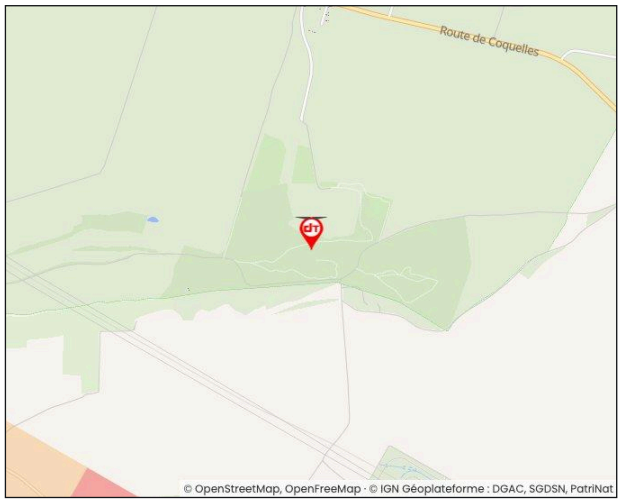
# German Railway Artillery Battery - Sangatte: Le fond de la Forge

Heritage · Pas-de-Calais

| | |
|---|---|
| **GPS coordinates** | 50.93022, 1.77585 |
| **Elevation** | 45 m |
| **Maximum height** | 120 m max |
| **Access** | On foot < 1,000 m |
| **Nearest aerodrome** | Coquelles Eurotunnel Heliport<br>1.9 km SE · spot 36 m higher |
| **Spot reference** | 317010 |




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** | 07:42 | 08:19 | 16:59 | 17:36 | 8 h 40 | 08:19–09:13 · 16:04–16:59 |
| **Sun 22 Nov** | 07:43 | 08:20 | 16:58 | 17:35 | 8 h 37 | 08:20–09:15 · 16:03–16:58 |
| **Mon 23 Nov** | 07:45 | 08:22 | 16:57 | 17:34 | 8 h 34 | 08:22–09:17 · 16:02–16:57 |

## Nearby aerodromes

| Aerodrome | Type | Distance | Elevation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Coquelles Eurotunnel Heliport | Heliport | 1.9 km SE | 9 m |
| Saint-Inglevert Aerodrome | Aerodrome | 6.0 km SW | 117 m |
| Calais-Dunkerque Airport | Airport | 13 km E | 4 m |

## Description

- La Cimenterie, starting point for hikes to the Fond de la Forge, a historic World War II (WW2) site. - A first factory was set up here during the 19th-century trials to dig a tunnel under the English Channel, before going on to produce lime and cement. - The site was used by the German army to install a heavy railway artillery battery. Located above the Channel Tunnel and entirely broken up today, which suggests deliberate destruction by the German army. - La Cimenterie, starting point for hikes to the Fond de la Forge, a historic World War II (WW2) site, now hosts a motocross track

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=317010

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=50.93022&lon=1.77585
**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.