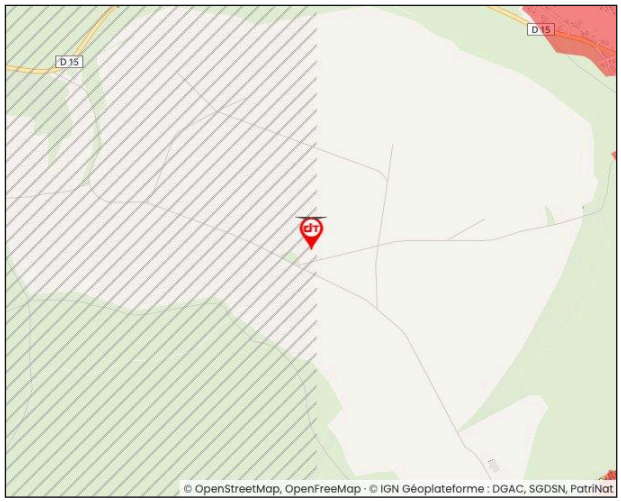
Ottange - Croix Saint-Marc plateau wind farm

Unusual · Moselle

GPS coordinates	49.43643, 5.99974
Elevation	406 m
Maximum height	50 m max
Access	On foot > 1,000 m
Nearest aerodrome	Centre Hospitalier Emile Mayrisch Heliport 7.3 km N · spot 110 m higher
Spot reference	304979



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	07:21	07:56	16:48	17:23	8 h 51	07:56–08:48 · 15:56–16:48
Sun 22 Nov	07:22	07:58	16:47	17:22	8 h 48	07:58–08:50 · 15:54–16:47
Mon 23 Nov	07:23	07:59	16:46	17:21	8 h 46	07:59–08:52 · 15:53–16:46

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Centre Hospitalier Emile Mayrisch Heliport	Heliport	7.3 km N	296 m
Villerupt Aerodrome	Aerodrome	8.5 km W	396 m
Etablissement Public Heliport	Heliport	19 km NW	267 m
Clinique Ste-Thérèse heliport	Heliport	21 km NE	305 m

Description

This time, I'm taking you flying among wind turbines. The Croix Saint-Marc plateau overlooks Ottange. The nearest house is 750 m away, so you can fly freely in an area covering nearly 150 ha. The 24 M€ Ostwind wind farm project was initiated in 2010 with the communauté de communes du Pays Haut Val d'Alzette and private investors. Inaugurated in July 2019, it consists of 8 Vestas V100/2000 wind turbines whose nacelles are perched at 95 m, with a total height including the blades of 145 m. The farm produces up to 16 MW, enough to power the equivalent of 20,000 residents. To avoid turbulence between the turbines, the masts are placed at a minimum distance of 6 times the rotor diameter, i.e. 600 m. This leaves plenty of room to maneuver for shots between the towers and the blades, even in moderate wind. From the plateau, only the surrounding woods are visible, but to the north, hidden among …

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=304979

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=49.43643&lon=5.99974
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.