

# NAT FAQ: No RVSM - Where can we go?

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23 March, 2024



## ***NORTH ATLANTIC***

COMMON QUESTIONS AND USEFUL  
ANSWERS TO HELP YOU CROSS ...



## **No RVSM - Where can we go?**

- **You can** make a crossing at FL280 or below, or FL430 or above
- **You can** briefly enter RVSM airspace to climb/descend to your cruise level
- **You might** get approval if on delivery flight, or ferry flight to repair.

**Reduced Vertical Separation Minima (RVSM)** is required throughout the NAT region. RVSM applies

between FL290 and FL410, which matches the dimensions of the NAT HLA (FL285-FL420).

**Without RVSM**, you can only cruise at a level outside the FL290-FL410 band. However, ATC will generally approve a climb/descent through RVSM airspace to reach your cruising level. This is different to Europe, where you can't do this.

ATC may approve you to fly within RVSM airspace [NAT Doc 007, 1.6], if you:

1. Are a delivery flight, or
2. Did have RVSM approval but returning for repairs, or
3. Humanitarian.

Contact the first Oceanic Centre by phone 4-12 hours before you plan to enter. If you get approval, note it in Field 18 on the Flight Plan. (eg. RMK/NON-RVSM APPROVED BY GANDER 23MAR2024). HLA approval is required in all cases. Use the call "Negative RVSM" on initial contact with ATC.

**This didn't answer your question?**

**Comment below.** Sadly (for us), we enjoy digging into this stuff. So, post your question below and we'll update this page with the answer (probably quite quickly!)

**Useful links for more on this ...**

- NAT Timeline – new rules, year by year
- NAT Datalink – current rules
- NAT Doc 007 (ICAO) – RVSM exemptions in Section 1.6