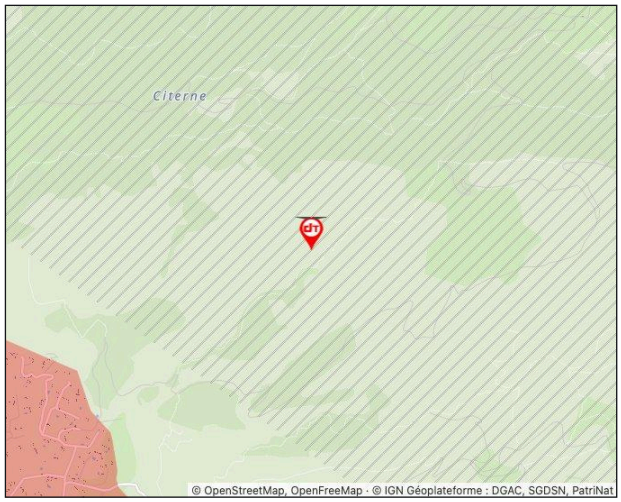
Gémenos, St Clair Chapel

Heritage · Bouches-du-Rhône

GPS coordinates	43.31182, 5.63720
Elevation	439 m
Maximum height	120 m max
Access	On foot > 1,000 m
Nearest aerodrome	Zi Les Paluds Heliport 3.9 km SW · spot 323 m higher
Spot reference	317127



Spot location and restrictions (Drone-Spot map image)

Sun (local times, UTC+01:00)

Day	Dawn	Sunrise	Sunset	Dusk	Day length	Golden hour
Tue 17 Nov	07:02	07:33	17:12	17:42	9 h 38	07:33–08:16 · 16:28–17:12
Wed 18 Nov	07:04	07:34	17:11	17:42	9 h 36	07:34–08:18 · 16:27–17:11
Thu 19 Nov	07:05	07:36	17:10	17:41	9 h 34	07:36–08:19 · 16:26–17:10

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
Zi Les Paluds Heliport	Heliport	3.9 km SW	116 m
Le Castellet Airport	Airport	14 km SE	424 m
Base Hydro-ULM de La Ciotat	Seaplane base	15 km S	0 m
Hôpital La Timone Heliport	Heliport	19 km W	42 m

Description

• Ancient and medieval origins: The site first housed a pagan place of worship, then a Gallo-Roman settlement on the Saint-Clair oppidum. It was fortified during the Saracen invasions in the 8th century, with a surrounding wall and a square tower. • Construction: In the 10th century, a Romanesque chapel was built on the base of this old tower. • History: It served as a hermitage in the 17th century before being abandoned in the early 18th century, when its wooden statue of Saint Clair was moved to the Priory of Saint-Jean-de-Garguier. • Pilgrimage: A traditional pilgrimage takes place there every January 2, starting from the Priory of Saint-Jean-de-Garguier, with a Mass and a blessing of the valley

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

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=317127

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=43.31182&lon=5.6372
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.