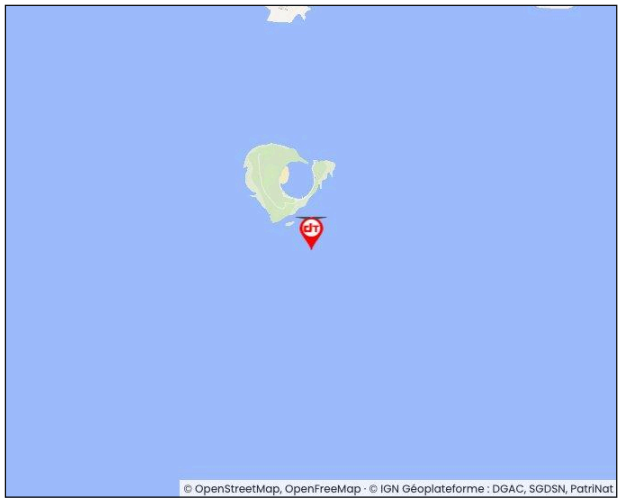
Island of Vila Franca Do Campo (Sao Miguel, Azores)

Water · Portugal

GPS coordinates	37.70307, -25.44219
Elevation	0 m
Maximum height	120 m max
Access	On foot < 1,000 m
Nearest aerodrome	Hospital do Divino Espirito Santo Heliport 21 km W · spot 93 m lower
Spot reference	307332



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	07:00	07:28	17:27	17:55	9 h 58	07:28–08:07 · 16:48–17:27
Sun 22 Nov	07:01	07:29	17:27	17:55	9 h 57	07:29–08:09 · 16:47–17:27
Mon 23 Nov	07:02	07:30	17:26	17:54	9 h 55	07:30–08:10 · 16:47–17:26

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Hospital do Divino Espirito Santo Heliport	Heliport	21 km W	93 m
João Paulo II Airport	Major airport	23 km W	79 m

Description

The islet of Vila Franca (in Portuguese: Ilhéu de Vila Franca) is an uninhabited, vegetated islet located off the south-central coast of the island of São Miguel in the Portuguese archipelago of the Azores. Located less than 1 km from the coast, the islet is the exposed remnant of a Surtseyan volcanic cone of phreatomagmatic origin, heavily eroded over time by the sea and seismic forces.

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=307332

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

This country applies the European drone rules (open category); it may add its own zones and conditions.

- 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.

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=37.70307&lon=-25.44219
Drone pilot library : https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/bibliotheque

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.