drone-spot

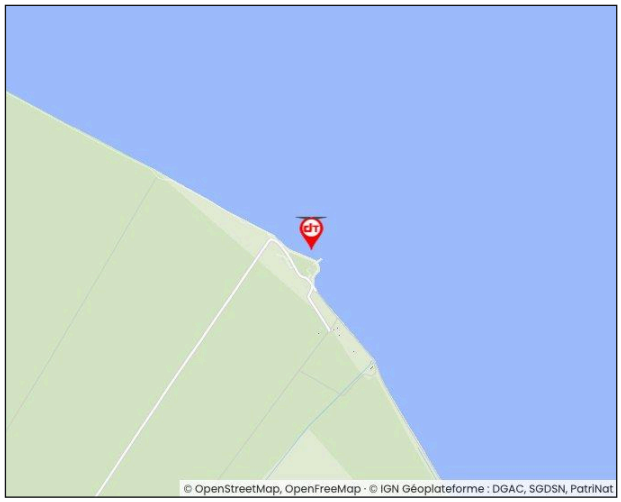
FLIGHT CARD

Generated on 21 November 2026

Phare de Richard

Water · Gironde

GPS coordinates	45.44007, -0.93185
Elevation	1 m
Maximum height	120 m max
Access	Direct access by car
Nearest aerodrome	Soulac Sur Mer Airport (LFDK) 13 km NW · same altitude as the spot
Spot reference	308008



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	07:38	08:11	17:28	18:01	9 h 17	08:11–08:57 · 16:42–17:28
Sun 22 Nov	07:39	08:12	17:28	18:00	9 h 15	08:12–08:58 · 16:41–17:28
Mon 23 Nov	07:41	08:13	17:27	18:00	9 h 13	08:13–09:00 · 16:40–17:27

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Soulac Sur Mer Airport	Aerodrome	13 km NW	2 m
Clinique Du Medoc Heliport	Heliport	15 km S	9 m
Aérodrome de Vendays-Montalivet	Aerodrome	16 km SW	5 m
Royan-Médis Airport	Airport	21 km N	22 m

Description

Since Antiquity, the Gironde Estuary has been a very important area for navigation and trade. To make communication between the Atlantic Ocean and Bordeaux easier, the river route was marked by coastal lights. In the 18th century, in addition to these lights, a tree standing out from the surrounding vegetation was used as a landmark* by sailors. Located on a projecting point east of the commune of Jau, on the edge of the "polders de Hollande", this tree (a poplar or an elm) was called "l'Arbre de Richard". It allowed sailors to avoid running aground on a huge sandbank (known as the Platin de Richard). However, over the centuries, the growing number of ships called for more suitable signaling, especially since the tree had meanwhile disappeared. So, from 1831, a buoy marked the Richard bank. As this was not enough, a petition was signed by the ports on both banks of the estuary in order …

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=308008

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=45.44007&lon=-0.93185
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.