

COLOMBO/KATUNAYAKE (CMB/VCBI)

Elevation 29ft

CATEGORY A

No AV brief required.

GENERAL

- The airfield is on the W coast of the island 12nm N of Colombo harbour and 15nm N of the city of Colombo.
- The airfield is almost on the coast with a large lagoon on the seaward side.

Threat Based Briefing Topics

CFIT

- It is flat in the vicinity of the airfield, but starts to rise 15nm to the E slowly.
- Mountain range 40nm to the E with peaks to 8300ft asl.
- Mountains 40-75nm in an arc from NE to SE up to 10,000ft.
- The airfield is surrounded by trees up to 80ft agl.

Loss of Control

- Concentrations of birds crossing the approach paths of Rwy 22 and 04 at dawn and dusk from Nov to Jan.

Runway Excursion

- Colombo (Ratmalana) RML/VCCC is also oriented 04/22 and is only 21nm S of Colombo Intl. It handles domestic services only.

ARRIVAL

Diversion Airports

CHENNAI	MAA/VOMM	350 nm/003°T	CAT A
BANGALORE	BLR/VOBL	385 nm/340°T	CAT A
MALE	MLE/VRMM	421 nm/245°T	CAT A
HYDERABAD	HYD/VOHS	611 nm/352°T	CAT A
COCHIN	COK/VOCI	274 nm/311°T	CAT A
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM	TRV/VOTV	294 nm/193°T	CAT A

Approach

On first contact with Colombo Airways once inside SIN or SUPSA (FIR boundary), expect initial descent to FL150 and to report 60 or 70 DME to KAT VOR, where you will be handed over to Colombo Director.

- Circling is not allowed.

- Expect Radar vectors for an ILS via the KAT VOR.
- Max 250kts below 10,000ft.
- Max 220kts below 10,000ft and within 15nm of KAT VOR.
- Descent clearance is often given to altitudes below MSA; monitoring of the high ground to the E is needed.
- The runway surface is rough.
- Slight airborne delays are possible inbound (4 min hold WF 2016)

GROUND

- The old Rwy 04/22 is now the parallel taxiway.
- BAVirtual aircraft are NOT to use the taxiway to the Air Lanka Apron or the Air Lanka Apron itself.
- The ramp to the NW of the runway is military.
- Taxi after landing is via the parallel taxiway to Apron A, B or C.
- Use of a marshaller is compulsory for taxi in/out. Nose in parking only.
- There is an isolated stand on the parallel taxiway, 100m from Twy B, to serve Emergency requirements

DEPARTURE

- Typical WF congestion can be expected but taxi-out time in 2016 was below average (15 min)
- SIDs are published but may not be used
- Take-off clearance will likely be a turn left or right after takeoff and contact Director. This indicates you will make your own turn after takeoff in the direction instructed to establish on the airway. Director will then direct you to the first waypoint. Passing approx. 10,000ft you will be handed over to Colombo Airways.
- Emergency turn procedures in CARD.

WEATHER

- Typical Tropical Island weather, similar to Male.
- Frequent thunderstorms and heavy rain.
- Little temperature variation throughout the year, staying between 24°C and 30°C.

- Dec to Apr (mid) – Occasional dawn fog, soon clearing. Overcast mid-afternoon, clearing early evening.
- Feb to Sep – Prevailing SW'ly wind.
- Apr (mid) to Jun – Monsoon season. Heavy cloud develops before dawn and lasts all day with heavy rain and frequent thunderstorms generally of short duration. Expect approaches to Rwy 22 during this period.
- Jun to Sep – Generally fine with broken Cu. Very occasional squalls with heavy rain lasting only a short time.
- Oct to Jan – Rain squalls more frequent and more persistent. Thunderstorms especially in the evening. The NE Monsoons blow and an approach to Rwy 04 can be expected.

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Handling Agent	Sri Lankan
Handling Agent VHF	131.5
Potable Water	Not assessed

IF ONLY Electrical Power is required	Use APU at all times
If BOTH electrical power and air conditioning is required:	Use APU at all times

