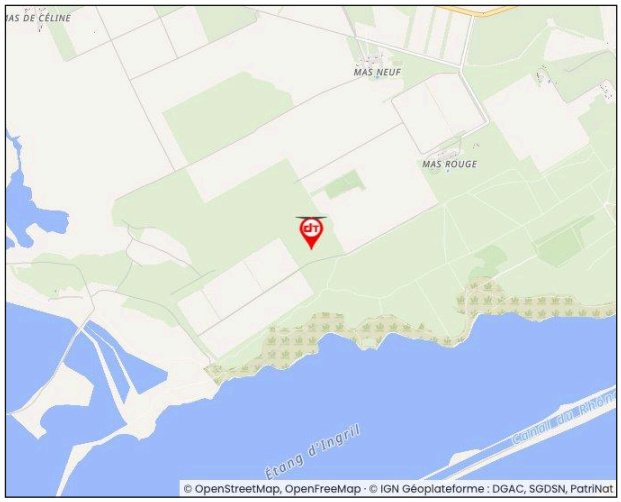
Vic la Gardiole, the Étang d'Ingril

Water · Hérault

GPS coordinates	43.46229, 3.79425
Elevation	3 m
Maximum height	120 m max
Access	On foot < 1,000 m
Nearest aerodrome	Le Corum Heliport 18 km NE · spot 50 m lower
Spot reference	312804



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	07:15	07:46	17:15	17:47	9 h 29	07:46–08:30 · 16:31–17:15
Sun 22 Nov	07:16	07:47	17:15	17:46	9 h 27	07:47–08:31 · 16:30–17:15
Mon 23 Nov	07:17	07:48	17:14	17:45	9 h 25	07:48–08:33 · 16:30–17:14

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Le Corum Heliport	Heliport	18 km NE	54 m
Montpellier-Méditerranée Airport	Airport	19 km NE	5 m
Montpellier Chr Heliport	Heliport	19 km N	46 m

Description

The Étang d'Ingril is a lagoon belonging to the lagoon complex of the Palavas ponds (étangs palavasiens). It lies on the Languedoc coast between the communes of Vic-la-Gardiole and Frontignan. About 7 km long, it is separated from the Mediterranean Sea by a strip of dunes on which the seaside resort of Frontignan-plage is located. It sits roughly halfway between Montpellier and Sète. The Étang d'Ingril is split into two parts (north basin and south basin) by the Canal du Rhône à Sète. Wildlife and plants The former salt marshes have become a nature reserve for wetland fauna and flora. You can find pink flamingos (Phoenicopterus ruber), herons, cranes, glasswort and sansouire (salt-marsh steppe). It is a protected site (along with the bois des Aresquiers, the étang de Vic and the étang de la Pierre Blanche), listed in 1978 for its picturesque character.

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=312804

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=43.46229&lon=3.79425
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.