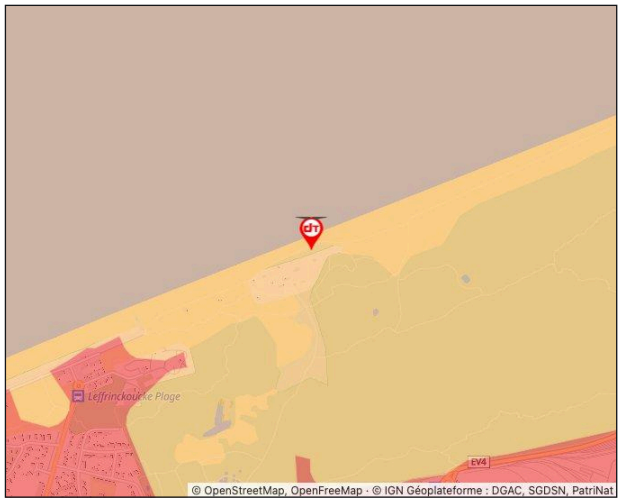
Battery the Zuydcoote

Water · Nord

GPS coordinates	51.06230, 2.44872
Elevation	7 m
Maximum height	50 m max
Access	On foot < 1,000 m
Nearest aerodrome	Centre Hospitalier Heliport 4.6 km SW · spot 10 m lower
Spot reference	300533



Spot location and restrictions (Drone-Spot map image)

Sun (local times, UTC+01:00)

Day	Dawn	Sunrise	Sunset	Dusk	Day length	Golden hour
Sat 21 Nov	07:39	08:17	16:56	17:33	8 h 39	08:17–09:11 · 16:01–16:56
Sun 22 Nov	07:41	08:18	16:54	17:32	8 h 36	08:18–09:13 · 15:59–16:54
Mon 23 Nov	07:42	08:20	16:53	17:31	8 h 33	08:20–09:15 · 15:58–16:53

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Centre Hospitalier Heliport	Heliport	4.6 km SW	17 m
Dunkerque – Les Moëres Airfield	Aerodrome	7.5 km E	-1 m
Koksijde Air Base	Airport	15 km E	6 m
Sint-Augustinus heliport	Heliport	16 km E	4 m

Description

Located east of Dunkirk, this site is known to World War II enthusiasts and fortifications are present along our coasts. The Zuydcoote Battery, also known as the Eastern Battery or Leffrinckoucke Battery (a nearby community), is a work of the Séré de Rivières system and was built between 1877 and 1878 as an annex to Fort des Dunes. Integrated into the Maginot Line, the battery will be completed by German blockhouses on the Atlantic Wall. The battery will be defended until the Germans arrive. During the occupation, the battery will be renamed M.K.B. Malo-Terminus and put into service in August 1940. The Germans will modernize the site by adding additional fortifications and more effective armament. A Leitstand will be built to direct fire from 10.5 cm artillery pieces under pillboxes. Naturally, the Germans take advantage of the French facilities already in place.

Scan to open the up-to-date spot page: weather, map and restrictions.

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=300533

Before every flight: check the UAS zones map, NOTAMs and temporary areas, the weather and the Kp index.

Preparing the flight

Pre-flight Check-List

- ☐ Area checked: UAS zones, restrictions, protected areas
- ☐ NOTAMs and temporary areas checked
- ☐ Weather: wind, gusts, rain, visibility; Kp index
- ☐ Operator number displayed on the drone
- ☐ Training certificate or licence with me
- ☐ Third-party liability insurance checked
- ☐ Batteries charged: drone, controller, phone
- ☐ Propellers, motors and frame in good condition
- ☐ Memory card inserted and empty
- ☐ Software up to date, compass and IMU calibrated
- ☐ Return to home: home point and return height set
- ☐ Electronic signalling or remote ID active
- ☐ Take-off area clear, people informed and at a distance
- ☐ Observer present for FPV flights

Key rules of the open category

Recreational flying in France: European open-category rules, applied by the DGAC.

- Maximum height: 120 m above the ground, lower where a restriction requires it.
- Always keep the drone in sight; when flying FPV, an observer keeps it in sight next to you.
- Never fly over crowds and keep the distances of your subcategory (A1, A2 or A3).
- Respect UAS geographical zones: around aerodromes, prohibited or restricted areas, protected areas, sensitive sites.
- Register as an operator if the drone weighs 250 g or more or carries a camera (toys excepted), and display the number on the drone.
- Training: online A1/A3 certificate from 250 g or for a class C1 drone; A2 certificate to fly closer to people with a class C2 drone.
- Always give way to manned aircraft and land if one approaches.
- Respect privacy: no images that identify people without their consent; aerial photography is prohibited in some areas.
- Check your third-party liability insurance.
- In France: registration and training on AlphaTango (DGAC); a drone of 800 g or more must broadcast electronic signalling (or the remote ID of class-marked drones).

Non-exhaustive summary: rules change. Reference: the DGAC open-category guide and the country's regulations.

Useful links

UAS zones map around the spot : https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/carte-uas.aspx?lat=51.0623&lon=2.44872
Drone pilot library : https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/bibliotheque
DGAC open-category guide (French) : https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/bibliotheque/guide-categorie-ouverte
Registration and training (AlphaTango) : https://alphatango.aviation-civile.gouv.fr
NOTAMs and temporary areas (SOFIA Briefing) : https://sofia-briefing.aviation-civile.gouv.fr

My flight notes

Information sheet generated by Drone-Spot from community data: it replaces neither official aeronautical information nor the regulations. The remote pilot remains responsible for the flight.