

A City map with major streets designated is included in the inside back cover pocket.

# Access & Transportation

Strategically located on the Interstate-10 corridor between New Orleans and Mobile, Biloxi is benefiting from considerable investment of federal, state and local resources in transportation improvements that enhance access.

## Ground Transportation

[biloxi.ms.us](http://biloxi.ms.us), [www.gomdot.state.ms.us](http://www.gomdot.state.ms.us)

Of the 1,622 miles of roads in Harrison County, 1,492 are paved, according to the Mississippi Department of Transportation. Of the County total, the City of Biloxi maintains 220 miles of paved streets within its municipal boundaries.

Businesses that depend upon interstate transportation have direct access to seven major interstate highways in the Alabama-Mississippi-Louisiana area via Interstate 10, which runs through North Biloxi. Realignment and reconstruction of Highway 67, from U.S. Highway 49 to Interstate 110, has significantly enhanced access to Biloxi from the north.

The Mississippi Department of Transportation completed \$4.1 million in rehabilitation work on the Walter L. Nixon Sr. Interstate 110 drawbridge in July 2011, enhancing the flow of north-south vehicular traffic in **East Biloxi**; installation of new street lights along Highway 90 near the I-110 Loop, from Caillavet Street to Benachi Avenue, have improved pedestrian and vehicular safety as have the City's recent lighting projects on other sections of U.S. 90, along new Highway 67, and on Bayview Avenue. \$30,000 is budgeted for the Pine Street extension and \$705,000 in improvements have been completed at the Division Street-I-110 interchange.

In **West Biloxi**, the City is continuing design work to improve Popp's Ferry Bridge and vehicular approaches at an estimated construction cost of \$6.6 million. \$400,000 in street repairs are under construction in Bent Oaks Subdivision; Saylor Drive recently was reconstructed for approximately \$60,000; Beauvoir Road has been repaved for about \$275,000; and Pass Road intersection improvements, estimated to require \$676,000 in local funds as federal match, are in the design phase. Discussions are ongoing between the City and the Coast Coliseum and Convention Center about extending Popp's Ferry Road south to U.S. Highway 90.

In **North Biloxi**, traffic improvements to the Cedar Lake Road – Interstate 10 interchange area are under design, with an estimated construction cost of \$162,000. The federally-required environmental review has been completed for Phase IV of Popp's Ferry Road, which involves widening this major connector from Cedar Lake Road to Lamey Street; right-of-way has been acquired, and utilities are being relocated. Phase IV activities are estimated at \$7.4 million.

The City recently completed improvements to Brodie Road (\$3.2 million) and Brasher Road (\$2.2 million).

The City's \$355 million FEMA-funded infrastructure project, that includes rebuilding more than 100 miles of City streets in addition to installing new storm drain lines, water and sewer, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, broke ground in 2011.

## Interstate 10 National Freight Corridor

[www.i10freightstudy.org](http://www.i10freightstudy.org)

At 2,500 miles in length, Interstate 10 links the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, crossing Mississippi and seven other states. And, according to the I-10 National Freight Corridor Study, 29% of the total freight tonnage transported in the U.S. originates or ends up in one of the eight states that Interstate 10 crosses. Trucks carried more than 60% of the freight moving along I-10, by volume and value, and an estimated 13% traveled by rail, 25% by waterborne carriers and less than one percent by air. These and other early findings of the I-10 National Freight Corridor Study demonstrate the contribution I-10 makes to the nation's overall economy.

Currently, there are two I-10 interchanges in Biloxi, providing convenient access to refueling services, restaurants and hotels for interstate travelers and freight haulers.

## Public Transportation - Coast Transit Authority

[www.coasttransit.com](http://www.coasttransit.com)

Coast Transit Authority (CTA) operates an efficient public transportation system in Mississippi's three coast counties through both a Fixed Route and ADA/Paratransit Service that provides curb-to-curb transportation service for people with disabilities that are within a ¼ mile corridor of a Fixed Route.

Within the City of Biloxi, Beachcomber trolleys, Bike & Bus and Casino Hopper buses served more than 855,000 passengers in 2010; the new Bike & Bus service allows passengers to place bikes on the front of fixed route buses and trolleys, at no additional cost, and is averaging 650 bikes per month.

A new \$1.2 million transit station on Highway 90 enhances access both to the beach and to those attending conventions and concerts at the nearby Coast Coliseum and Convention Center. Other passenger shelters are in the process of being installed along CTA routes and special shelter designs are being developed for installation in Biloxi's historic districts.



## Other Ground Transportation Services

[www.greyhound.com](http://www.greyhound.com)

Greyhound Bus Line passenger transportation services are available at downtown Biloxi's multimodal center. Other ground transportation options in Biloxi include private buses, taxis, limousines and shuttle services as well as access to nationally-affiliated rental car agencies.

## Rail

[www.csx.com](http://www.csx.com), [www.mserrailroad.com](http://www.mserrailroad.com)

East-West rail service through Biloxi is provided by CSX Transportation and north-south rail access is provided by Mississippi Export (MSE) Railroad, which connects the Canadian National Railroad and the east-west line of CSX. Through hauling agreements, MSE also connects to the Norfolk Southern in Mobile, Alabama and Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and to Kansas City Southern in Jackson, Mississippi.

In 2010, CSX reported handling nearly 295,000 carloads of freight on the +130 miles of track it operates and maintains in South Mississippi. Products shipped include textile chemicals, aggregates, liquefied petroleum gas, packaging paper, and plastics.

## Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport

[www.flygpt.com](http://www.flygpt.com)

As of June 2011, the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport is served by five commercial airlines, offering nonstop service to Atlanta, Charlotte, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Houston, Memphis, and St. Petersburg/Clearwater. Airfares are very competitive with commercial airports in New Orleans and Mobile. The 165,000 square foot terminal offers seven gates and comfortable lobby, ticket, security and baggage claim areas.

More than 700 acres are available at the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport for businesses seeking Foreign Trade Zone tax advantages.



## Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport Destinations

### Passenger Activity History Summary

	Enplaned	Deplaned	Total Passengers	% Change
2004	442,365	431,013	873,378	1.8%
2006	402,905	394,940	797,845	3.5%
2008	488,033	486,828	974,861	7.0%
2010	449,074	444,498	893,572	11.6%

**General aviation** – Million Air, with fixed base operations (FBO) at the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport, is investing \$12 million to build a general aviation facility that will refuel and maintain private planes and other services. The 5,200 square-foot building, to be complete in 2011, includes an atrium in the lobby, conference rooms, a business center and U.S. Customs service. The complex will include its own 80,000-gallon fuel depot and Million Air projects it will pump up to six million gallons of fuel each year for commercial, business and military customers. Because it is located within a Foreign Trade Zone, inbound pilots will save \$0.057 a gallon on state tax and outbound pilots will get an additional \$0.247 break on federal tax.

**Air Cargo** – Gulf Coast International Cargo operates the air cargo facility at the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport. The facility includes 20,000 square feet of chiller space, 20,000 square feet of cargo sorting and distribution space and 6,000 square feet of office space.

Airside access from the runway system is designed with safety and efficiency as the top priorities, allowing the ramp to facilitate two MD11s or DC10s or one B747. As the demand for air cargo activity increases, expansion is an option with 120 acres reserved for additional air cargo handling services.

## Mississippi State Port at Gulfport

[www.shipmspa.com](http://www.shipmspa.com)

The world-class Mississippi State Port at Gulfport is the third busiest container port on the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and is the second largest importer of green fruit in the United States. The Port encompasses 204 acres, has approximately 6,000 feet of berthing space and averages more than two million tons of cargo a year. It also includes more than 160 acres located within Foreign Trade Zone No. 92.

The State Port is only 16 miles from shipping lanes and only five nautical miles from the Intercoastal Waterway; it has direct access to Highway 49 and is ten minutes from Interstate 10, allowing trucks to distribute products to 75% of the U.S. market within 24 hours.

The State Port received a \$570 million HUD grant to complete Hurricane Katrina restoration, expand the port by 84 acres and elevate it to 25 feet, which is projected to quadruple the port's capacity. The port has been redesigned to modernize container operations, including automating equipment to move cargo. For detailed information about the State Port's expansion plans and status, visit [www.portofthefuture.com](http://www.portofthefuture.com).

When complete, the State Port expansion project could add 1,100 direct jobs and 3,600 indirect jobs to the area as early as the end of 2015, and no later than 2017, according to Governor Haley Barbour. He said the local port project will come to fruition after expansion of the Panama Canal is completed, creating a perfect opportunity for business expansion.

## Foreign Trade Zone No. 92

[www.mscoastftz.org](http://www.mscoastftz.org)

Businesses that import, export or re-export goods may benefit by operating at a site located in one of South Mississippi's Foreign Trade Zone No. 92 sites, which provide quick and safe access to the Gulf of Mexico, the Intercoastal Waterway, rail and interstate highway systems. FTZ advantages:

- indefinite storage of goods within the FTZ encourages volume buying, transportation discounts, and distribution of goods under the most favorable market conditions;
- bulk shipments may be broken down and repackaged within an FTZ, which can ensure transportation savings and allow improperly labeled merchandise to be correctly labeled without fines or penalties;
- no quotas are applicable in the FTZ, therefore goods arriving in excess of U.S. quotas may be held without penalty until the next quota period;
- duty and tax free exportation frequently is available;
- goods may be displayed in an FTZ and sold at wholesale;
- 24-hour security provided by the FTZ may result in reduced insurance costs.

For more detailed information and other FTZ No. 92 sites in South Mississippi, visit [www.mscoastftz.org](http://www.mscoastftz.org).