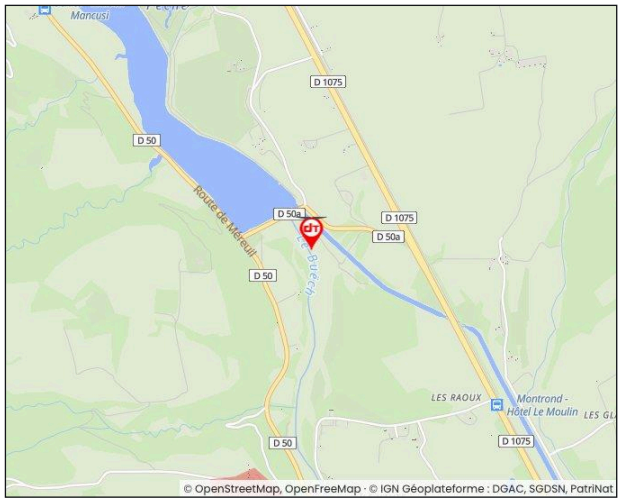
Serres, the dam.

Water · Hautes-Alpes

GPS coordinates	44.39591, 5.73206
Elevation	650 m
Maximum height	120 m max
Access	Direct access by car
Nearest aerodrome	Serres - La Bâtie-Montsaléon Airfield (LFTM) 6.9 km N · spot 65 m lower
Spot reference	315646



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	07:09	07:41	17:05	17:37	9 h 24	07:41–08:26 · 16:20–17:05
Sun 22 Nov	07:10	07:42	17:04	17:36	9 h 22	07:42–08:27 · 16:19–17:04
Mon 23 Nov	07:11	07:43	17:04	17:35	9 h 20	07:43–08:29 · 16:18–17:04

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Serres - La Bâtie-Montsaléon Airfield	Aerodrome	6.9 km N	715 m
Altisurface du Grand Terrus	Aerodrome	7.6 km NW	875 m
Aérodrome d'Aspres-sur-Buëch	Aerodrome	14 km N	831 m
Aérodrome de Sistéron-Vaumeilh	Aerodrome	20 km SE	540 m

Description

The Saint-Sauveur dam on the Buëch was built between 1990 and 1991 and commissioned in 1992 for hydroelectric power production and agricultural irrigation. During floods, the structure has been operated in transparency mode since its construction to limit sediment deposits in the reservoir as much as possible. Despite this transparency operation, the dam has had an impact on the transport of alluvial materials. To limit the phenomenon, the flood instruction was recently changed to optimize transparency for lower flows (from 120 m³/s to 100 m³/s, then 80 m³/s). A river contract was carried by the SMIGIBA from 2008 to 2017. A contract between the water agency and EDF has also been signed.

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=315646

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=44.39591&lon=5.73206
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.