

1 GAFOR

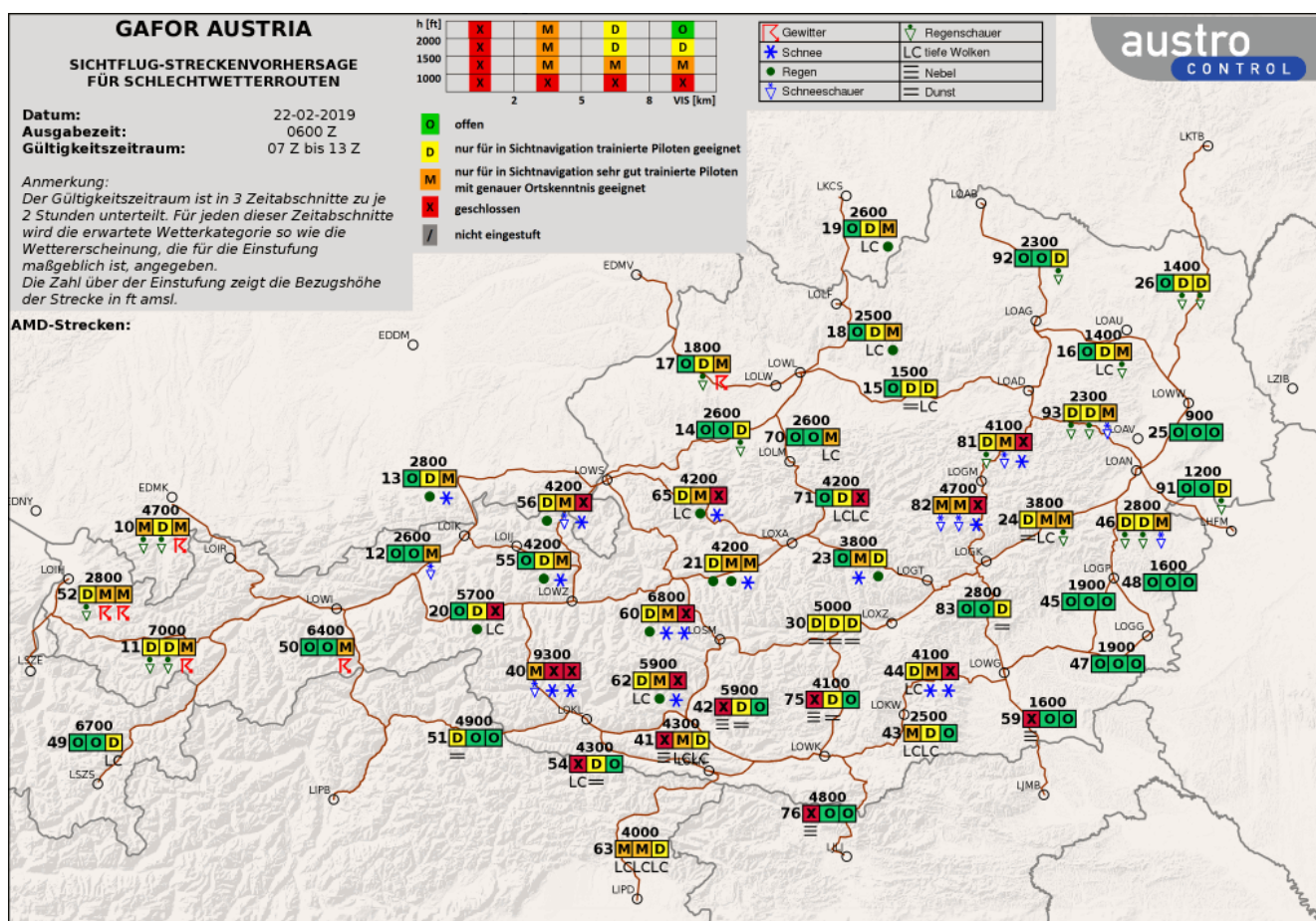
GAFOR (General Aviation FORecast) is a weather forecast for flights along certain routes which are most likely possible for flights according to Visual Flight Rules (VFR) in adverse weather conditions. It is published in two connected bulletins and as a weather forecast chart, the so called „GAFOR Sheet“.

The selection of flight routes is based upon the following criteria:

- Routes are most likely possible to fly in adverse weather conditions
- Routes include all Austrian airports and as many Austrian airfields as possible
- Routes end mainly at airports/airfields in order to reduce the size of the weather briefing and the routes included for the pilots
- Routes are part of the main routes crossing the Alpine ridge north-south- or east-westwards
- If possible, routes are connected to routes of neighboring countries

The reference height corresponds to the highest terrain height or the highest known obstacle along the route within a lateral corridor of 1,200 m width.

Routes:



All GAFOR routes and reference heights:

| No. | ROUTES | REF. HEIGHTS IN FT AMSL |
|-----|--|----------------------------|
| 10 | LOWI - Mieminger Plateau - Fernpass - Reutte - Pfronten - EDMK | 4700 |
| 11 | LOWI - Inntal - Landeck - Arlberg - Feldkirch - LOIH | 7000 |
| 12 | LOWI - Highway A12 - LOIK | 2600 |
| 13 | LOWS - Chiemsee – Highway Triangle Inntal (A8/A93) - LOIK | 2800 |
| 14 | LOWS - Highway A1 - LOWL | 2600 |
| 15 | LOWL - Highway A1 - St.Pölten - Expressway S33 - LOAG | 1500 |
| 16 | LOWW - Donau - Klosterneuburg - Stockerau - Expressway S5 - LOAG | 1400 |
| 17 | LOWL - Wels - Highway A8 - Highway A3-Donau - EDMV | 1800 |
| 18 | LOWL - Linz City - Interchange Unterweikersdorf - Expressway S10 - LOLF | 2500 |
| 19 | LOLF - Kerschbaumer Sattel - Kaplice - LKCS | 2600 |
| 20 | LOWI - Highway A12 - Zillertal - Gerlospass - Salzachtal - LOWZ | 5700 |
| 21 | LOWZ - Salzachtal - Wagrainer Höhe - Ennstal - LOGO - LOXA | 4200 |
| 23 | LOXA - Selzthal - Schoberpass - Leoben - LOGK | 3800 |
| 24 | LOAN - Interchange Seebenstein (A2/S6) - Semmering - Mürztal - LOGK | 3800 |
| 25 | LOWW - Pottendorf - LOAN | 900 |
| 26 | LOWW - Donau - Expressway S2 - Highway A5 - Mikulov - LKTB | 1400 |
| 30 | LOSM - Tamsweg - Murtal - Leoben - LOGK | 5000 |
| 40 | LOWZ - Mittersill - Felbertauern - Matri - LOKL | 9300 |
| 41 | LOWK - Highway A2 - Highway A10 - Spittal/Drau - Drautal - LOKL | 4300 |
| 42 | LOWK - Highway A2 - Highway A10 - Katschberg - LOSM | 5900 |
| 43 | LOWK - Highway A2 - Griffener Berg - LOKW | 2500 |
| 44 | LOWG - Highway A2 - Packsattel - LOKW | 4100 |
| 45 | LOWG - Highway A2 - LOGP | 1900 |
| 46 | LOAN - Highway A2 - Wechsel - LOGP | 2800 |
| 47 | LOWG - Highway A2 - Fürstenfeld - LOGG | 1900 |
| 48 | LOGG - Oberwart - LOGP | 1600 |
| 49 | LOWI - Inntal - Landeck - Finstermünzpass - Scuol - LSZS | 6700 |
| 50 | LOWI - Highway A13 - Brenner - Highway A22 - LIPB | 6400 |
| 51 | LOKL - Pustertal - Bruneck - Brixen - Eisacktal - LIPB | 4900 |
| 52 | LOIH - Feldkirch - Schaan - LSZE | 2800 |
| 54 | LOKL - Gailbergsattel - Gailtal - LOKN | 4300 |
| 55 | LOWZ - Saalfelden - Grießnappass - St.Johann/Tirol - Scheffau - LOIK | 4200 |
| 56 | LOWS - Steinpass - Lofer - Saalfelden - LOWZ | 4200 |
| 59 | LOWG - Highway A9 - LJMB | 1600 |
| 60 | LOWS - Golling - Annaberg/Lammertal - Radstadt - Radstädter Tauern - LOSM | 6800 |
| 62 | LOSM - Katschberg - Highway A10 - Spittal/Drau - Drautal - LOKL | 5900 |
| 63 | LOWK - Highway A2 - Tarvisio - Val Canale - LIPD | 4000 |
| 65 | LOWS - Hof/Salzburg - Wolfgangsee - Bad Ischl - Pötschenhöhe - LOXA | 4200 |
| 70 | LOWL - Highway A1 - Highway A9 - LOLM | 2600 |
| 71 | LOLM - Highway A9 - Pyhrnpass - Liezen - LOXA | 4200 |
| 75 | LOWK - Expressway S37 - Friesach - Neumarkter Sattel - Murtal - LOXZ | 4100 |
| 76 | LOWK - Grafenstein - Bad Eisenkappel - Seebergsattel - Kranj - LJLJ | 4800 |

| | | |
|----|---|------|
| 81 | LOAG - Expressway S33 - St.Pölten - Türrnitz - Annaberg - LOGM | 4100 |
| 82 | LOGM - Seeberg - Aflenz - LOGK | 4700 |
| 83 | LOWG - Murtal - LOGK | 2800 |
| 91 | LOAN - Expressway S4 - Mattersburg - Sopron - LHFM | 1200 |
| 92 | LOAG - Horn - Waidhofen/Thaya - LOAB | 2300 |
| 93 | LOAN - Sollenau - Berndorf - Altenmarkt - Traisen - LOAD | 2300 |

Please note that the GAFOR routes are not suggested flight routes!

Dates of Issue and Validity:

During central european time (CET/LCT = UTC+1):

| Issue time of GAFOR sheet | Header Time FBOS41 / FROS41 | Period of validity of forecast |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 06:35 – 06:45 lct | 0545z | VALID 04/10z |
| 08:35 – 08:45 lct | 0745z | VALID 08/14z |
| 12:35 – 12:45 lct | 1145z | VALID 12/18z |

During daylight saving time (CEST/LCT = UTC+2):

| Issue time of GAFOR sheet | Header Time FBOS41 / FROS41 | Period of validity of forecast |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 05:45 – 05:55 lct | 0345z | VALID 04/10z |
| 09:35 – 09:45 lct | 0745z | VALID 08/14z |
| 13:35 – 13:45 lct | 1145z | VALID 12/18z |
| 17:35 – 17:45 lct | 1545z | VALID 16/22z |

In GAFOR with leadtime **0545z** the first period **04/06z** is not classified and all routes for this period are marked with a „/“.

In GAFOR with leadtime **1545z** the last period **20/22z** is not classified and all routes for this period are marked with a „/“.

During daylight saving time the GAFOR with leadtime **1545z** is issued until September 10th only.

Contents:

Each GAFOR route is classified according to it's meteorological conditions according to visual flight rules. Therefore the **6-hour forecast period** is divided into **3 periods of 2 hours each** and for each period each GAFOR route is classified separately. The classification corresponds to **classification categories** which are deducted from the following parameters:

- Minimum **prevailing visibility** [*km*] according to SERA along a route
- Minimum **height of main lcloud base** [*ft*] (lowest clouds in amount of **BKN/OVC**) above ground

The following classification categories exist:

| | | | |
|----------|---|------------|--|
| O | visibility ≥ 8 km | and | cloud base ≥ 2000 ft |
| D | visibility ≥ 5 km 8 km > visibility ≥ 5 km | and and | 2000 ft > cloud base ≥ 1500 ft cloud base ≥ 1500 ft |
| M | visibility ≥ 2 km 5 km > visibility ≥ 2 km | and and | 1500 ft > cloud base ≥ 1000 ft cloud base ≥ 1000 ft |
| X | visibility < 2 km | or | cloud base < 1000 ft |
| / | forecast not possible or period already expired beginning of period after ECET | | |

| | |
|----------|--|
| O | open |
| D | only suitable for pilots trained in visual navigation |
| M | only suitable for pilots trained very well in visual navigation with precise knowledge of area and terrain |
| X | closed |

As additional information **for each 2-hour period** also the weather phenomenon associated with a classification **worse than O** will be shown. These can be following weather conditions:

- 1 Thunderstorm
- 2 Snowfall
- 3 Rain (moderate or severe)
- 4 Snow shower
- 5 Rain shower (moderate or severe)
- 6 Deep Clouds
- 7 Fog
- 8 Poor visibility

Amendment:

Although the forecast of GAFOR is generated with utmost diligence, unfortunately it is impossible to guarantee an accurate forecast at all times. On the one hand the network of meteorological stations has gaps, on the other hand various physical laws of the atmosphere can cause unpredictable weather development and sometimes not allow an exact forecast. As soon as it is determined, that the actual weather conditions on one or more routes deviate significantly – i.e. at least 2 categories – an amendment (correction) with the abbreviation AMD is issued immediately with the numbers of the affected routes listed.