


<p>Irish Aviation Authority The Times Building 11–12 D'Olier Street Dublin 2, D02 T449, Ireland www.iaa.ie</p> <p>Operations Directorate</p>	<p>Údarás Eitlíochta na hÉireann Foirgneamh na hAmanna 11–12 Sráid D'Olier Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 T449, Éire</p>	<p>AERONAUTICAL NOTICE</p> <p>No. R.03 ISSUE 04 DATE 13.12.24</p>	 <p>ÚDARÁS EITLÍOCHTA NA hÉIREANN IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY</p>
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VFR Flights at Night in the Shannon FIR

The Irish Aviation Authority as the Competent Authority designated under S.I. No. 469 of 2003, European Communities (European Aviation Safety Agency) Regulations, 2003, and in accordance with Part SERA.5005(c) of European Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 923 of 2012, as amended, hereby prescribes the following:

1. VFR flights at night are permitted in the Shannon FIR under the following conditions:

- 1.1 Flights leaving the vicinity of an aerodrome shall submit a flight plan in accordance with EU Regulation No. 923/2012 SERA.4001(b)(6);
- 1.2 Flights shall establish and maintain two-way radio communication on the appropriate ATS communication channel, when available;
- 1.3 The VMC visibility and distance from cloud minima as specified in EU Regulation No. 923/2012 Part SERA.5001 Table S5-1 shall apply except that:
 - 1.3.1 The ceiling shall not be less than 1500 ft.;
 - 1.3.2 The reduced flight visibility provisions specified in EU Regulation No. 923/2012 Part SERA.5001 Table S5-1 (a) and (b) shall not apply, and
 - 1.3.3 In airspace classes C and G, at and below 3,000 ft. above MSL or 1,000 ft. above terrain, whichever is the higher, the pilot shall maintain continuous sight of the surface.
- 1.4 Except when necessary for take-off or landing, or except when specifically authorised by the competent authority, a VFR flight at night shall be flown:
 - 1.4.1 Over high terrain or in mountainous areas, at a level which is at least 2 000 ft above the highest obstacle located within 8 km of the estimated position of the aircraft; or
 - 1.4.2 Elsewhere than as specified in (1.4.1) above, at a level which is at least 1,000 ft above the highest obstacle located within 8 km of the estimated position of the aircraft.

2. Conditions for VFR Flights at Night at an aerodrome.

- 2.1 An aerodrome in the State that is not otherwise certified or licenced under European Commission Regulation (EU) No. 139/2014 or S.I. No. 355/2008, as applicable, may be used by aircraft for VFR flights at night in the Shannon FIR under the following conditions,

- 2.1.1 Where compliance with Aeronautical Notice T.16 can be demonstrated, or,
- 2.1.2 Until the 12th of December 2025, in the case of an aerodrome located at a Hospital, or other defined areas such as offshore island helicopter operating sites, refuelling sites, or sports grounds, that are used for Irish Coast Guard Aviation Activities (SAR, HEMS, or Air Ambulance Flights), providing a risk assessment specific to each location is conducted by the helicopter operator in accordance with the requirements of the operator's management system.

**Chief Executive
Irish Aviation Authority**

The notes hereunder are for information purposes only and do not form part of this direction.

Note 1; Regulation (EU) 923/2012, (SERA) Art 2 (97) defines night as:

"...the hours between the end of evening civil twilight and the beginning of morning civil twilight. Civil twilight ends in the evening when the centre of the sun's disc is 6 degrees below the horizon and begins in the morning when the centre of the sun's disc is 6 degrees below the horizon..."

The times for evening civil twilight and morning civil twilight can be found in AIP Ireland Gen 2.7.

Note 2; ATC Units may impose a limit on the number of simultaneous VFR flights at night in a control zone, to ensure that IFR and VFR traffic can be managed in a safe manner.

Note 3; Pilot licensing qualifications and aircraft equipage requirements must be met before undertaking a VFR flight at night.