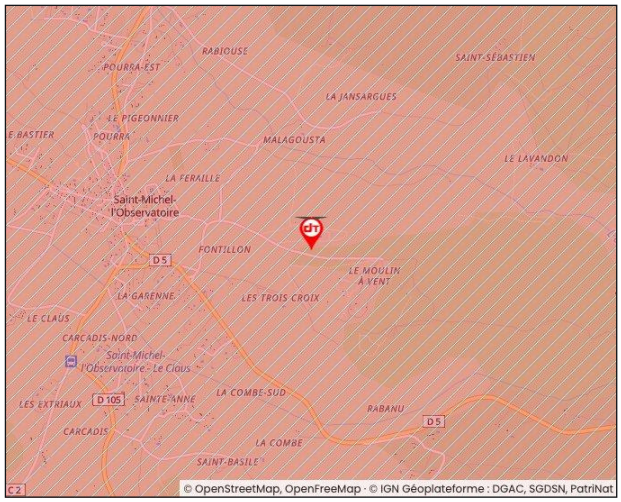
Saint Michel l'observatoire, the mill.

Heritage · Alpes-de-Haute-Provence

GPS coordinates	43.90833, 5.72514
Elevation	552 m
Maximum height	50 m max
Access	Direct access by car
Nearest aerodrome	Saint Martin de Castillon 16 km SW · spot 217 m higher
Spot reference	307276



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	07:08	07:39	17:06	17:38	9 h 26	07:39–08:24 · 16:22–17:06
Sun 22 Nov	07:09	07:41	17:06	17:37	9 h 24	07:41–08:25 · 16:21–17:06
Mon 23 Nov	07:10	07:42	17:05	17:37	9 h 23	07:42–08:27 · 16:20–17:05

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Saint Martin de Castillon	Aerodrome	16 km SW	335 m
Altisurface de Banon	Aerodrome	19 km N	1,135 m
Aérodrome de Vinon	Aerodrome	20 km S	275 m

Description

In 1837, Mr. Ferréol POURPRE, a farmer in Saint-Michel, sold the land (locality known as "Les trois croix") to a miller from Vachères, Mr. Victor MARC, so that he could build a mill and an access path. (In Vachères, there are several remains of windmills on the plateau of the same name.) On this 1813 land register, the exact location of the mill is already marked. It is therefore possible that another mill, already in ruins by that date, existed there before. However, no trace of it can be seen on earlier land registers. It was built, or rebuilt, in 1838 by Jean MARC, a miller (perhaps Victor's son?) who lived in the village. The mill may have operated for only a few years, since its builder was already running a water mill on the "Viou" in Forcalquier in 1841. It seems the mill was destroyed in 1855, without it being known why. The neighboring ruin, sometimes called "The miller's …

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=307276

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=43.90833&lon=5.72514
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.