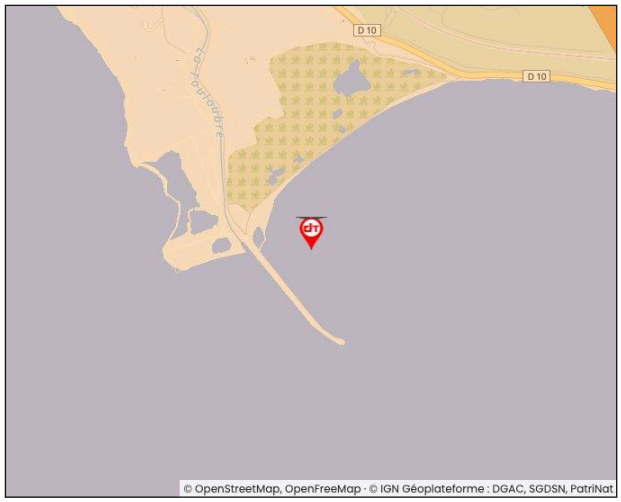
Saint Chamas, la Petite Camargue

Water · Bouches-du-Rhône

GPS coordinates	43.52216, 5.05223
Maximum height	50 m max
Access	On foot > 1,000 m
Nearest aerodrome	Societe Europeenne de Propulsion Heliport 8.4 km W
Spot reference	313646



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	07:10	07:41	17:10	17:41	9 h 29	07:41–08:25 · 16:26–17:10
Sun 22 Nov	07:11	07:42	17:09	17:41	9 h 27	07:42–08:27 · 16:25–17:09
Mon 23 Nov	07:12	07:44	17:09	17:40	9 h 25	07:44–08:28 · 16:24–17:09

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Societe Europeenne de Propulsion Heliport	Heliport	8.4 km W	22 m
Berre-la-Fare Airfield	Aerodrome	10 km E	33 m
Istres Le Tubé Air Base	Airport	10 km W	25 m
Salon-de-Provence (BA 701) Air Base	Airport	10 km NE	59 m

Description

The "Petite Camargue" site is located in the commune of Saint-Chamas, in the Bouches-du-Rhône department. Covering 94 ha, this site lies at the mouth of the Touloubre, where this stream meets the brackish waters of the Étang de Berre. Fed by both fresh water (Touloubre) and brackish water (Étang de Berre), the Petite Camargue of Saint-Chamas hosts a variety of natural habitats (shell-covered coastal barrier, saltmarshes, reed beds, wet meadows, Touloubre riparian forest, garrigue…) that support a diverse and remarkable flora and fauna. This site adjoins an area also known for its richness, especially for birdlife: the Palous, located to the south-west of the Petite Camargue and owned by the commune of Saint-Chamas. Human presence along the banks of the Touloubre goes back a very long way, as a settlement is thought to date from the Mesolithic (6,000 BC). North of the Signolles marsh, …

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=313646

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=43.52216&lon=5.05223
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.