



Drone flights around Chamonix

Flying a drone in France is very restricted by law so to be able to keep a certain liberty, each of us must respect a few rules. Too many misuses are reported in the area that could finally induce more restrictions.

The Chamonix valley and mountain ranges around are regularly flown over by rescue units or work helicopters. Several accidents were narrowly avoided in 2017 & 2018.

We hope each drone pilot will be respectful of the law as also of the local flight rules.

Informations (in french) :

- **Regulated areas “LF-R30 A et LF-R30 B Mont-Blanc”, Ministerial by-law temporary and permanent prohibited zone / accurate and official GPS coordinates :**

<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000019720348&dateTexte&fbclid=IwAR2LefWH6-fOCx85PVNveeWmaJ3M0TF4UIXdTLaSWRJasJZT0xnu3SIOfmg>

- **Map of the restricted zones :** <https://www.geoportail.gouv.fr/donnees/restrictions-pour-drones-de-loisir>

- **Article from the rescue unit « PGHM de Chamonix » :** <http://www.pghm-chamonix.com/2017/07/21/survol-des-drones-dans-le-massif-du-mont-blanc/>

- **Prevention clip made by « La Chamoniarde », « Détachement Aérien de la Gendarmerie » and « PGHM de Chamonix » :**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0rbXWPS2bil>

- **Use of a drone for recreation purposes (10 rules) :** https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/rules_proper_use_recreational_drone.pdf

- **Website of the french Civil Aviation Bureau (DGAC) :** <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/modeles-reduits-et-drones-loisir#e4>

- **Guide for small aircrafts and leasure or racer drones :** https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/Guide_aeromodelisme_modeles_reduits_drones_de_loisir.pdf

- **Few more informations on the website helicomicro.com :** <https://www.helicomicro.com/accueil-2/la-reglementation-francaise-ce-quil-faut-savoir/>

Flying over a natural reserve is forbidden doesn't matter if it's for leisure or professional purpose. For example no ones of the lakes or aeras of the Aiguilles Rouges natural reserve can be flown over !

Same thing for the summit of Brévent & Aiguillette des Houches / Carlaveyron as also Col des Montets, Aiguillette d'Argentière, Chéserys...

You can check the borders of the natural reserves on almost all the trekking maps but also on the website [Conservatoire d'espaces naturels de Haute-Savoie](http://www.conservatoire-espaces-naturels.fr).

Flying over the public or inhabited areas is strictly forbidden except being a professional pilot registered and in good standing with the civil and aerial authorities and also having sent a demand to the Préfecture at least 5 days before the flight. The town hall departments cannot allow you to fly over their town. All must be asked to the « Préfecture de Haute-Savoie ».

The restricted zone [LF-R30B](#) covering a huge part of the Mont-Blanc cannot be overflown from July 1st to August 31st. The rules are the same for any aerial activity (paragliding, hang-gliding, drone...).

The restricted zone [LF-R30A](#) called « DZ des Bois » is forbidden all year round from the dropping zone, Le Chapeau, Les Mottets and Montenvers upper station. So you are not allowed to fly over the area of Montenvers or Rochers des Mottets !

Concerning the ski area and trekking paths your drone must anytime (take off, flight, landing) be far of any public not linked to your activity as of course out of all forbidden area. You must keep your drone in your visual range and not fly over 150m from the take off (sometimes less depending the area). Overflying people or animals is not allowed !

Ski aeras down in the valley as Savoy or Planards are in inhabited areas so you cannot film your activities or children without being a professional pilot.

Most of the time you'll not be able to film on the ski area cause it's almost impossible to respect the flight rules.

Flying your drone off piste far from any people or forbidden area can be tolerated.

In order to avoid all misuse or annoyance as also being respectfull of the law you cannot take off from the lift installations (terrasses of Aiguille du Midi for example).

NO OVERFLIGHT OF PUBLIC AREAS (terrasses, pistes....)

NO OVERFLIGHT OF THE INSTALLATIONS (lifts, cables lines, stations, trains, electric lines...)

NO OVERFLIGHT OF PEOPLE OR ANIMALS.

Always keep in touch with the persons in charge of the site to define if a take off is possible somewhere.

The best remains a take off out of the lifts area.

At Aiguille du Midi, you could, for example, film the ridge flying along it but not over it ! Same thing for the rest of the site, you can turn around the peak **but never overfly the terrasses or buildings** cause you'll overfly people, which is forbidden.

Mind also about the altitude and the weather conditions ! The drone reactions could be very different upthere at more than 3000m.

In case of any doubt, always ask the competent authority or simply do not take off.

Remember you are not alone ! Other people as local wildlife could be disturb by your machine.

Since 2018 all drones weighing more than 800g must be registered on the website [Alpha Tango](#) (even if you bought it earlier than 2018).

The « leisure pilot », must have followed a course on the website <https://fox-alphatango.aviation-civile.gouv.fr/en/> and be able to prove he succeed the test in case of control.

The rules are the same for french or foreign « leisure pilots » that all must be registered online. The 2 websites mentionned above are in french and english versions.

Drones weighing less than 800g are not exempt to respect the law or the local flight rules !

Foreign professional pilots must in any case contact the french civil aerial authority (DGAC) or any other competent authority.

A phone call to the rescue unit PGHM and CMBH (work helicopter) is advised to inform the pilots a drone is flying in the area.

Usefull contacts :

- PGHM de Chamonix : 0033 450 531 689
- CMBH : info@chamonix-helico.fr / Tel : 0033 450 541 382
- DSAC Centre-Est : ag69.dsac-ce@aviation-civile.gouv.fr / Tel : 0033 473 875 289
- Préfecture de Haute-Savoie : pref-declaration-drones@haute-savoie.gouv.fr
Tel : 0033 450 336 000
- Compagnie du Mont Blanc : benedicte.leclercq@compagniedumontblanc.fr
Tel : 0033 450 539 249 / 0033 642 912 119