

SOKOL (GDX/UHMM)

Elevation 574ft

CATEGORY B

AV brief not available.

GENERAL

- The airport is located near Sokol, some 43 nm north of Magadan
- GDX gained notoriety in 1991 with the inauguration of Alaska Airlines flights to the US. According to an anecdotal story, the first Alaska Airlines flight required de-icing, which was unavailable, so the flight crew acquired a quantity of vodka and sprayed it on to the wings.

Threat Based Briefing Topics**CFIT**

- Terrain rises to the north with peaks over 3,800ft within 10nm and a peak of 5,469ft asl ~43nm NE
- The terrain is well-depicted on the Lido charts
- ATC will give clearances in metres QFE. Note that the conversion table on the Lido chart should be used to convert to feet QNH, not the PFD metres option.

Loss of Control

- The surrounding terrain can lead to heavy turbulence with downdrafts and WINDSHEAR on final to both Rwys, especially with strong winds

Runway Excursion

- Deep landing risk due to unusual visual aspect from 60m wide runway and slightly shallower (2.8°) ILS
- Short landing Rwy 10 due to displaced threshold

Special Considerations

- Twy 2 and Twy 3 unsuitable for B744 operations (width 16m). Take care not to confuse Twy 3 with Twy 4 when landing Rwy 10.

ARRIVAL

- ILS Rwy 10 has a slightly shallower than normal 2.8° glide path. This, combined with the 60m wide runway, will give an unusual visual aspect
- Note that the first 600m of Rwy 10 is not available for use as it is a closed section of the old runway
- NDB Rwy 28 offset 6°

GROUND

- B744 vacate via Twy 4. Twy 3 unsuitable for B744 operations.
- Wingtip and main gear clearance on all taxiways is minimal and taxiing must be conducted slowly and with extreme caution.

DEPARTURE

- Note all SID turns require minimum 20° bank
- There is an automatic hand-off procedure in place. Pilots are expected to contact APP passing 1,200ft QNH. There will be no formal hand-off from TWR.

WEATHER

- The Magadan area experiences a subarctic climate. Winters are prolonged and very cold, with up to six months of sub-zero temperatures. Much of the region is covered with permafrost and tundra.
- Daily mean max/min temperatures 15°C/10°C (Aug), -14°C/-19°C (Jan)
- Snowfall is generally light
- Prevailing wind NE'ly. Winds can be gusty and strong particularly in winter months.

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Handling Agent	Simfest Ground Services
Handling Agent VHF	
Potable Water	Not available

IF ONLY Electrical Power is required	Use ground power at all times
If BOTH electrical power and air conditioning is required:	Use APU (ACU equipment not available). Keep ground power connected to reduce APU fuel burn.