

Palermo (LICJ) Airport

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As stated by NOTAM A7578/17, the first phase of work at the Palermo (LICJ) airport is underway due to runways requalification.

Through its representatives in the Aerodrome & Ground Environment (AGE) Group, ANPAC has carefully followed the stages of preparation and planning to undertake the work, at various meetings organized for this purpose, and has immediately identified some critical factors that such work could lead to in terms of operational limitations and flight safety.

In particular, it was found that the limitations on runway lengths that are under construction would be further affected by the lack of runway edge lights and by ILS equipment unavailability, therefore in certain wind conditions, the airport would be technically closed at night. Another contributing factor that could further aggravate the situation is the simultaneous partial closure of the Trapani airport (LITC), due to airport works, which is the typical first alternate for Palermo.

ANPAC has pressed the authorities to issue an RNAV RWY 25 procedure to have at least an instrument approach in place of inoperative ILS.

Work has already begun and there have been some operational irregularities with diverted flights and problems in aircraft ground movements. As a result, ANPAC highlights some of the limitations in Palermo in this edition of Info Tech, to bring to the attention of pilots, as follows:

- Only runways 07/25 are available for take-off and landing, but the reduced distances are LDA 07 = 2269 m, LDA 25 = 2062 m.
- Approach Procedure VOR 07 (Temporary Charts) DAY ONLY.
- Reduced ATC capacity (about half the normal capacity, 15 nm of separation instead of 10 nm during radar flow management, and 10 minutes if in procedural controlled airspace) DELAY CAN BE EXPECTED!
- Expect to perform a RNAV APP / NPA RWY 25 only! (High landing minimums and visibility required).
- Consider a backtrack on runway 25 after landing (only taxiways B and C are available to vacate rwy 25). Backtracking may also be necessary for takeoff.
- ALTERNATE AIRPORTS HIGHLIGHTS:
 - LICJ TRAPANI - Only 13L / 31R open but generally used for military operations so could be closed for civilian operations (Ref. NOTAM B5460 / 17)
 - LICJ CATANIA - Limited parking available (an average of 8 extra parking stands for diverted flights).
 - LICJ COMISO - Limited parking spaces available and operating limits for night approaches.

ANPAC - Dipartimento Tecnico

For any comments or feedback, please email: dt@Anpac.it