

### 3.9 VMC visibility and distance from cloud minima

VMC visibility and distance from cloud minima are contained in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1\* (see 4.1)

Altitude band	Airspace class	Flight visibility	Distance from cloud
At and above 3 050 m (10 000 ft) AMSL	A*** B C D E F G	8Km	1 500 m horizontally 300 m (1 000 ft) vertically
Below 3 050 m (10 000 ft) AMSL and above 900 m (3 000 ft) AMSL, or above 300 m (1 000 ft) above terrain, whichever is the higher	A*** B C D E F G	5Km	1 500 m horizontally 300 m (1 000 ft) vertically
At and below 900 m (3 000 ft) AMSL, or 300 m (1 000 ft) above terrain, whichever is the higher	A***B C D E	5Km	1 500 m horizontally 300 m (1 000 ft) vertically
	F G	5Km**	Clear of cloud and with the surface in sight.

\* When the height of the transition altitude is lower than 3 050 m (10 000 ft) AMSL, FL 100 should be used in lieu of 10 000 ft.

\*\* When so prescribed by the appropriate ATS authority:

a) flight visibilities reduced to not less than 3 000 m may be permitted for flights operating:

- 1) at speeds that, in the prevailing visibility, will give adequate opportunity to observe other traffic or any obstacles in time to avoid collision; or
- 2) in circumstances in which the probability of encounters with other traffic would normally be low, e.g. in areas of low volume traffic and for aerial work at low levels.

b) HELICOPTERS may be permitted to operate upto 1 000 m flight visibility, if manoeuvred at a speed that will give adequate opportunity to observe other traffic or any obstacles in time to avoid collision.

\*\*\*The VMC minima in Class A airspace are included for guidance to pilots and do not imply acceptance of VFR flights in Class A airspace.

#### 4 VISUAL FLIGHT RULES

- 4.1 Except when operating as a special VFR flight, VFR flights shall be conducted so that the aircraft is flown in conditions of visibility and distance from clouds equal to or greater than those specified in Table 3-1.
- 4.2 Except when a clearance is obtained from an air traffic control unit, VFR flights shall not take off or land at an aerodrome within a control zone, or enter the aerodrome traffic zone or traffic pattern:
- a) when the ceiling is less than 450 m (1 500 ft); or
  - b) when the ground visibility is less than 5 km.
- 4.3 VFR flights shall be operated during the period from 20 minutes before sunrise to 20 minutes after sunset.
- 4.4 Unless authorized by the appropriate ATS authority, VFR flights shall not be operated:
- a) above FL150.
  - b) at transonic and supersonic speeds.
- 4.5 Authorization for VFR flights to operate above FL 290 shall not be granted in areas where a vertical separation minimum of 300 m (1000 ft) is applied above FL 290.
- 4.6 Except when necessary for take-off or landing, or except by permission from the Director General, a VFR flight shall not be flown:
- a) over the congested areas of cities, towns or settlements or over an open-air assembly of persons at a height less than 300 m (1000 ft) above the highest obstacle within a radius of 600 m from the aircraft;
  - b) elsewhere than as specified in 4.6 a), at a height less than 150 m (500 ft) above the ground or water.
- Note.— See also 3.1.2.*
- 4.7 Except where otherwise indicated in air traffic control clearances or specified by the appropriate ATS authority, VFR flights in level cruising flight when operated above 900 m (3000 ft) from the ground or water, or a higher datum as specified by the appropriate ATS authority, shall be conducted at a cruising level appropriate to the track as specified in the Tables of cruising levels contained in Appendix 2 and AIP Supplement 25 of 2003.