

Vegas F1: Brace Yourself for Special Event Fees

OPSGROUP Team
20 September, 2024



Brace yourself – the Formula One Grand Prix in Las Vegas is just around the corner, and metropolitan area airports are about to get really, *really* expensive. Here is an early rundown on what to expect so you can start planning your trip early.

The Grand Prix

The FAA has published the procedures for this year's event [yet here](#).

While race day is Nov 24, **special procedures** will apply at KLAS/Las Vegas, KHND/Henderson, KVGT/North Las Vegas and KBVU/Boulder airports from **Nov 19-26**.

All arrivals and departures will need a **PPR number** issued by an FBO, including drop-and-goes. You'll need to include this in Item 11 of your flight plan.

Don't be tempted to try and land without one. Airport authorities will not allow you to de-plane your pax and you'll need to gas up and leave again without delay.

If you're looking to park overnight, **book now**. Last year it got so busy that the only option for many was to purchase a drop-and-go slot allowing thirty minutes on the ramp to offload, and another thirty to pick up.

Note that **Signature FBO** still cannot accommodate aircraft with wingspan more than 80ft, due to ramp construction works. **Atlantic Aviation** (the only other FBO at the airport) don't have any similar restrictions.

Even airports further afield, such as **KBVU/Boulder City** are already reporting they're booking up. If you're really stuck, it might be worth considering the likes of **KIFP/Bullhead City** (Signature) or **KSGU/St George** (Million Air) – although these would mean a long drive to downtown Las Vegas.



Traffic Jams

Inevitably, arrival rates will exceed airport capacity. ATC will use terminal initiatives to put the brakes on. It may go without saying, but it's important to carry **extra fuel** for airborne holding and reroutes.

Domestic IFR aircraft can also expect Departure Clearance Times for all inbound flights to the three major airports.

Within 200nm of the Vegas terminal area, ATC will not process airborne reroutes or changes of destination unless there is an emergency.

Special Event Fees

The biggest gotcha for anyone operating an aircraft to Las Vegas during the Formula One event is **special event fees** charged by FBOs.

At last year's event, we reported these exceeding \$8,000 USD. This year we've already seen quotes as high as **\$25,000 USD** from OPSGROUP members. So this year, we are effectively witnessing this fee more than triple. And that's just for the special event fee. On top of this there would be all the other standard fees (Facility, Parking, Hangar, etc).

AOPA has been crying foul on this very issue for some time now. As they explain, there is currently **no FAA policy** regarding special event fees. However, existing regs do require charges for the aeronautical use of a public airport to be 'reasonable', or sufficient to sustainably cover costs.

In this sense, the charge of tens of thousands of dollars to park an aircraft does seem exploitative – especially to those operating under Part 91 who may not even be using the airports for the special event they're being forced to pay for.

One last thing - Pacer.

If you're in Vegas for the F1, it would be a good idea to register and use Pacer before you take off again.

If you haven't heard of it, it's basically an **online information exchange** to help operators avoid leaving at peak periods by uploading their intended departure time.

Don't worry - your personal information won't be visible to anyone else, but you will be able to predict when ground delays will be at their worst. It was used at last year's event with good success and becomes more effective as more people use it. So, it's worth a shot.

The image shows the Pacer website's login and registration interface. It features a dark blue background with the 'pacer' logo in white. Below the logo, there are two input fields: 'Username' with a person icon and 'Password' with a lock icon. Below these fields are two white buttons: 'Login' and 'Register'. At the bottom, there is a link that says 'Forgot Your Password?'.

Heard anything else?

Let us know, we'd love to hear from you. You can reach the OPSGROUP team on team@ops.group.

Flight Ops at NBAA23

OPSGROUP Team
20 September, 2024



Hi everyone!

The latest QRH and Checklist for Vegas is now here.

**DOWNLOAD THE
FLIGHT OPS
QRH
AND
CHECKLIST
FOR
NBAA 2023**





BACE in Vegas: Special Airspace Procedures

OPSGROUP Team
20 September, 2024



Caution! This is previous year info - 2023 to come!

If you're headed to Las Vegas in October, look out for special airspace procedures at three main airports – KLAS/Las Vegas, KVGZ/North Las Vegas and especially **KHND/Henderson Executive**.

What's going on?

The NBAA Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition ('BACE' for those in the know) is happening at KHND/Henderson Executive airport from Oct 12-14, and things are going to get busy.



To keep the traffic flowing, the FAA has published special airspace procedures you'll need to know about. They will apply from **14z on Oct 8 until 06z on Oct 14**.

Here's how they work.

Watch how you file.

For starters if you're within **100nm of Las Vegas** don't try to pick up an IFR clearance once airborne.

In fact, they want all flight plans bound for any of the three major airports filed at least 12 hours in advance (but no more than 22). Any requests to change destinations between the airports once wheels up will be denied.

There may also be other methods that ATC use to put the brakes on the flow. This may include the use of 'expect departure clearance times' – IFR flights bound for Vegas will need to depart within five minutes of them. And of course, don't rule out the chance of dreaded ground holds.

To keep track of these delays, the FAA NASS website is the best place to start.

Headed to Henderson?

Here's what the FAA have to say about it...

From **0900:LT on Oct 9 until 22:00LT on Oct 10** all landings of aircraft not based here will need a PPR. Contact HND Ops on (702) 261 – 4858 to reserve yours (and get in early as they can fill up). Make sure you include your PPR number in the remarks section of your flight plan.

You'll need to fly one of three **RNAV arrivals**. From the NW, the GAMES ONE. From the NE, the BOEGY ONE. And anything from the south, the NTNDO ONE.

Once you've landed, they want you off quickly. Take the first available exit. Stay on tower until they tell you to change ground.

Then there's parking. You probably would like to *stop* your airplane at some stage after landing? Good plan, but **you'll need a reservation** for that. Get in touch with the HND FBO on (702) 261 – 4800 or you can do it online here. But don't show up unannounced – there's a \$1,000 fine, and the house always wins.

What about departures?

Don't try and jump the queue. They don't want you to ask for taxi until you have an IFR clearance and are clear to enter a taxiway from the ramp.

Showing off a ride at the show?

If you're exhibiting, there's a lengthy set of rules you'll need to follow. You can access those here.

There are also special procedures for **demonstration flights**. Issues with airspace make these tricky for ATC who may not be familiar with the profiles of demo flights. Be sure to let Las Vegas TRACON know if you need anything special in advance, and they'll do their best to help. You can contact them on (752) 600 7011.

Planning to go IFR? You'll need TRACON's **approval** on the same number. Your call sign will be 'DEMO' followed by the last three characters of the aircraft reg.

There will only be two routes available:

- **FL230 and below:** KHND.OYODA2.BOJAC..BYSEN.NTNDO1.KHND
- **FL240 and above:** KHND.SCAMR2.IWANS..BOEGY.BOEGY1.KHND

What about if you want to go VFR?

Yep, that's okay too. You'll need to use the practice area to the northwest of KVG. Listen out on 122.75, and let others know where you are and what you're doing. [Click here for the Las Vegas VFR chart.](#)

Keep an eye on NOTAMs

Other procedures may be published before the event.

If we've missed something, we'd love to hear from you. Get in touch with the OPSGROUP team on team@ops.group.

International Bulletin: Hong Kong pain in the ass, Haiti relief operations

OPSGROUP Team
20 September, 2024

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Hong Kong is a pain in the ass - it's official 20OCT Authorities in Hong Kong confirmed yesterday that the airport is a giant pain, especially for non-scheduled operators. Lining up slots, parking, permits and handling is extremely difficult. End result: a mountain of frustration. [Read the article.](#)

Haiti relief operations - and Airbus Flight 101 20OCT After Hurricane Matthew last week, MTPP/Port-au-Prince (Toussaint Louverture) became a central focus in relief efforts for Haiti. **OpsGroup member Airbus** operated an amazing relief flight from Lyon. [Read the article.](#)

VTZZ/Thailand is in a period of mourning following the death of His Majesty, King Bhumibol on 13 October. This is a time of deep sorrow for Thai people - refrain from any behaviour that may be interpreted

as festive, disrespectful or disorderly. Abide by local laws and respect Thai customs. There may be some disruption of commercial and public services during the mourning period, especially during the first 30 days (until 13 November). Tourist attractions are open with the exception of Wat Pra Kaew (Temple of the Emerald Buddha) and the Grand Palace in Bangkok. Expect traffic disruptions and heightened security around these areas as people pay their respects to the late King.

EBBR/Brussels All non-scheduled flights destined to EBBR are allowed only after special permission by Airport Authority before start of flight. Contact +32 2 7536900 or inspect@brusselsairport.be.

DTZZ/Tunisia extended the state of emergency on 18OCT, set to expire, by three months. The state of emergency went into effect following a series of terrorist attacks in 2015 and has been extended multiple times.

ORBB/Baghdad FIR Traffic entering from Baghdad FIR (ORBB) to Ankara FIR (LTAA) shall file their FPL as follows: NINVA-OTKEP-SRT at FL320 and above. NOTAM A4572/16 refers.

Solomon Islands There has been a confirmed outbreak of dengue fever in the capital city, Honiara; you should follow the advice of the local authorities and take steps to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes; you should take out comprehensive travel and medical insurance before travelling to the Solomon Islands

TXKF/Bermuda Due to maintenance, the Bermuda Radar system will be out of service on Friday. Recommended reroute to avoid airspace. New York Center overflight procedures will be in effect. Routes have been developed to provide limited non-radar service within the airspace. All departures from Bermuda will be held down at FL310.

OJAI/Amman, Jordan Runway 26L/08R will be closed for urgent pavement maintenance on these days in November: 01,08,15,22,29: from 0930-1330Z. The airport will not be available for either normal operations or emergency divers during the closure period.

OEZZ/Saudi Arabia From 8 to 10 October there were several missile attacks reported near the Saudi / Yemeni border and the southern Red Sea.

ZZZZ/Worldwide Regulatory and voluntary bans on Samsung Galaxy Note7 smartphones is spreading as airlines and airport authorities around the world are announcing bans or restricted usage on the device, which has been withdrawn by Samsung after some devices caught fire. Ban notices are being issued primarily through airline online check-in pages, as well as via public announcements in airport terminals and onboard aircraft. The US Department of Transportation (DOT) was first to issue a total ban on taking the device on board, as a passenger or as air cargo, when it gave an emergency order Oct. 15 with FAA. The devices are being banned because of fire concerns, and the fallout following an incident involving a smoking smartphone on board a Southwest Airlines aircraft in Louisville, Kentucky on Oct. 5.

YZZZ/Australia will not be implementing the changes in the ICAO PANS-ATM (Doc 4444), as they say they haven't had enough time to work on the safety case – ie. figuring out if these changes are dangerous in any way. In short, they won't be saying "Climb via SID" or "Climb via STAR", which are the new phraseologies.

TTZP/Piarco wins the award for most confusing AIC of the week, namely AIC03/16 issued on 13OCT. Titled "RVSM Implementation", it appears that Trinidad is finally implementing RVSM in their airspace. But wait, they did that in 2005. So what's new in this AIC? It's a mystery. Take a look and see if you can spot it.

KLAX/Los Angeles 3 out of the 4 runways at KLAX have now been renovated. Runway 6R/24L reopened on 16OCT after renovations. Improvements to the fourth and final runway, 07L/25R, will begin OCT22 and continue until June 2017. This last runway will be partially closed until January, and then closed completely to allow for more extensive work to be done

FSIA/Seychelles Runway will be closed on Thursday 20 and 27 Oct between 1815-0245z and Friday 21 and 28 Oct between 1900-0215z. Can be opened in cases of emergency.

UHPP/Petropavlovsk Eruption in progress at Klyuchevskoy volcano (N5603E16038) near UHPP. Ash cloud reported at 0720z on 17 Oct from ground level up to FL300.

VVZZ/Vietnam Typhoon Sarika is forecast to bring hazardous sea and weather conditions to parts of northern Vietnam from around 19 October 2016; heavy rainfall could lead to flooding and landslides

KLAS/Las Vegas Because of the next presidential debate that will be held in Las Vegas on October 19, 2016, intermittent road closures will affect access to McCarran International Airport (LAS) between 4 pm and 10 pm on that date. The recommended route to the airport from the east side of the valley is westbound Flamingo Road to southbound Paradise Road. The recommended route to the airport from the west side of the valley is eastbound Tropicana Avenue to southbound Paradise Road.

OIIX/Tehran FIR The minimum safe level on R462 between DENDA and METBI has been raised to FL140.

KSFO/San Francisco has a new ATC Tower operational since Sunday last, located between Terminals 1 and 2. Per the local report, it “offers controllers a 650-square-foot work area with unobstructed 235-degree views of the airport’s runways and taxiways”. Hopefully there’s not much going on in the other 125 degrees.

OSZZ/Syria Russia’s only aircraft carrier, Admiral Kuznetsov, is nearing the end of a work-up period outside the port of Murmansk before heading for the eastern Mediterranean, reportedly to begin air operations against targets in Syria.

EGPK/Prestwick will be closed from midnight to 0400Z on 21OCT, due to a planned ATC power outage. ATC reachable during outage at +447917 424603.

RPZZ/Philippines Typhoon Sarika recently passed through the island of Luzon as a category 4 storm. Transportation routes, power and telecommunications systems could be affected in some areas. Other services that may be affected in these areas include emergency and medical care, as well as water and food supplies. If travelling to affected areas, exercise caution, monitor local news and weather reports, and follow the advice of local authorities.

View full International Bulletin 20OCT2016

Monday Briefing: NAT Tracks Change Postponed, KLAS/Las Vegas restrictions

OPSGROUP Team
20 September, 2024

INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN

ISSUED BY FLIGHT SERVICE BUREAU

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NAT Tracks Change Postponed 16NOV The planned implementation of reduced separation in the Organised Track System (OTS) has been postponed. During final testing, a software issued was identified by ATC, and as a result the previous track structure remains unchanged. New waypoints introduced on 12NOV are useable. A revised implementation date is expected to be announced today, 16NOV.

KLAS/Las Vegas restrictions 17NOV Increased traffic from Monday 16NOV due NBAA Conference. Special Procedures in effect from 14NOV-23NOV affecting KLAS, KHND, and KVG, refer to this NBAA link for details. If you are visiting the NBAA Conference, you can meet the Flight Service Bureau team at stand C12050 in the Central Hall, and collect your free show pack.

KAUS/Austin A technical problem with ATC equipment in the Austin Tracon will likely lead to delays today; service is being provided by Houston Centre instead, with a Ground Delay Program planned to manage capacity.

KLAS/Las Vegas Increased traffic from Monday 16NOV due NBAA Conference. Special Procedures in effect from 14NOV-23NOV affecting KLAS, KHND, and KVG. Refer to <https://www.nbaa.org/events/bace/2015/air-traffic/>. If you are visiting the NBAA Conference, you can meet the Flight Service Bureau team at stand C12050 in the Central Hall, and collect your show pack (you can reserve one **here**).

KXXX/USA Several incidents reported of laser beams pointed at aircraft, on 13NOV Southwest and American were targeted at KPHX/Phoenix, and on 11NOV three aircraft at KDAL/Dallas Love were illuminated.

KXXX/USA Runway Closures BWI-RWY 10/28 CLOSED SEA-RWY 16C/34C CLOSED LAS-RWY 7L/25R CLOSED

KXXX/USA Snowbird 2015: The FAA have published details of Traffic Management plans for the east coast of the US during the Thanksgiving holidays, effective 24NOV to 30NOV. The highest volume days will be 25NOV and 29NOV, expect delays on north/south routes to Florida during this period. Read the full details of the airspace initiatives [here](#).

EINN/Shannon Has an overnight runway closure. from 17NOV-20NOV 2300-0500Z for essential

maintenance. If another ETOPS alternate is required on these nights consider EIDW/Dublin, EGAA/Belfast or EGPF/Glasgow.

LFXX/France A Notam issued Friday (A4850/15) regarding Border Controls remains in place, in practice the Notam is a reminder to airlines of existing requirements only. Expect delays due security checks at all French Airports, and many closures of public buildings and transport systems in France.

VLVT/Vientiane, Laos has reopened after a runway closure on 13NOV due to a disabled aircraft. An MA60 had aquaplaned and partially blocked the runway.

MNXX/Nicaragua closed its border with Costa Rica on Sunday 15NOV in response to the wave of Cuban migrants moving northward to the United States. Costa Rican officials had previously issued transit visas to approximately 1,200 detained Cuban refugees at the Panamanian border. One Cuban migrant stated that there were approximately 2,000 Cubans waiting on the Costa Rican side of the Nicaraguan border.

NFFN/Nadi, Fiji Refurbished departure lounge opens today 16NOV; the government will spend another 105 million USD to upgrade the Airport further in the coming year.

PAZA/Anchorage FIR Two new waypoints have been added for Polar operations. Those waypoints are LETUN and BAREK.

LFxx/France ATC Industrial action planned for 17NOV has been cancelled.

Llxx/Italy FIR There has been a call for an Italian National Strike, including ENAV ATC personnel, on 24NOV 1200-1600 UTC. More information will be posted as soon as it is available.

PLCH/Christmas Island As per NOTAM A1581/15 Jet A-1 fuel limited in supply. Sched flights to minimize fuel uplift on arrival or maximize tankering into PLCH. Tech stops cannot be made. In effect until 04DEC.

PKMJ/Marshall Island Construction is planned at the eastern end of RWY25; authorities have notified expected delays of up to 30mins including airborne holding.

FMEE/Reunion Airport will be closed from 16NOV-28NOV on Mon, Weds, Fri for surface work. Airfield cannot be used as an alternate except in case of emergency. All traffic services will be provided normally for all aircraft crossing La Reunion TMA. Refer to NOTAM A1452/15.

FAA The FAA is rolling out Controller Pilot Data Link Communications-Departure Clearance (CPDLC-DCL). Currently, only George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston, TX (IAH), William P. Hobby Airport in Houston, TX (HOU) and Salt Lake City International Airport in Utah (SLC) are operational, however, the FAA plans to bring 56 airports online by the end of 2016. KTEB/Teterboro is scheduled to be operational by the end of MAR2016.

View the full International Operations Bulletin for 16NOV2015

Monday Briefing: North Atlantic OTS

Changes, Indonesia Volcano Eruption

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North Atlantic OTS Changes this week 09NOV This Wednesday (12NOV) sees the implementation of the new NAT Track OTS, marking the first change to the lateral structure since the tracks were introduced in 1965. New requirements include RNP4, and 24 new Oceanic Entry Points come into effect. See below for further.

Indonesia Volcano Eruption 09NOV Operations into WADD/ Denpasar, Bali continue to be disrupted due to ongoing eruption of Mt. Rinjani on Lombok Island. Also affected are nearby WARB/Blimbingsari and WADL/Lombok.

EINN/Shannon FIR CPDLC service is withdrawn on the evening prior to implementation of the new NAT Track system, voice service only from 1715Z onwards on 11NOV.

LGGG/Athens FIR Strike of Greek Radio Operators (thereby including AFTN messaging, and AFIS) announced this morning for 12NOV. Overflights will not be affected. Full details here.

HESH/Sharm el-Sheikh remains open but subject to multiple advice notices from international Authorities. Many airlines have cancelled operations into the airport after increasing suspicions that a bomb was loaded here onto the A320 which crashed into the Sinai Desert.

HLLL/Tripoli FIR Libya has issued updated advice regarding airport availability – HLLQ, HLTQ and HLZW are only available for international arrivals, daylight hours only. PPR and Permit is required prior operations.

SCFZ/Antofagasta ACC, Chile. Crews on Airways UL780 and UL302 are requested to inform ATC of any speed changes greater than .02 Mach; if unable on VHF, use HF 10024. The procedure is to ensure separation between succeeding aircraft operating on CI speeds.

SBXX/Brazil The Brazilian Grand Prix takes place 13-15NOV making Sao Paulo operations at

SBSP/Congonhas, SBGR/Guarulhos, and SBKP/Campinas busier than usual.

RPLL/Manila, Philippines APEC 2015 Summit being held 17-20NOV. Check restrictions, many commercial flights have been suspended during this period. Parking at a premium. Consider quieter alternates such as RPLC/Clark.

YXXX/Australia Australian Border Force strike commencing midnight 09NOV across Australian airports. As a result, departure and arrival processing at Australian airports may take longer than usual.

WADD/Denpasar, Indonesia Operations here continue to be disrupted due to ongoing eruption of Mt. Rinjani. Also affected are nearby WARB/Blimbingsari and WADL/Lombok. For updates monitor http://www.bom.gov.au/products/Volc_ash_recent.shtml

LIXX/Italy Possible ATC strike on 14NOV 1200-1600Z announced.

KXXX/US Airport Runway closures: BWI-RWY 10/28 CLOSED SEA-RWY 16C/34C CLOSED LAS-RWY 7L/25R CLOSED

KLAS/Las Vegas NBAA 2015 will take place 17-19NOV limiting airport capacity.

HECC/Cairo FIR, Egypt Point PASOS (LCCC FIR) is again available in both directions for flight planning. Please be aware flights departing OLBA via LCCC must file via VELOX-PASOS. Also see HECC NOTAM 1A277/15 and 1A278/15 for flight planning guidance.

VHHH/Hong Kong Arrival and Departure delays up to 30 minutes can be expected due to a flight check and maintenance on RWY 07L/25R on 09NOV 0530-0100 and 10NOV 2300-0100.

Caribbean Tropical Weather Advisory Shower and thunderstorm activity is showing signs of organization in association with a low pressure system located just north of the Turks and Caicos and the southeastern Bahamas. A tropical depression or a tropical storm is likely to form on Monday while the low moves west-northwestward to northwestward near or over the central and northwestern Bahamas. For further details see National Hurricane Center

KLAX/Los Angeles Due to military operations of the coast of LAX there is a risk of arrival delays and reroutes during the overnight periods until Nov 12th.

MWCR/Grand Cayman may be forced to shorten the runway at Owen Roberts International Airport (MCWR/GCM). The runway, which was extended to accommodate long-haul flights, may have to be shortened in order to accommodate a 400 ft/124 m safety area. An extension of the runway cannot be further extended, and the airport authority is examining all options.

CYYQ/Churchill has amended opening hours 1200-2200Z M-F.

PKWA/Bucholz has revised ATC hours from 01NOV, 0800-1230 and 1330-1600LT.

NWWW/Tontouta has a main runway closure 09-12NOV at various times, some daytime. Check NOTAM 1543/15.

EGPF/Glasgow is closed overnight 22NOV-11DEC for runway and taxiway repairs.

DRRR/Niamey Ouagadougou ACC is now operational H24 again; the previously implemented contingency plan for traffic operating outside ATC service hours is withdrawn.

View the full International Operations Bulletin for 09NOV2015.