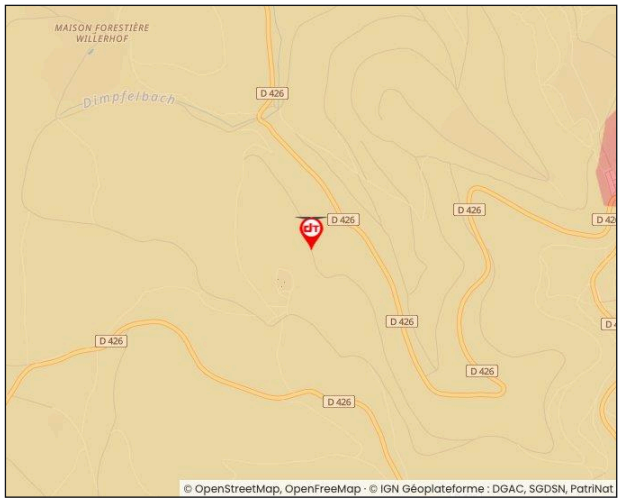
Le château du Birkenfels

Mountain · Bas-Rhin

GPS coordinates	48.43045, 7.38556
Elevation	622 m
Maximum height	50 m max
Access	On foot < 1,000 m
Nearest aerodrome	Aérodrome d'Albé - Val de Villé 9.9 km SW · spot 242 m higher
Spot reference	314016



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	07:12	07:47	16:46	17:20	8 h 58	07:47–08:37 · 15:55–16:46
Sun 22 Nov	07:14	07:49	16:45	17:19	8 h 56	07:49–08:39 · 15:54–16:45
Mon 23 Nov	07:15	07:50	16:44	17:19	8 h 53	07:50–08:41 · 15:53–16:44

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Aérodrome d'Albé - Val de Villé	Aerodrome	9.9 km SW	380 m
Club ULM de Kogenheim	Aerodrome	16 km SE	161 m
Strasbourg Airport	Airport	22 km NE	154 m

Description

The Birkenfels castle was possibly built around 1260 by Burkhard Beger3, a ministerial of the Bishop of Strasbourg. The Birkenfels castle belonged to the Beger family until 1532, then to the Mundolsheim family until the French Revolution. The castle fell into ruin after the Thirty Years' War and was handed over to the town of Obernai. It is now part of the undivided Obernai-Bernardswiller forest. It used to be used to watch over the old Roman road running from Mont Sainte-Odile to the Champ du Feu and the Bruche valley. Of this castle, burned down in the 14th century, restored in the 15th and abandoned in the 16th century, only remains survive. Nicolas Mengus points out that its pentagonal keep, whose construction began in the second half of the 13th century, was never completed, as suggested by the blocks of stone still stored in the moat4. A room used as a cell, accessible through a …

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=314016

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=48.43045&lon=7.38556
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.