

Fractional Aircraft Ownership

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by RayLam

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So how exactly does fractional jet ownership work? A company or individual customer buys a fractional interest in an airplane, just as they may purchase partial ownership of a vacation spot condominium. With this purchase they can then use this or a similar aircraft for a specified number of hours and/or days out of the calendar year.

There are a lot of advantages to taking part in a fractional jet ownership program for anyone that flies frequently and is looking to save some time and money in the long run. Using a business airplane is estimated to save an average of four hours travel time and eight hours productivity time per trip. You can also save on hotel bills by having the flexibility to return when you want to, and not being limited to commercial flight timetables. This has the added advantage of getting you back to spend time with friends and family.

As a private aircraft owner, scheduling flights days and weeks in advance is a thing of the past. Once an owner, you simply pick up the phone and your plane will be ready in a few hours-where you want it and where you want to go. It's the ultimate in convenience.

Large corporations are the biggest owners of fractional jets, with entrepreneurs, wealthy families, entertainers and sports stars next on the list. Those who have a demanding schedule that calls for them to be in a large variety of places cannot depend on commercial airlines, hence the demand for the flexibility of fractional jet ownership

The price varies enormously depending on the size of plane that you want to use and the size of the fraction you want to buy. As a general rule the larger the plane, the more people it can accommodate and the further you can travel (without refueling) but the more it will cost you. For example a light jet will have an initial acquisition cost of about \$400,000 for a 1/16 share (50 hours of flying), but a heavy jet would have an initial acquisition fee of over \$3,000,000 for a 1/8 share (100 hours).

About the Author:

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