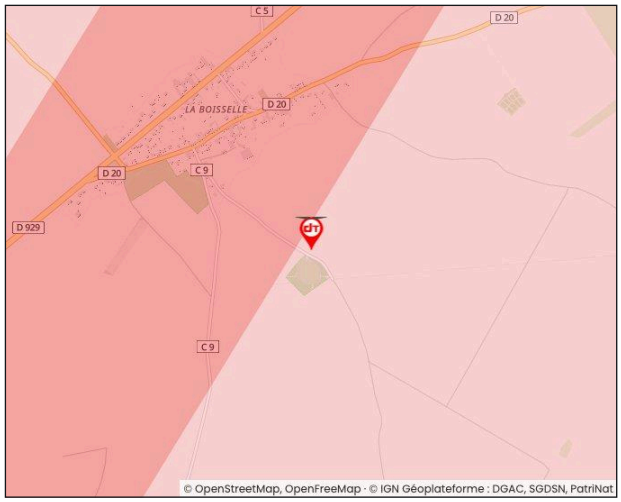
Lochnagar crater at Ovillers-la-Boisselle (80)

Heritage · Somme

GPS coordinates	50.01621, 2.69749
Elevation	111 m
Maximum height	30 m max
Access	Direct access by car
Nearest aerodrome	Albert-Bray Airport (LFAQ) 5.0 km S · same altitude as the spot
Spot reference	313170



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	07:35	08:12	16:59	17:35	8 h 47	08:12–09:04 · 16:06–16:59
Sun 22 Nov	07:37	08:13	16:58	17:34	8 h 44	08:13–09:06 · 16:04–16:58
Mon 23 Nov	07:38	08:15	16:57	17:33	8 h 41	08:15–09:08 · 16:03–16:57

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Albert-Bray Airport	Aerodrome	5.0 km S	111 m

Description

At La Boisselle, the Welsh miners of the 9th Cheshires (en) dug a tunnel reaching as far as the German lines. At a depth of 16 m, they placed 30 tonnes of explosives (ammonal). The charge was detonated on July 1, 1916 at 7:28 a.m., two minutes before the start of the Franco-British offensive of the Battle of the Somme. The column of earth thrown up is said to have risen to a height of 1,300 m, and the crater, which was then 100 meters in diameter and 30 meters deep, was immediately occupied by the British. At the same moment, another mine, "Y Sap", exploded on the other side of the road leading to Bapaume1 (at the site called "Glory Hole", rue de la 34e Division in La Boisselle). Source Wikipedia

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=313170

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=50.01621&lon=2.69749
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.