

Fly-Out Destination Ft. Worth Spinks

By Calvin Coffey

Looking for a nice fly-out dinner destination with scenic route? An evening trip from McKinney (TKI) over downtown Dallas to Ft. Worth Spinks (FWS) is the ticket. Take off early enough to land before dark at Spinks to enjoy the sights of Dallas enroute.

After departing McKinney tower's class D airspace, contact Ft. Worth Approach on 124.3. "Regional Approach, Nxxxxx VFR off McKinney, request Class B clearance over Love to Spinks." You will most likely hear "Nxxxxx, squawk yyyy, altimeter zzzz". After a short time, the controller will radar identify you, and then issue a clearance.

The routing normally will take you just North of the Dallas downtown skyline, over Love Field and the Trinity River bottoms, over the old Naval Reserve Station, Grand Prairie (GPM) and Arlington (ARL) airports, before reaching Spinks.

The airport is uncontrolled and easy to find. Tie down on the ramp on the west side of the runway. Fuel and services are available at the FBO. Cracker Barrel, Chili's, On the Border, Outback Steakhouse, Spring Creek BBQ, Tia Pan Chinese, Lafayette Seafood Company, McDonald's and a Lowes are available within a short ¼ mile walk west of the airport.

My student and I opted for the Lafayette Seafood Company, located just past McDonalds. The seafood served Cajun style and is fresh, delicious and very reasonably priced. Their phone number is (817) 295-9346 if you wish to check their hours.

After dark, the return leg is absolutely beautiful. Depart Spinks and contact Ft. Worth Approach on 135.975. "Regional Approach, Nxxxxx VFR off Spinks, request Class Bravo clearance over Love to McKinney" The clearance should allow you to pass over the same route in reverse to McKinney. Have a great dinner flight!

FORT WORTH SPINKS (FWS) 14 S N32°33.91' W97°18.49'

700 B S4 FUEL: 100LL, JET A TPA—1700 (1000)

RWY 17R-35L: H6002x100 (ASPH)

RWY 17R: PAPI(P4L) GA 3.0° TCH 52' P-line. rgt tfc.

RWY 35L: MALSR, PAPI(P4L) GA 3.0° TCH 52'

RWY 17L-35R: 4000x60 (TURF)

RWY 35R: Rgt tfc

Traffic Pattern: Light Aircraft: 1500 MSL; Heavy Aircraft: 2000 MSL

COMMS: CTAF 124.625 UNICOM 122.7 FSS: 122.6

REGIONAL APP/DEP CON: 135.975

SPINKS TOWER: NFCT 124.625 (1400-0000Z)

GND CON 119.475

GCO 121.725 (FORT WORTH FSS)

RADIO AIDS TO NAVIGATION:

Ranger (H) VORTACW 115.7 FUZ Chan 104

N32° 53.37' W97°10.77'

193° 20.5NM to fld 637/6E

ILS: 110.95

Noise Abatement: Maintain alt at or abv 2000' MSL N, W & S of arpt; avoid residential area SE