

SEARCH Met Office

GO



[Home](#)
[Aviation](#)
[Login](#)
[Briefing service](#)
[TAF decode](#)

[Logout](#)

[British Isles](#)

[Europe](#)

[Global](#)

[Help and information](#)

## Aerodrome forecast - TAF decode

Please note the decodes below incorporate the changes to TAF visibility coding introduced on 25 November 2004.

CODE ELEMENT	EXAMPLE	DECODE	NOTES
<b>1 Report type</b>			
	TAF	'TAF'	Name for a Terminal Aerodrome Forecast
<b>2 Location</b>			
	EGSS	'London Stansted'	Station four-letter ICAO indicator
<b>3 Date/Time of origin</b>			
	130500Z	'For the 13th at oh, five, hundred, Zulu'	Usually omitted
<b>4 Validity time</b>			
	130716	'Valid from oh, seven, hundred, to, sixteen, hundred, on the 13th'	UTC (Greenwich Mean Time)
<b>5 Wind</b>			
	31015G25KT	'Three one zero degrees fifteen, max twenty five knots'	VRB = Variable; 0000KT = calm
<b>6 Prevailing visibility or CAVOK*</b>			
	8000	'Eight kilometres'	9999 = 10 km or more; 0000 = less than 50 metres
<b>7 Significant weather</b>			
	-SHRA	'Light rain showers'	See present weather table on METAR page for details; NSW = No significant weather
<b>8 Cloud</b>			
	FEW005 SCT010 SCT018CB BKN025	'Few at 500 feet, scattered at one thousand feet, scattered cumulonimbus at one thousand eight hundred feet. Broken at two thousand five hundred feet'	SKC = sky clear; FEW = 1-2 oktas; SCT = 3-4 oktas; BKN = 5-7 oktas; OVC = 8 oktas; '///' = state of sky obscured (figures after '///' will give forecast vertical visibility in hundred of feet) NSC = no significant cloud (none below 5,000 feet and no CB) CB will be the only cloud type specified
			Cloud heights are given in feet above airfield height.
<b>9 Significant changes</b>			
<b>Probability</b>	PROB30	'30% probability'	Normally only 30% or 40% probability will be used.
<b>Time</b>	1416	'from fourteen hundred to sixteen hundred,' or	Indicates beginning and end time of forecast period in Universal Time Co-ordinated (UTC) or Zulu time (Z)
<b>Change indicator</b>	BECMG 1416 FM 1400	'becoming from fourteen hundred to sixteen hundred' or 'from fourteen hundred' followed by	Also TEMPO = temporarily may be used
<b>Met. groups</b>	TSRA BKN010CB	'Thunderstorm with rain, broken cumulonimbus at one thousand feet'	Met. group follows indicating a change in some or all of the elements forecast in the first part of the TAF

\*CAVOK will replace visibility and cloud groups

### Example

18-hr TAF  
FTUK31 EGGY 102200  
EGLL 110624 13010KT 9000 BKN010 BECMG 0608 SCT015 BKN020  
PROB30 TEMPO 0816 17025G40KT 4000 TSRA SCT010 BKN015CB BECMG 1821  
3000 BR SKC=

### Decode

Eighteen-hour TAF issued at 2200 Zulu on the 10th. London Heathrow valid from oh six hundred to midnight the next day. Wind one three zero degrees ten knots. Nine kilometres visibility. Broken at one thousand feet. Becoming from oh six hundred to oh eight hundred, scattered at one thousand five hundred feet, broken at two thousand feet. Prob thirty, temporarily oh eight hundred to sixteen hundred, wind one seven zero degrees twenty five knots, gusting to forty knots. Four thousand metres visibility. Thundertorm with rain. Scattered at one thousand feet. Broken cumulonimbus at one thousand five hundred feet. Becoming from eighteen hundred to twenty one hundred, three thousand metres visibility, mist, sky clear.

**Example**

9-hour TAF

FCUK33 EGGY 300900

EGGW 301019 23010KT 9999 SCT010 BKN018 BECMG 1114 6000 -RA BKN012

TEMPO 1418 2000 DZ OVC004 FM1800 30020G30KT 9999 -SHRA BKN015CB=

**Decode**

Nine-hour TAF issued at 0900 Zulu on the 30th. Luton valid from ten hundred to nineteen hundred Zulu on the 30th. Wind two three zero degrees ten knots. Ten kilometres or more visibility. Scattered at one thousand feet. Broken at one thousand eight hundred feet. Becoming from eleven hundred to fourteen hundred, six kilometres, light rain. Broken at one thousand two hundred feet. Temporarily fourteen hundred to eighteen hundred. Two thousand metres visibility. Moderate drizzle. Overcast four hundred feet. From eighteen hundred, three zero zero degrees twenty knots gusting to thirty knots. Ten kilometres or more visibility. Light rain showers. Broken CB one thousand five hundred feet.