

# Iosco Flying Club

April 1, 2026

Well, apparently I have an annoying habit..., at least according to my family. I guess if you ask my wife she might name a few more, but this one is flying related. We traveled over spring break and I just can't help pointing out, as the day drags on, the fact that if we would've flown ourselves we'd be there already. Originally the trip would've been a quick couple flights, but the airlines know best and they changed the flights and schedule on us. After flying out of Detroit at 8 o'clock at night and having to get a hotel room in Charlotte, NC (getting about 4 hours of sleep) we finally arrived at our destination 10 o'clock the next morning. Counting the drive to the airport, that was close to 17 hours. We could've flown there ourselves in 12. Of course my imaginary expeditions always have blue skies and a light tail wind (and endless fuel on board!). I know with the realities of the weather the airlines will likely always win, and get us there regardless of what mother nature has in store. That doesn't stop me. I even end up saying the same thing when we're on long road trips.....why didn't we just fly?

I'm sure I'm not the only one who does this, but one of my favorite things to do when I'm bored is flight planning. Fire up your favorite EFB flight planning app or, for some of us grab a sectional and a plotter! Where can we go in an hour? Where can we go on one tank of gas? How far could we make it with just one fuel stop? The possibilities are endless! Looking at possible destinations I always look for restaurants and accommodations and things to do if it could turn into a multi day adventure. Of course you have to follow the line along and make sure that there's no obstructions, airspace you want to avoid, and what kind of geography to expect along the route. Maybe there's even an airport along the route to visit for a side adventure along the way. Of course when planning from the comfort of your couch weather is never a concern. But when the stars align and the weather finally breaks you'll have options to choose from.

As spring approaches and summer is right around the corner keep all these flight ideas and destinations in mind. Whether it's a short hop for a meal, a longer day trip, or the possibility of a multi day adventure, find a way to get out and fly. And.....while we're talking about planning, don't forget to mark your calendar for this year's fly-in and plan to help out with your club's annual event! See you at the airport!

Go. Fly!

Ethan Buchanan, IFC President  
Ethan.Buchanan17@gmail.com  
989-387-6939