

Aviation Weather Products

Under the VMGD Act, the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD) is the sole provider of Meteorological Services to the Aviation Industry in Vanuatu. The Observation division under VMGD, provides around the clock real time Meteorological data for the 3 main Airports; Bauerfield, in Port Vila, Pekoa in Luganville and Whitegrass, Tanna Island and also set up 7 Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) at the main 7 synoptic sites. The Observation Section also provides METAR and SPECI for the following domestic airports: Sola Airport, Lamap Airport, Longana Airport and Analgauhat airport, Aneityum Island. The WFSD provides Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) for eight (8) Aerodromes: Bauerfield, Pekoa, Norsup, Whitegrass, Lamap, Sola and Longana. The Terminal Aerodrome Forecast is issued on a six hourly basis and is valid for a period of 24 hours. Area Forecast (ARFOR) is a forecast tailored for domestic flights operating within Vanuatu. The forecast is issued every six hours and is valid for a twelve hour period. The WFSD also provides Terminal Trend Forecast (TTF) for Pekoa, Bauerfield and Whitegrass Aerodromes. TTFs are forecasts which are valid for a three hour period. It supersedes an issued TAF within its validity period. WFSD under VMGD, also provides Route Forecast (ROFOR) for Air Vanuatu flights departing Bauerfield and Pekoa International Airport. You can view the latest TAF at the Aviation Services part of the VMGD website; you can also view it using NOAA's Website. For the latest ARFOR forecast, you can view it at the Aviation Services part of the website.



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VANUATU METEOROLOGY & GEO-HAZARD DEPARTMENT

AVIATION WEATHER PRODUCTS

WEATHER FORECASTING & SERVICES DIVISION (WFSD)



TEL: 00678 22932

***“Whatever the weather...have a
good day”***

Aviation Weather Products

The four products from the aviation weather desk are:

1. Terminal Aerodrome forecast (TAF) issued for

- International, 6 hourly, 24 to 36 hours validity
- Domestic, 6 hourly, 24 hours validity
- Emergency flights

2. Area forecast (AOFOR)

3. Route forecast (ROFOR)

4. Terminal trend forecast (TTF)



**“Whatever the Weather....have
a good time”**

Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF)

TAF is a weather forecast bulletin for an Aerodrome a. A TAF is prepared and distributed at 6 hourly intervals, has a 24hrs validity period, prepared and issued 1 to 2 ours before the validity hour and is subjected to change pending real time weather conditions by the aviation forecaster on weather watch. It consists of:

- Aerodrome ID
- Issue date/time
- Validity period (Z) and day of validity period
- Wind direction (degrees) and wind speed (knots)
- Visibility rating value (metres)
- Intensity of significant weather
- Cloud cover (oktas– cloud proportion observed) and height of cloud top and base.

Area Forecast

AOFOR is the weather forecast bulletin for the area in which pilots plan their flight or flight plan to inhibit safe operations. AOFOR consist of

- Situation (weather outlook)
- Four flight level (upper) wind speed and direction
- Cloud type , base and height
- Visibility in Significant weather

- Turbulence quantifier and map.

Route Forecast (ROFOR)

ROFOR is the weather forecast bulletin for the aircraft route internationally and locally indicating the type of weather that should be expected for the duration of the flight. It is issued at least 3hrs before take off.

ROFOR contains:

- Upper wind speed and direction
- Upper air temperatures
- Significant en-route weather
- Associated clouds, (base and heights)
- significant charts; synoptic, wind & temperature charts, turbulence chart.

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