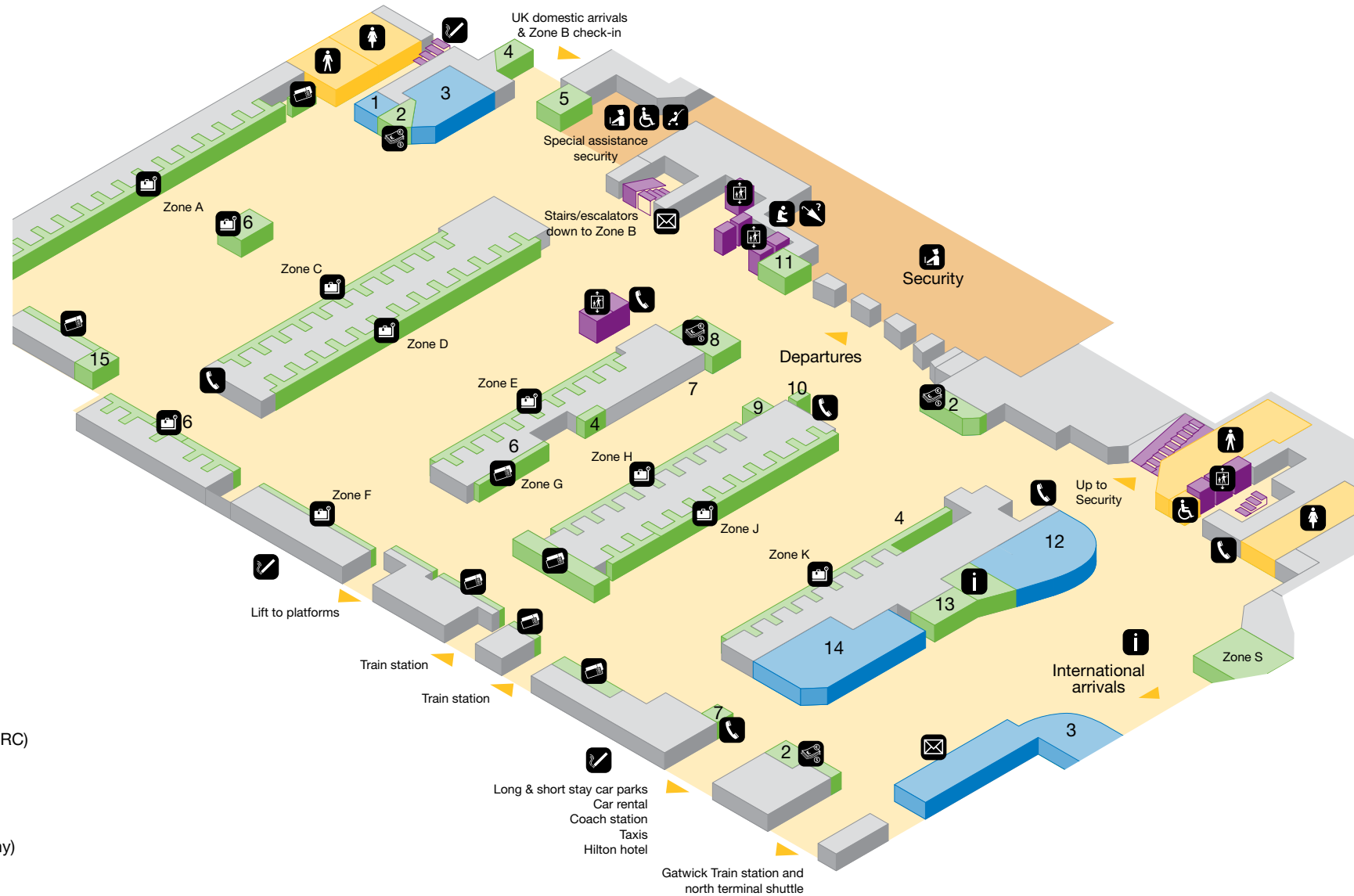
- Accessible toilet
- Toilet men
- Toilet women

Services

- Buggy access
- Bureau de change
- Chapel and prayer room
- Check-in
- Lift
- Lost property
- Public telephone
- Smoking area
- Tour operator / airline ticket desks
- Wheel chair access
- 2 Moneycorp Bureau de Change
- 4 Oversized baggage
- 5 Special assistance desk & reserved seating
- 6 Self-service check-in
- 7 Special assistance help point
- 8 Travelex Bureau de Change
- 9 Cash machines
- 10 Photo booth
- 11 HM Customs
- 13 British Hotel Reservation Centre (BHRC)
- 15 Baggage repack and weigh zone

Shops & Food and Drink

- 1 Bags etc. (Excess Baggage Company)
- 3 WHSmith
- 12 Boots
- 14 M&S Simply Food





South Terminal - International departure lounge, lower level

- Public areas
- Passenger areas
- Lift

Amenities

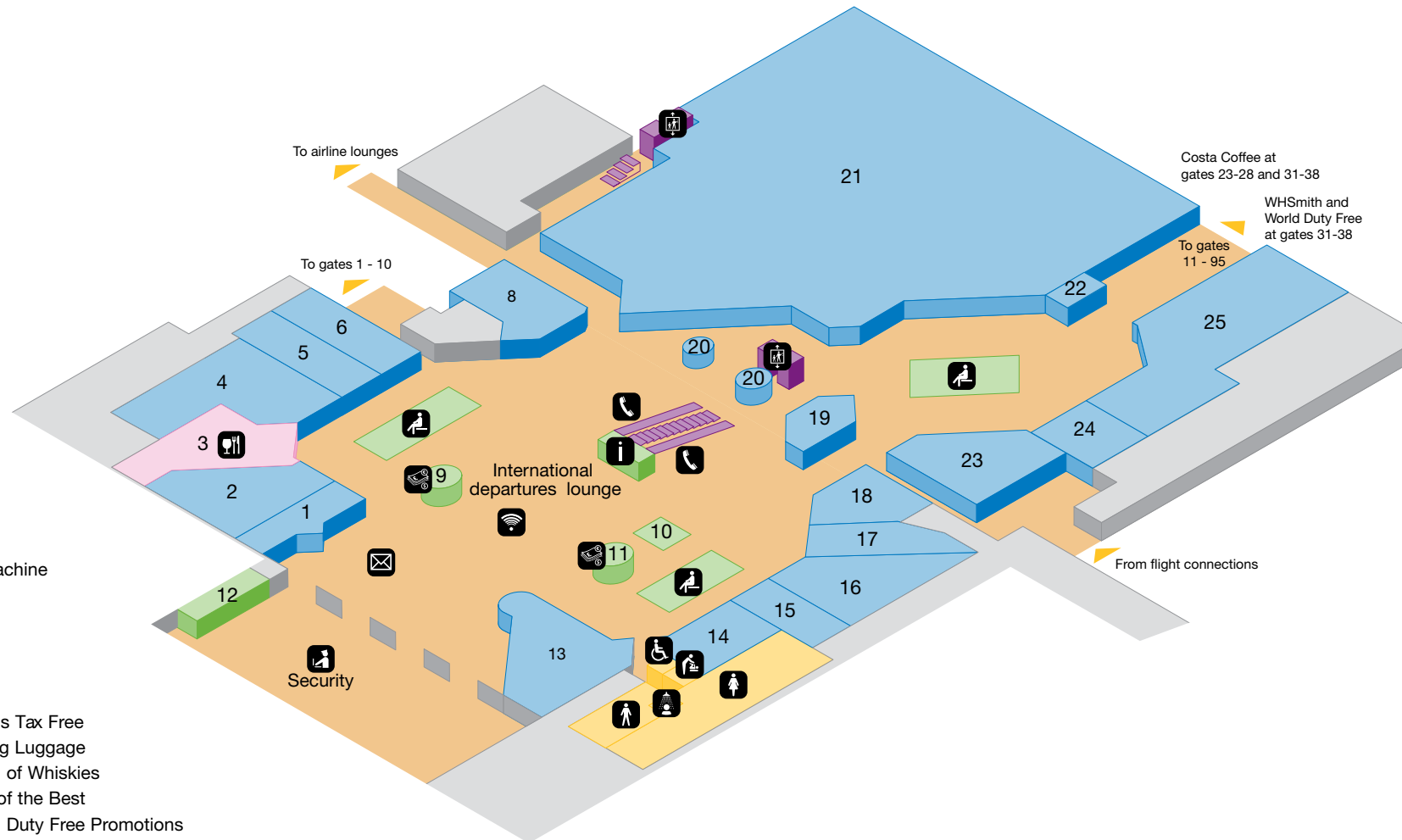
- Accessible toilet
- Babycare
- Shower facilities
- Toilet men
- Toilet women

Services

- Bureau de change
- Information
- Seating
- Security
- Public telephone
- Wireless hotspot
- 9 Travelx Bureau de Change and cash machine
- 10 Special assistance desk & reserved seating
- 11 Moneycorp Bureau de Change and cash machine
- 12 Customs VAT office

Shops & Food and Drink

- Restaurant / Café
- 1 Sunglass Hut
- 2 Animal
- 3 Caviar House Seafood Bar
- 4 Boots
- 5 Fat Face
- 6 Watches and Jewellery
- 8 Harrods
- 13 WHSmith Books
- 14 Ted Baker
- 15 Clarins
- 16 Dixons Tax Free
- 17 Rolling Luggage
- 18 World of Whiskies
- 19 Best of the Best
- 20 World Duty Free Promotions
- 21 World Duty Free
- 22 Spectrum Internet
- 23 HMV
- 24 Hugo Boss
- 25 WHSmith





South Terminal - International departure lounge, upper level

- Public areas
- Passenger areas
- Lift

Amenities

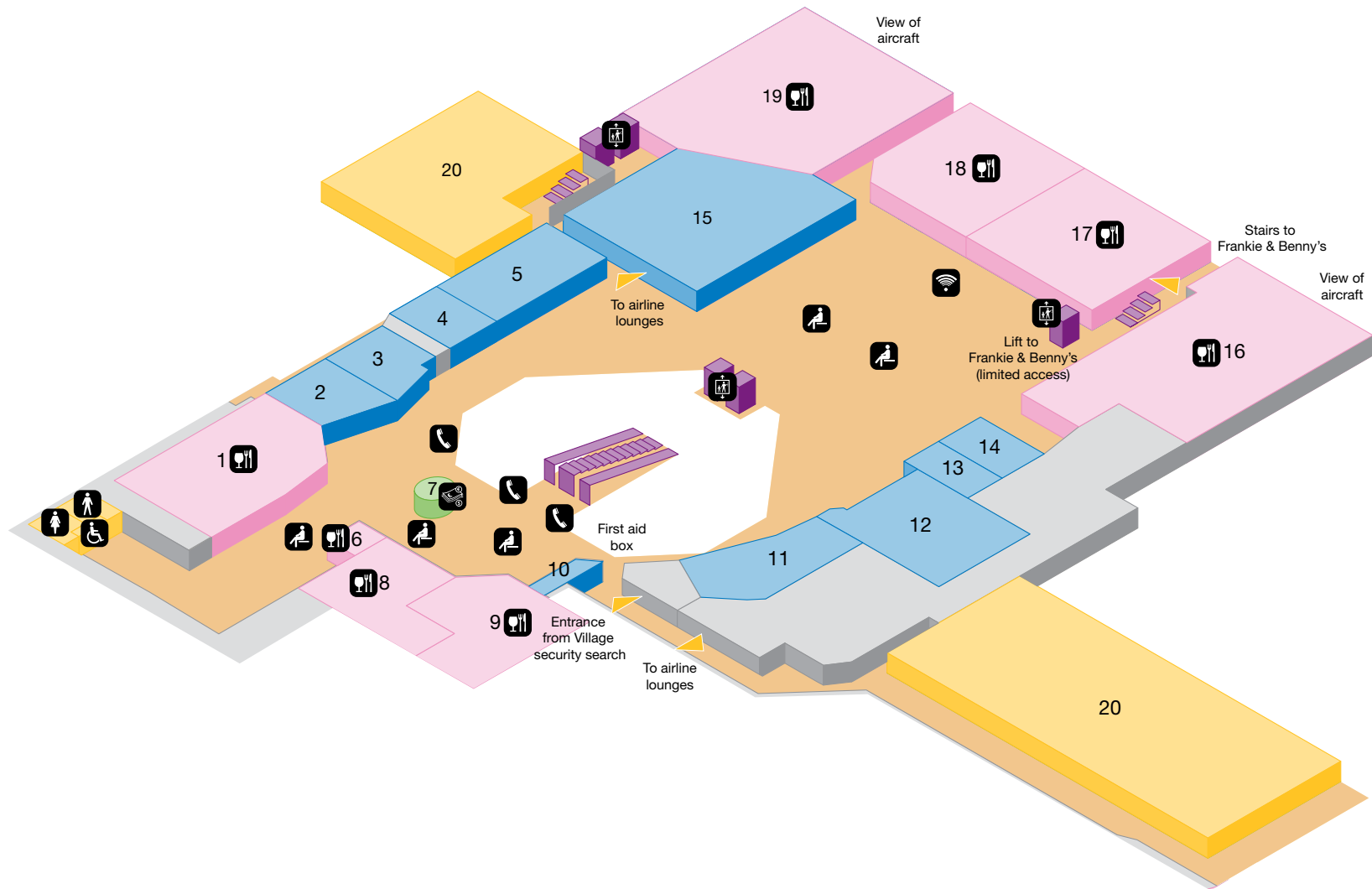
- Accessible toilet
- Toilet men
- Toilet women
- 20 Airline lounge

Services

- Moneycorp Bureau de Change and cash machine
- Public telephone
- Seating
- Wireless hotspot
- 7 Moneycorp Bureau de Change

Shops & Food and Drink

- Restaurant / Café
- 1 Pret A Manger
- 2 WHSmith
- 3 Next
- 4 Accessorize
- 5 JD -King Of Trainers
- 6 Shake-A-Hula
- 8 JD Wetherspoons 'The Flying Horse'
- 9 McDonald's
- 10 Game Grid
- 11 World Duty Free and Sunglasses
- 12 Kurt Geiger
- 13 SuperDry
- 14 All Saints
- 15 Dixons Tax Free
- 16 The Bridge Bar and Frankie & Benny's
- 17 Apostrophe
- 18 Costa
- 19 Café Rouge





South Terminal - Arrivals

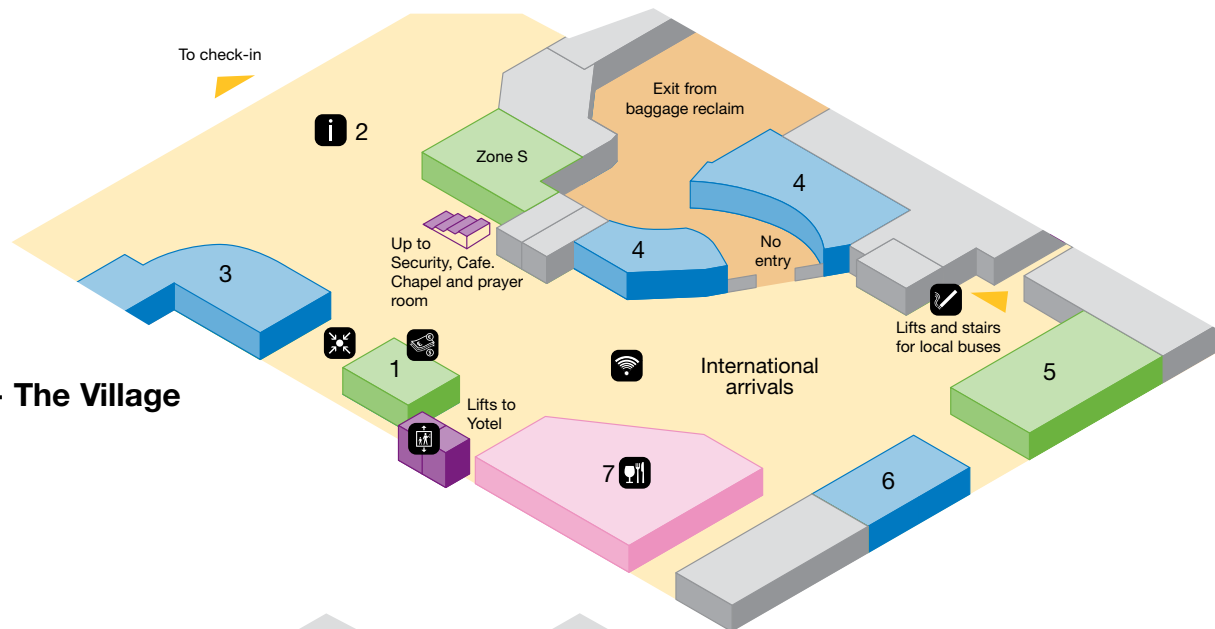
- Public areas
- Passenger areas
- Lift

Services

- Bureau de change
- Meeting point
- Smoking area
- Wireless hotspot
- 1 Travelex Bureau de Change and cash machine
- 2 UK Immigration Services phone
- 5 Onward Travel Centre –T rains, easyBus, National Express

Shops & Food and Drink

- Restaurant / Café
- 3 WHSmith
- 4 World Duty Free Arrivals Shop
- 6 Left baggage (and shop and drop)
- 7 Costa Coffee



South Terminal - The Village

- Public areas
- Passenger areas
- Lift

Amenities

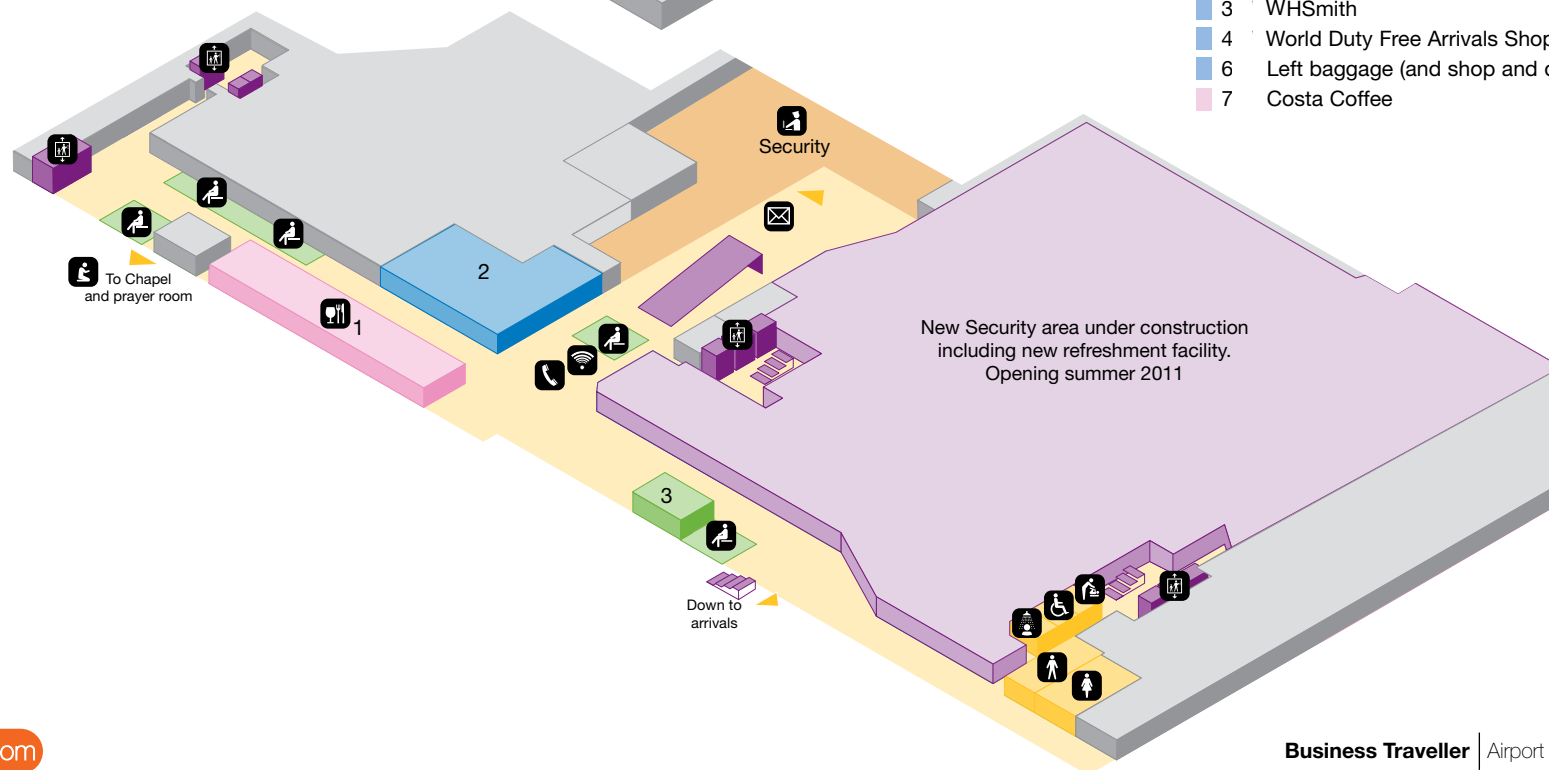
- Accessible toilet
- Babycare
- Shower facilities
- Toilet men
- Toilet women

Services

- Bureau de change
- Chapel and prayer room
- Lift
- Postbox
- Public telephone
- Seating
- Wireless hotspot
- 3 Photo booths

Shops & Food and Drink

- Restaurant / Café
- 1 Caffè Nero
- 2 Boots





NORTH TERMINAL

DEPARTURES LANDSIDE

EAT There are branches of Costa Coffee, Caffe Nero and Marks and Spencer Simply Food if you want a quick drink or bite. Joe's Kitchen and Coffee House serves a variety of dishes, from a traditional English breakfast (£8) to a Thai green curry (£9). The Globe Freehouse offers beers (£3.50 per bottle), wines (about £4 per glass) and spirits, as well as a varied food menu.

SHOP Popular high-street chains include Boots, Accessorize, Monsoon, Tie Rack and Sunglass Hut. The Excess Baggage Company caters for your last-minute travel needs and Rolling Luggage offers top brands of travel luggage.

DEPARTURES AIRSIDE

EAT The North Terminal has many outlets to suit all budgets, ranging from Costa Coffee to the Caviar House and Prunier Seafood Bar. The Armadillo Cafe and Grill provides dishes inspired by the southern US such as tostada and sweet corn fritters. The Red Lion is a Wetherspoon bar offering a wide range of beers and wines plus classic pub food (fish and chips is £9, as is sausages and mash). There is also a Caffe Nero, sandwich bars such as Eat and En Toast, and Shake-a-Hula, an American-style milkshake bar. The terminal also includes Café Rouge, which serves French-style cuisine, Lloyd's No 1, a stylish bar offering a selection of drinks, snacks and meals (breakfast is served until noon), and Garfunkel's, which offers options such as a classic burger for £9 or beef and ale pie for £11.

SHOPS Popular fashion brands include Ted Baker, Hugo Boss, Mango, Lacoste, Ray-Ban, JD Sports, Fat Face, Next and Tie Rack. There is a large World Duty Free offering tax-free prices on a range of products, WHSmith and Boots for essentials, Accessorize and Sunglass Hut for holiday accessories, and HMV for music. There is also a small Harrods outlet that provides a range of luxury products, and a Hamleys for exclusive toys. Dixons Travel is handy for any last-minute electronics buys and Rolling Luggage can also be found airside. Jo Malone and Rituals provide premium beauty products, and Shoe Studio is there if you need extra footwear. Master of Time has a variety of fashion accessories, Travelex and Moneycorp provide currency exchange, World of Whiskies offers a range of 350 malts and Glorious Britain is the place for gifts and souvenirs. Game Grid offers fruit machines and video game entertainment.

ARRIVALS

EAT Costa Coffee
SHOP WHSmith, Boots, World Duty Free, Game Grid, Travelex

SOUTH TERMINAL

DEPARTURES LANDSIDE

EAT Giraffe offers a global menu ranging from burgers (£9) to mezze plates (£8), while sandwich bar Apostrophe provides fresh food all day. Both have departure screens for keeping an eye on your flight. There are also branches of Costa Coffee, Caffe Nero, the Gourmet Hotdog Company and Marks and Spencer Simply Food.
SHOP There are WHSmith, Accessorize, Boots, Sunglass Hut, Moneycorp, Travelex, Game Grid and Rolling Luggage outlets.

DEPARTURES AIRSIDE

EAT Outlets range from McDonald's to the Flying Horse, a family-friendly pub. There is Frankie and Benny's for US/Italian-style food, and a Café Rouge. The Caviar House and Prunier Seafood Bar offers a sophisticated dining experience, serving king crab (£20) and caviars such as Tsarina (£19.50 for 15kg), Malossol (£70 for 30kg) and Heritage (£125 for 30kg). The Bridge Bar and Eating House serves pastas (from £8) and grilled salmon with pesto (£11). There are branches of Caffe Nero, Costa Coffee, Pret a Manger, Shake-a-Hula and Apostrophe.
SHOP Fashion stores include Ted Baker, Hugo Boss, Kurt Geiger, Superdry, Next, Fat Face, JD Sports and All Saints. There is also a World Duty Free store, a small Harrods outlet, and branches of Sunglass Hut, HMV, WHSmith, WHSmith Books, Dixons Travel, Boots, Rolling Luggage, World of Whiskies, Accessorize, Master of Time, Travelex, Moneycorp and Game Grid.

ARRIVALS

EAT Costa Coffee, Giraffe
SHOP Boots, WHSmith, World Duty Free, Travelex, Game Grid





If you want to see how the airport will look when its revamp is complete, look out for posters displaying a huge bar code for the free Stickybits app. Android and iPhone users can download it for an audiovisual peek behind the scenes.



If you're looking for a hotel, don't rule out properties nearer the other terminal. The entrance to the Sofitel, for example, is just by the North Terminal shuttle drop-off so, with the speed of the transfer service (only a few minutes), could be quicker than going to a hotel near the South. (See page 22.)



Arrived off a night flight and going straight to a meeting? The arrivals lounge in the Sofitel (open 5am-1pm; free to BA first, business and full-fare economy passengers when they show their boarding pass, £20 for others) has 19 shower rooms, and staff will press your clothes while you freshen up. You can grab breakfast, too. (See page 9.)



If you want to get some sleep between connections, the Yotel in the South Terminal offers cabins for four-hour periods. (See page 22.)



Travelling economy but fancy some pampering? The new No 1 Traveller lounge in the North Terminal costs £25 to access (£20 online), or you can opt to use only its spa services, which are priced by treatment. No 1 Traveller's South Terminal lounge also offers treatments, though you will have to pay for lounge access too. (See page 9.)



Want the fastest way into the airport? In the South Terminal, park on the first floor of short-stay car park 3 to be on the same floor as the entrance – though from March next year, when the new forecourt building will be complete, that will change to the second floor. In the North Terminal, park on the fourth level of the brand-new short-stay car park 6 – by August-September, it will have a direct walkway to check-in (be aware that this level will cost more).



If you have a question about your flight, or are in the terminal and need help, it might be quicker for you to tweet it as Gatwick uses Twitter as a customer service tool and aims to offer swift assistance. The airport also tweets news and special offers. See twitter.com/gatwick_airport



Unless you are worried about saving the environment, don't worry about fishing out an old plastic bag for liquids before you travel – free ones are supplied.



If you need to access the internet or print any documents, there are banks of PCs and printers in both terminals, with web access costing from £1 for ten minutes. The airport was also set to install mobile printing facilities at the exit of the North Terminal departures lounge by the end of June/ beginning of July.



Book car parking in advance for the cheapest rates – visit gatwickairport.com/parking. (See page 7.)



AT THE AIRPORT

HILTON LONDON GATWICK AIRPORT

The 821-room Hilton is connected to the South Terminal and located next to the long-stay car park. Its public spaces were revamped in November 2009, adding a restaurant, redesigned lobby and atrium area, and Costa Coffee shop. Amy's bar in the centre of the atrium is a great place to sip cocktails. You can drop your key through a post box in the lobby if you wish to make a speedy check-out, and there are live flight information screens. Rooms start from 23 sqm and have wired internet charged at £15 for 24 hours (there is wifi in the lobby). Executive rooms come with thick white bathrobes and slippers and access to the Executive lounge, which offers a complimentary continental breakfast, snacks, drinks and free wifi. The hotel also has a business centre, 21 function rooms and a small 24-hour gym. The hotel group is scheduled to open a 192-room Gatwick property under its Hampton by Hilton brand in time for the 2012 Olympics.



■ South Terminal; tel +44 (0)1293 518 080; hilton.com

YOTEL GATWICK

Located underneath the South Terminal arrivals hall, this was the first Yotel to open when it launched in 2007 (the brand now has properties at Heathrow and Amsterdam Schiphol airports, and in New York). It has 46 pod-style rooms that can be booked overnight, or for four-hour stints if you are between connections and want to grab some rest. The white-walled, futuristic cabins are compact to say the least – 7 sqm for Standard ones, which have single beds, and 10 sqm for Premium ones, with doubles – and have no daylight. Nevertheless, they have all the amenities you need for a short stopover, including air conditioning, a rainshower, white towels and linens, free wifi, flatscreen TV (in Premium rooms you can connect your iPod to them), a small fold-down table and chair with plug sockets, and mood lighting. The reception is manned 24 hours and has self-service check-in kiosks and a phone-charging stand. A round-the-clock snack menu can be delivered to your room.

■ South Terminal; tel +44 (0)20 7100 1100; yotel.com

SOFITEL LONDON GATWICK

Accessed by a covered walkway from the North Terminal Interchange, where the shuttle service from the South comes in, the 518-room, four-star Sofitel opened in 2005 (it was previously



a Le Méridien) and is built around a bright and airy eight-floor atrium. Rooms start from 23 sqm and are modern with big windows – higher up the building there are some good views of the runway and surrounding area. Entry-level rooms come with wired and wifi internet (£15 per 24 hours), a workdesk, 24-hour room service, a tube TV (to be upgraded to a flatscreen by October), fridge, tea and coffee-making facilities, iron and ironing board and safe. Upgrade to a Superior room and you get free internet and bottled water, 10 per cent off food and beverages and half-price movies, while Luxury rooms (which already have flatscreens) have a minibar, robe and slippers, and access to the Club lounge, which serves a continental breakfast and evening alcoholic drinks and canapés. There are also two bars, a café, a brasserie with private dining space, 11 meeting rooms – the largest of which holds 300 theatre-style – a 24-hour gym, and a paid-for airline arrivals lounge open in the mornings (see page 10 for more information).

■ North Terminal; tel +44 (0)1293 567 070; sofitel.com



NEAR THE AIRPORT

PREMIER INN GATWICK AIRPORT CENTRAL

The closest Premier Inn to the airport (until a 630-room one opens in late 2012/early 2013 with direct access to the North Terminal) is a ten-minute walk around a ring road from the North Terminal. At night, and with luggage in tow, it wouldn't be the nicest stroll, so you may want to use the round-the-clock shuttle bus (£2.50). Refurbished last year, it has 220 rooms decked out in Premier Inn's purple and white colour scheme, equipped with double and sofa beds, flatscreens with Freeview, wifi (£9 per 24 hours), workdesks, tea and coffee-making facilities, and a combined shower and bath. An £8 buffet breakfast is served in Thyme – Premier Inn's new-concept restaurant – a pleasant space that also serves snacks and dinner. There's also a business corner with two PCs in the lobby (£3.75 for 15 minutes) and internet is £9 for 24 hours. Park and fly deals are available.

■ Longbridge Way; tel +44 (0)870 238 3305; premierinn.com





COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT LONDON GATWICK AIRPORT

The UK's only Courtyard opened in April 2009 and is a ten-minute walk from the South Terminal (the shuttle bus that serves the Premier Inn Central also stops here).

The 218-room new-build features a bright, attractive lobby with floor-to-ceiling windows, a bar, a restaurant overlooking a garden area, and a "courtyard" – essentially, a white-walled atrium area with potted trees and seating. Rooms are a decent size and have an earthy colour scheme featuring a leaf motif. Facilities include a workdesk with leather seat, a flatscreen TV with Freeview, wifi internet charged at £12 for 24 hours, tea and coffee, a laptop safe, iron and ironing board, air conditioning, a combined shower and bath, and room service served 12pm-10pm. It's worth paying £24 to upgrade to one of the spacious Junior suites, which offer espresso machines, robes, free internet and 10 per cent off food and drink. There's also a good-sized gym, a business corner with three PCs, a snack bar, and three meeting rooms, the

largest of which holds 35 delegates. Park and fly deals are offered.

■ Buckingham Gate; tel +44 (0)1293 566 300; marriott.com

TRAVELODGE

Located a ten-minute drive from both terminals is the 185-room Travelodge. Open since 2001, it is divided into old and new, and the newer, 58-room part was refurbished four years ago. Rooms are basic but are all family-sized, so offer a good amount of space and a sofa bed as well as a double. They also have desks, tea and coffee-making facilities, flatscreen TVs, a shower over the bath and double-glazed windows. Wifi costs £10 for 24 hours. Rooms in the older part of the hotel have the same layout but feel more dated – it is one of Travelodge's properties earmarked for refurbishment, but no date has been set for this yet. An all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet served in the on-site bar/café is £7.65, and this Travelodge is the only one in the UK to serve it from 5.30am-10am. Other facilities include a 24-hour manned reception, vending machines

and a PC in the lobby, where internet costs £1 for 20 minutes. A shuttle bus service operates between 3.20am and 1am and costs £3.20. Travelodge has also taken over the Mercure London Gatwick Airport north of the airport, and is to expand the property's room count from 257 to 400.

■ Church Road, Lowfield Heath; tel +44 (0)871 360 2020; travelodge.co.uk

PREMIER INN MANOR ROYAL

Situated in the Manor Royal business park, two miles from the South Terminal, this Premier Inn opened in June last year and is very well-presented, with a stylish bar and Thyme restaurant that serves Costa coffee. There are 204 bedrooms with blackout curtains and comfortable beds. They come with a laptop safe, shower over a bath, and tea and coffee-making facilities, and wifi costs £10 for 24 hours. There are seven meeting rooms with daylight on the ground floor, the largest of which holds 60 people. The hotel has a 24-hour reception, self-check-in kiosks, and a lounge/kitchen area and gym which are

exclusively for crew and pilots. Park and fly packages are available. The G23 shuttle bus to the airport visits the hotel every 20-40 minutes and costs £3.

■ Crawley Business Quarter; tel +44 (0)871 527 9214; premierinn.com

PREMIER INN GATWICK SOUTH

Ten minutes from the South Terminal by car, this Premier Inn has a countryside feel. Built within the grounds of the former 14th-century Gatwick Manor, the original moat with its lilies and ducks is a pleasant feature. The hotel has 105 rooms equipped with wifi (free for 30 minutes, then £10 for 24 hours). The layout and amenities in the rooms are identical to those of Premier Inn Manor Royal, except there are no safes (there is one at reception). Guests are served breakfast in the Gatwick Manor's Chef and Brewer pub-restaurant across the path. The 17th century pub also offers an all-day menu with mains costing about £8, and there is outdoor seating. There are function rooms available that are managed by Gatwick Manor, the largest of which can hold 160 people theatre-style (visit gatwickmanor.co.uk).

Park and fly packages are available, and the G23 hopper bus also serves the hotel. Other Premier Inns in the Gatwick area include the Crawley (Pound Hill), Crawley East and Crawley South (Goffs Park) properties.

■ London Road; tel +44 (0)871 527 840; premierinn.com

BEST WESTERN GATWICK MOAT HOUSE

The 125-room Best Western is next to the Longbridge roundabout, just off Junction 9 of the M23, and a five-minute drive from the South Terminal. Open since the early 1970s,



Courtyard by Marriott



Premier Inn Gatwick South



Premier Inn Gatwick Central



the building feels a little dated, and while its rooms are functional, their décor is quite drab and uninspiring. However, they are reasonably sized, and wifi is free. The TV offers a good selection of channels, and there is a workdesk and tea and coffee-making facilities. There are eight meeting rooms with varying amounts of daylight, and a Conference Café where refreshments are available for delegates. The hotel's restaurant offers a variety of dishes (breakfast is 6am-10am and dinner is served



Menzies Chequers



Menzies Chequers

from 5.30pm, in addition to a full lounge menu from 11am till late), and 24-hour room service is available. Park and fly packages are offered and a shuttle service operates on request around the clock, costing £3.50.

■ Longbridge Roundabout; tel +44 (0)871 2261 931; bestwestern.co.uk

HOLIDAY INN GATWICK AIRPORT

Across the road from Best Western, the Holiday Inn caters well to business clientele. The Academy conference centre offers 12 meeting rooms with a capacity of 300, in-house AV, natural daylight and a central breakout area. Internet is charged as in the hotel's rooms – £15 for 24 hours (Executive rooms have internet included and wifi is available in the lobby). It's also possible to convert the ground corridor of bedrooms into meeting rooms for interview sessions. The Traders restaurant is reserved for conference guests at lunchtime, but for breakfast and in the evening it is open to all, and the cosmopolitan Hub bar serves food all day. The hotel has 216 modern bedrooms, and Executive rooms come with free water, robes and slippers, a trouser press, iron and ironing board, and tea and coffee-making facilities. A shuttle bus serves the hotel every 15 minutes and stops at both terminals (£3).

■ Povey Cross Road; tel +44 (0)871 9429 030; holidayinn.com

MENZIES CHEQUERS GATWICK AIRPORT

Refurbished in 2009, the Menzies Chequers has a fresh, well-kept feel. The 104 rooms have a splash of muted colour and have flatscreen TVs with Freeview, free water and wifi (Superior ones also have walk-in wet

rooms). The sophisticated Brasserie restaurant serves breakfast and dinner, and the lounge bar has an all-day food offering. The Chequers Bar retains its original 15th-century bar and character, and contrasts with the modern feel of the main hotel, which was originally built as an extension of the bar during the 1960s. There are eight air-conditioned meeting rooms, the largest of which holds 80 theatre-style. Park and fly packages are available, and a taxi ride to the airport takes ten minutes. Despite being closer to the North Terminal, the road system means it is slightly quicker to travel to the South.

■ Brighton Road; tel +44 (0)1293 766 750; menzieshotels.co.uk

IBIS LONDON GATWICK AIRPORT

The Ibis's 141 rooms were refurbished in early 2010, and there are plans to refresh the ground-floor open-plan lobby, restaurant and bar. Rooms are modern with a pod-style bathroom and curved furniture that uses space efficiently. The Philips TV comes with a wireless keyboard and can double up as a PC. For £10 you can access the internet (via the TV or cable provided) and watch movies. Wifi is available, but is charged and set up via Orange's website. Rooms also have tea and coffee-making facilities, a walk-in shower (no bath) and an air-cooling system. A hot buffet breakfast is served from 6.30am to 10am, and a continental breakfast from 10am to 12am. There is a 24-hour snack service, which includes pizza, curry and jacket potatoes – this is served in the restaurant, although you can also take the food up to your room. The hotel is ten minutes from the North Terminal and a shuttle service

operates every 30 minutes between 5am and 11.30pm. The local G23 bus also serves the airport from here.

■ London Road; tel +44 (0)1293 590 300; ibishotel.com

CROWNE PLAZA LONDON GATWICK AIRPORT

Less than 15 minutes by taxi from the airport is the Crowne Plaza, with 294 rooms that have all been refurbished in the past three years. The hotel has a classy feel with a grand, sleek marble reception area that leads on to the Cube restaurant. Here, a buffet breakfast is served, along with evening meals, while the Cube Lounge serves food all day. There is also a separate bar that has a pool table and shows sports matches in the evenings. Standard rooms come with complimentary water, robes, slippers, an ironing board, flatscreen TV and a large desk. Upgrading to a Club room gets you a bigger bed, a walk-in shower and access to the Club lounge, which has turquoise and chocolate furnishings, individual booths with TVs and a PC area with printer. The conference suite has 11 meeting rooms, the largest of which holds 300 for a reception. Leisure facilities include a 15-metre pool, steam room, spa bath and gym, open from 7am to 10pm.

■ Langley Drive; tel +44 (0)1293 608608; crownplaza.com

RAMADA LONDON GATWICK

One of the nine Ramadas that is now being managed by BDL, the Gatwick hotel has recently been upgraded from a Jarvis to a Plaza. A sweeping marble staircase leads to six conference rooms on the first floor



ARORA HOTEL GATWICK

A towering water feature, palm trees and glass atrium ceiling give Arora's lobby and lounge a tranquil ambience. The hotel has 432 rooms equipped with a fridge, laptop safe, iron and ironing board, trouser press, tea and coffee-making facilities and complimentary toiletries. The Gallucci restaurant serves contemporary Italian food, and there is a 24-hour gym and health club with a steam room, jacuzzi room and treatment room, open 8am-8pm. The 13 meeting rooms are on the ground floor, the largest of which has a capacity of 270 theatre-style and backs on to a terraced area. Park and fly packages are available and the hotel has a private gate to Crawley station, an eight-minute train-ride from Gatwick. It's a ten-minute drive.

■ Southgate Avenue; tel +44 (0)1293 530 000; arorahotels.com

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS GATWICK CRAWLEY

A 15-minute drive from the airport, the hotel's 138 guest rooms were refurbished last year. The rooms are clean and convenient and feature flatscreen TVs with Sky channels, large power showers, continental plug sockets and tea and coffee-making facilities. Wifi internet costs £10 for 24 hours. A continental buffet breakfast with sausages and scrambled eggs is served in the ground-floor restaurant from 6.30am to 10am during the week – this is the only food the hotel serves, but there are restaurants in walking distance. A tiny bar extends from the reception desk and offers a small selection of wines, and there is a 25-capacity meeting room.

■ Haslett Avenue; tel +44 (0)1293 525 523; hiexpress.com

FELBRIDGE HOTEL AND SPA

This four-star, 120-room property is located on a busy section of the A22, about a 15-minute drive east of Gatwick. Modern in style, it underwent a £7 million refurbishment in 2007. There are two restaurants – Bay Tree brasserie, a relaxed, attractive space that seats 60, and Anise, an intimate fine-dining establishment seating 30 – while Qube cocktail bar can be used for conference lunches. A ballroom with its own entrance holds 330 for dinner – it opens on to a central landscaped courtyard, which the property is built around in a horseshoe shape. There are eight other meeting venues, two tennis courts and a 1,500 sqm field where teambuilding activities such as duck herding, falconry and archery can be held. Guestrooms are smart and have free wired internet, Egyptian cotton sheets, flatscreen TVs, safes, Elemis spa products and 24-hour room service. The spa has a kidney-shaped pool, relaxation room, spa bath, sauna, steam room, five treatment rooms and a gym.

■ London Road, East Grinstead; tel +44 (0)1342 337 700; felbridgehotel.co.uk



(there are further syndicate rooms on each level), all with natural daylight and free wifi. The 151 bedrooms have good amenities and a corporate feel. There is a decent-sized desk, trouser press, ironing board, tea and coffee, air conditioning and triple-glazed windows. Internet is £5 per hour or £10 for 24 hours (wifi is available only in the first floor bar). The Arts Grill restaurant offers a sophisticated menu that can be delivered to your room 24/7, and the Club bar is open around the clock, as is the kinetic room with treadmills and cross-trainers. The hotel operates a shuttle service (£3.20) every 30 minutes from 3am to 12.45am, and it is ten minutes from the airport by taxi.

■ Tinsley Lane South; tel +44 (0)1293 561 186; ramadahotelgatwick.co.uk





Langshott Manor

6 KILOMETRES

LANGSHOTT MANOR

Built in the 1580s and developed into a hotel in the 1980s, this Grade II Listed building has three acres of land, a croquet lawn and beautiful gardens and is about a ten-minute drive from the North Terminal. The medieval property is covered in creepers and maintains original features such as stained glass windows, roof tiles, beams and a bell tower. The hotel is divided between different mews houses, with 22 rooms in total. Each has unique special features, but all are luxurious, with Egyptian cotton sheets, Temple Spa products, tea and coffee-making facilities, a desk and free wifi. There are three meeting rooms, a gourmet restaurant and a homely lounge furnished with medieval furniture with a modern twist. The hotel is available for exclusive hire for corporate groups.

■ Langshott; tel +44 (0)1293 786 680; alexanderhotels.co.uk

8 KILOMETRES

COPTHORNE HOTEL LONDON GATWICK

Originally a 16th-century farmhouse, the Copthorne is set within 40 hectares of woodland and landscaped gardens, despite being only a ten-minute drive from the airport. The hotel's White Swan pub has original beams, and a country-house style runs throughout the 227 guestrooms. Club rooms have large double beds, a spa bath, robes, tea and coffee-making facilities, and wifi costs £12 for 24 hours. Décor in the rooms is traditional and pretty, but the hotel also has 34 more modern rooms with the same amenities (except the spa bath). There are 15 meeting rooms with good light, the largest of which accommodates 100 theatre-style. There is also a fine-dining restaurant, a brasserie and a library-style bar. One minute's walk away is an LA Fitness leisure club, which is free for guests.

■ Copthorne Way; tel +44 (0)13 4234 8800; millenniumhotels.co.uk



Copthorne London Gatwick

11 KILOMETRES

COPTHORNE EFFINGHAM GATWICK

Copthorne's other property in the area is set in 40 acres of grounds just a few kilometres northeast of the London Gatwick hotel. The 122-room property was once a stately home and the lobby points to more glamorous times, with its large central chandelier and grand piano, but the hotel feels tired and in need of renovation. The corridors look a little sad and the rooms, while functional and good-sized, would benefit from a refresh. They are traditional in style and have tube TVs (you can access the internet through these), tea and coffee facilities and a trouser press. Club rooms (£20 extra) are nicer and come with wired internet, robes, free movies and a drink voucher (the Club lounge is no longer in operation). New beds have been installed throughout the property in the past few weeks. In-room internet access costs £12 per night, and wifi is available in the lobby (£2.50 for one hour/£7 for 24 hours). There is a restaurant



Copthorne London Gatwick

and two bars, a domed conference suite holding 600 people, which was re-carpeted earlier this year, and a selection of other meeting rooms.

Other facilities include a nine-hole golf course, two tennis courts, a croquet lawn that can be used for teambuilding, and a health club with a good-sized gym, treatment room, sauna, steam room and 20-metre pool. There is extensive car parking and the number of vehicles parked up around the property suggests that many guests are taking advantage of its park and fly offers.

■ West Park Road, Copthorne; tel +44 (0)1342 714 994; millenniumhotels.co.uk

13 KILOMETRES

NUTFIELD PRIORY HOTEL AND SPA

Easily reachable from Gatwick and the M25, Nutfield Priory is a luxury, tranquil property positioned high on a Surrey hillside and offering wonderful views of the rolling countryside. Accessed via a driveway off the A25, the 60-room neo-Gothic building was constructed in





Nutfield Priory



Nutfield Priory



Alexander House



LINGFIELD PARK MARRIOTT HOTEL AND COUNTRY CLUB

Not a country house hotel but a modern new-build set in 180 hectares of parkland, overlooking Lingfield Park racecourse. Open since May last year, the 116-room property is an excellent proposition for groups wishing to combine business with pleasure

– there are extensive meeting facilities across the hotel and racecourse, along with an 18-hole golf course, spa, and teambuilding activities such as orienteering and 4x4 driving possible in the grounds. Some £30 million has been spent on building the hotel and upgrading the racecourse's facilities, which include a 450-capacity conference suite. There are 14 meeting spaces in total – four of these are in the hotel, which is linked to the grandstand by a covered bridge. Combined racing/meeting packages are offered, with a conference in the morning followed by lunch and an afternoon of racing being a common option (there are 83 race meets taking place this year). Guestrooms are smart with a racing-style colour palette of green, brown and red, floor-to-ceiling windows, a workdesk, media hub, free wifi and flatscreen



Lingfield Park

1872 as a private house for an MP, and retains many of its original features, with furnishings that merge traditional and boutique styles. The homely lounge, featuring a beautiful old organ and stained glass windows depicting the crests of the Knights of the Crusades, is a nice place to linger, but in warm weather take a seat on the outdoor terrace leading from the bar and library, and enjoy the view. Bedrooms are elegantly decked out in shades of aubergine, cappuccino and blush and have flatscreen TVs and free wired internet (some have wifi) – the 15 suites are particularly lovely. Cloisters restaurant seats 62 and offers a modern British menu. There are seven meeting rooms, all with daylight, the largest of which holds 100 people. Teambuilding can be held in its 5.5 hectares of grounds, and on the 100 hectares owned by neighbouring company Priory Events, with activities including quad

biking, off-road driving, archery and fishing. There is also a lawned/forested area that experiential training company the Holt uses to run leadership-focused games. Located in a building next door, the two-floor health club and spa has nine treatment rooms, a saltwater pool, a good-size gym, two squash courts, and a big bar-café and garden area that can also be used for group events.

■ Nutfield; tel +44(0)845 072 7485;

handpickedhotels.co.uk

18 KILOMETRES

ALEXANDER HOUSE HOTEL AND UTOPIA SPA

About a 15- to 20-minute drive southeast of the airport, this luxury boutique property has a true country retreat feel, accessed via a curving tree-lined driveway and offering amazing views

of the countryside. Built in the 1700s and set in 49 hectares of grounds, it was the family home of Percy Shelley and has been a hotel for about 30 years. With 38 rooms, it is a member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World, and attention has been lavished on the interiors, a mixture of traditional and contemporary chic – quirky furniture and art pieces sit alongside lovely original features. The lounge room off the lobby, in particular, is beautiful, and opens on to a terrace and lawn where gatherings can be held. Guestrooms are individually designed with plush furnishings, marble bathrooms and free wifi. There is a fine-dining restaurant, a brasserie, a champagne bar, a library and six meeting rooms, the largest of which accommodates 120 delegates. Teambuilding can also be arranged (motorised activities are not permitted). The luxurious two-level spa has 25 treatment rooms, a Grecian-style pool, spa bath, outdoor hot tub, sauna and steam rooms, and a hair and nail salon, as well as a big gym and a fitness studio. There's a tennis court, too.

■ Turners Hill, East Grinstead; tel +44 (0)1342 714 914; alexanderhotels.co.uk





South Lodge Hotel

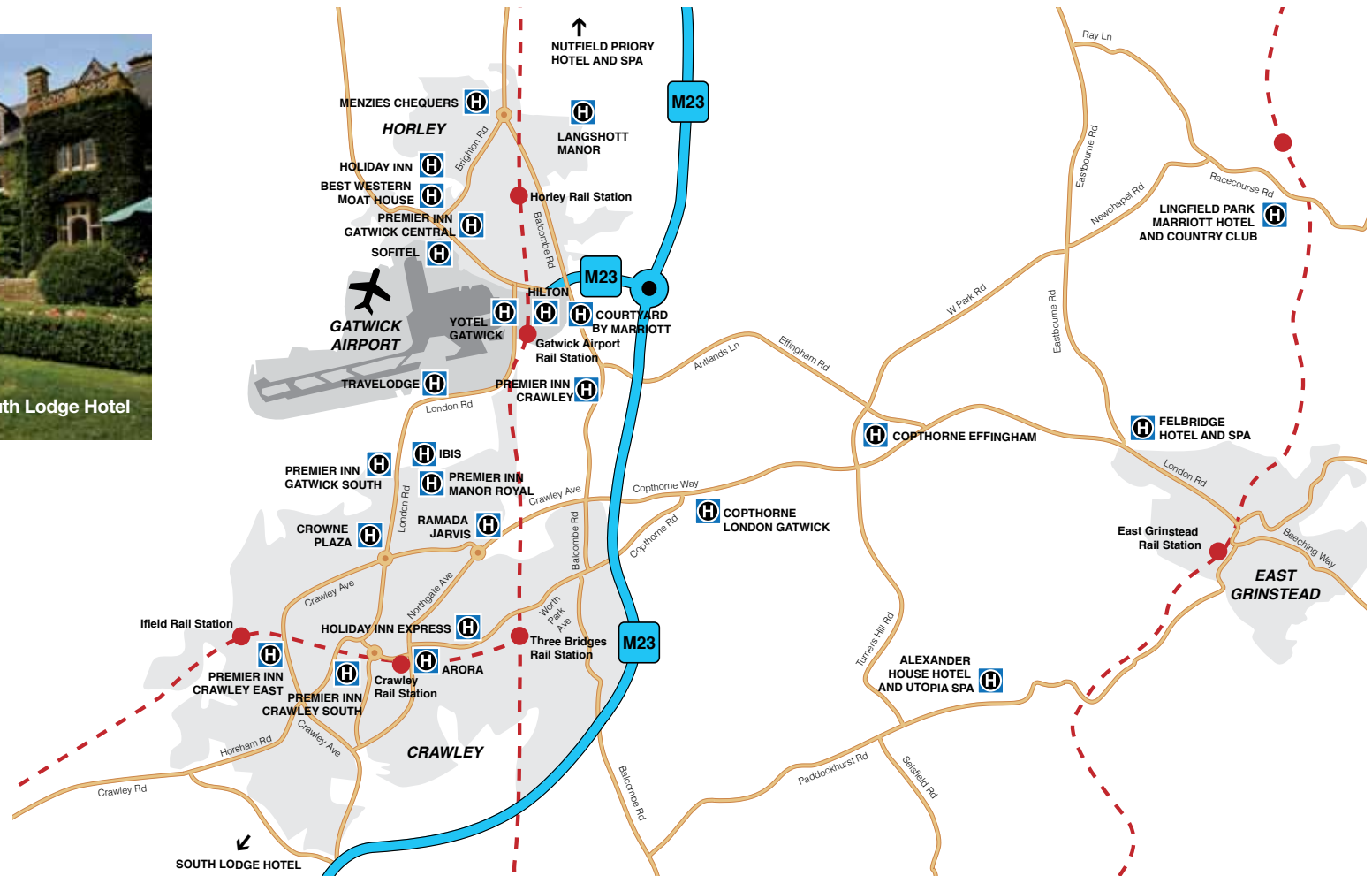
TVs. Cyprium bar and grill is an airy space with a terrace. The racecourse's carvery restaurant looks on to the winning post and can host 200 for lunch, while the main grandstand bar can be used for drinks, and the corporate boxes for breakout sessions. You can even do horse riding on the course (if you bring your own steeds). The spa has four treatment rooms, a gym and a pool.

■ Racecourse Road, Lingfield; tel +44 (0)1342 830930; marriottlingfieldpark.co.uk

25 KILOMETRES

SOUTH LODGE HOTEL

Turn off the busy A281 road up a tree-lined driveway to South Lodge and you'll immediately feel tucked away from it all. About a 25-minute drive southwest of the airport, this grand five-star property is a member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World. Built as a family home in 1883, it became a hotel in the early 1980s and is set in 38 hectares of grounds. The lobby is large and welcoming,



with original features including stained glass windows and a big stone fireplace, and there are various lounges for relaxing in. Dining and drinking options include the Pass, a small, ultra-modern fine-dining restaurant, Camellia, a more traditional venue serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, with an outdoor terrace offering wonderful views of the South Downs, and the Cellar, a newly opened wine bar

in the original Victorian cellar. There are 89 rooms and suites, the property having been extended a couple of years ago, and all are luxurious and elegant, with the rooms in the main house having a more traditional feel. Many have great mosaic-tiled bathrooms, and standard facilities include Bose sound systems, flatscreen TVs, free bottled water and free wifi. A dedicated conference wing has

12 meeting rooms across three levels – all have daylight and the largest holds 168 delegates and has access to an outdoor terrace. There is also a champagne pavilion, a five-hectare activity field, a croquet lawn in summer, a tennis court and small gym, and in-room treatments can be arranged.

■ Brighton Road, near Horsham; tel +44 (0) 1403 891 711; southlodgehotel.co.uk

