

THULE (THU/BGTL)

Elevation 252ft

CATEGORY C

AV brief not available.

GENERAL

- Thule is the USAF's northernmost base, located 650nm north of the Arctic Circle and only 820nm from the North Pole.
- The airfield is located on a plain in northern Greenland, on the south shore of North Star Bay. The settlement of Qaanaaq is some 50nm north of the base and accessible only by air to Qaanaaq Airport (NAQ/BGQQ, LDA 900m).
- Military only airfield operated by the USAF.

Threat Based Briefing Topics

CFIT

- Terrain rises sharply S and E of the airfield, with spot heights of 934ft within 1nm NE, 820ft ~1.5nm SE and 3,100ft within 10nm S
- TRUE bearings are used due to the very high westerly variation (48°W). Take care to ensure the correct heading reference is used to ensure correct tracking.
- Altitudes published on IACs are not temperature corrected

Loss of Control

- Severe downdraughts and WINDSHEAR can be expected on final with strong southerly winds

ARRIVAL

Approach

- The only instrument approaches available are to Rwy 08T, as terrain precludes the establishment of an instrument approach to Rwy 26T.
- DME arc procedures are in use. Note minimum altitudes on the arc and consider temperature correction as appropriate.
- In strong winds, severe turbulence can be generated in the ice cap area to the north of the airfield
- Autopilot **must** be disconnected by 600ft aal on all approaches

DEPARTURE

- Initial climb to a Flight Level
- Expect WENSA 2 departure

WEATHER

- Thule/Qaanaaq experiences long, cold winters. Temperatures seldom rise above freezing Sept-May, and rarely exceed 10°C in July.
- Average mean daily high/low 7°C/2°C (Jul), -20°C/-28°C (Feb)
- Midnight Sun lasts from Apr-Aug. Days shorten rapidly after August, and there is permanent darkness Nov-Jan.

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Handling Agent	Simfest Ground Services
Handling Agent VHF	
Potable Water	Uplift permitted

IF ONLY Electrical Power is required	Use ground power at all times
If BOTH electrical power and air conditioning is required:	Use APU for air conditioning (keep ground power connected to reduce APU fuel burn)

