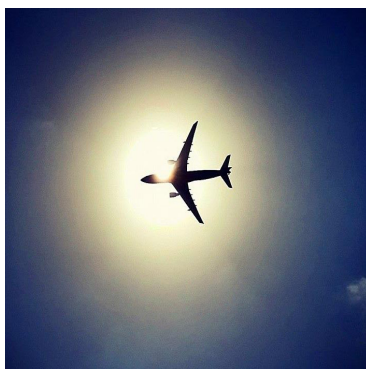


# Three-hourly Aerodrome Forecast (TAF3)



TAF3 is issued routinely every three hours and receives priority, pro-active amendments to ensure it contains the latest forecast information.

## TAF3

The TAF3 is formatted the same as a traditional aerodrome forecast (TAF) and is issued routinely every three hours. Like all aerodrome forecasts, the TAF3 is kept under continuous weather watch and as a premium service receives priority, pro-active amendments to ensure it contains the latest forecast information.

TAF3 is provided 24 hours a day 7 days a week at Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Adelaide, Gold Coast, Canberra, Darwin, Cairns and Hobart airports. The service is also provided at Military aerodromes as per the En Route Supplement Australia (ERSA). Any deviations from ERSA published TAF3 service hours will be notified by NOTAM.

The TAF3 is issued from the aviation forecast office 30–60 minutes before the forecast validity period, with a target issue time of 45 minutes.

## TAF3 Characteristics and Benefits

- Issued routinely every 3 hours;
- Kept under continuous weather watch by the responsible aviation meteorologist focusing on the next 5-hours of the:
  - validity and timings of probabilities (PROBs) (updated if necessary); and
  - validity and timings of TEMPO/INTERs (updated if necessary).
- Issued with minute granularity for FROM (FM) element;
- Provides a forecast valid for 18–30 hours;
- Available at Gold Coast and Hobart airports – upgrading current aviation meteorological services;
- Available 24/7 at Darwin and Canberra airports – upgrading current aviation meteorological services;
- Identical code format as the standard TAF; and
- Stamped with 'TAF3' in RMKs section for easy identification

To limit prolonged PROB periods affecting aviation operations, meteorologists will use FM groups in the first three hours of the TAF3 wherever possible to indicate the onset, cessation and gaps in meteorological phenomena.

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## TAF3 Examples

### 24/7 TAF3 Service

```
TAF YBCG 292313Z 3000/0100
22008KT 9999 FEW030
FM300200 33012KT 9999 FEW020
FM300800 27006KT 9999 FEW018
FM302300 35014KT SCT020
PROB30 TEMPO 3004/3008 VRB20G35KT 3000 TSRA SCT015 BKN025 SCT045CB
RMK
T 25 26 25 23 Q 1003 1001 1002 1004
TAF3
```

TAF AMD YBCG 300215Z 3003/0100  
33012KT 9999 SCT020  
FM300800 27006KT 9999 FEW018  
FM302300 35014KT SCT020  
PROB30 TEMPO 3005/3009 VRB20G35KT 3000 TSRA SCT015 BKN025 SCT045CB  
RMK  
T 29 25 23 22 Q 1001 1002 1004 1006  
TAF3

TAF AMD YBCG 300420Z 3005/0106  
24020G35KT 2000 +TSRA SCT012 BKN022 SCT040CB  
FM300545 26014KT 8000 -RA FEW008 BKN018  
FM300700 27006KT 9999 NSW SCT010  
FM302300 35014KT SCT020  
PROB30 TEMPO 0104/0106 VRB15G25KT 3000 TSRA SCT015 BKN025 SCT045CB  
RMK  
T 26 23 22 20 Q 1002 1004 1006 1007  
TAF3

#### Limited TAF3 Service (Military)

TAF YAMB 142314Z 1500/1600  
26013KT 9999 FEW040  
FM150900 27006KT CAVOK  
FM151800 VRB04KT 9999 MIFG NSC  
FM152200 28007KT 9999 NSW FEW030  
RMK  
T 17 22 21 13 Q 1016 1013 1012 1014  
TAF3 VALID TL 150300

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## Further Information

Refer to the TAF (Aerodrome Forecast) brochure for TAF format and de-coding information: <http://www.bom.gov.au/aviation/data/education/taf.pdf>

Refer to the TAF3 Frequently Asked Questions document available at: <http://www.bom.gov.au/aviation/taf3/TAF3-FAQ.pdf>



**Australian Government**  
**Bureau of Meteorology**

Airservices Australia is the official distributor of aviation forecasts, warnings and observations issued by the Bureau of Meteorology. Airservices' flight briefing services are available at [www.airservicesaustralia.com](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com). Telephone contact details for elaborative briefings are contained in Airservices' Aeronautical Information Publication Australia (AIP), which is available online through their website.

Other brochures produced by the Bureau of Meteorology's aviation meteorological services program can be found at [www.bom.gov.au/aviation/knowledge-centre](http://www.bom.gov.au/aviation/knowledge-centre).

A vertical line in the margin indicates a text amendment since last update.