Maypole Airfield to Aosta

Via Franchigena - Part 1

The Via Francigena, also known as the Francisca or Romea, is part of a bundle of routes that led from Western Europe in Southern Europe to Rome, continuing on to Puglia, where there were ports of embarkation for the Holy Land, a destination for pilgrims and crusaders. It includes several stages that take pilgrims to discover culture, history and spirituality.

In addition to being a pilgrimage route, the Via Francigena is also an important cultural and trade route, which played a crucial role in the development of medieval Europe and was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1994.

The original route of the Via Francigena is on foot and is marked by a series of red and white symbols, which indicate the route to be followed. There are also a number of guidebooks and maps available for pilgrims.

One of the most important sections of the Via Francigena in Italy is the St. Francis Walk, a route of about 850 kilometers that runs through central and southern Italy, from Assisi to the port city of Brindisi in Puglia. This stretch is named after St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of Italy, who traveled to the Holy Land in 1215 to convert Muslims to Christianity. After visiting the holy places in Jerusalem, he returned to Italy by crossing the Via Francigena and southern Italy.

The reconstruction of this aerial excursion faithfully reproduces the actual route of the Via Franchigena, offering the possibility of enjoying breathtaking landscapes from above. It is then enriched, in addition to the precise flight directions according to the VFR standard, with copious historical, geographical and cultural information of all points of interest. All to provide an immersive and educational flying experience.

No. of Legs: 5

Total distance: 454 nm
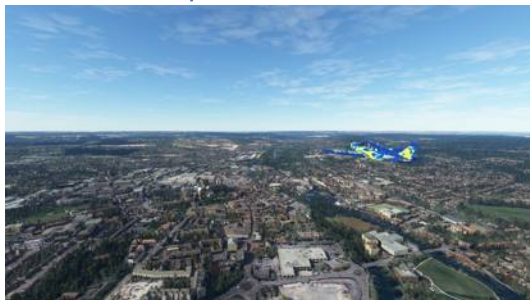
Legs

Leg 1: EGHB - LFAQ

Departure: Maypole Airfield (EGHB)

Destination: Bray (LFAQ)

Distance: 114,7 nm

POI1-Canterbury

Distance:	4,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	4,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	110,3 nm
True Course:	218°
Magnetic Course:	217°

About this flight.

This first segment will take us over the maritime and rural landscape of southern England, with its white cliffs and green fields. Once past the English Channel, following a southeastern route we can appreciate the river and hilly landscape of northern France, with its rivers, canals, and forests. Finally, you arrive at Albert-Bray, an airport located near the town of Albert, known for its role in World War I and its Neo-Byzantine Basilic.

Take off from Maypole Airfield and follow Hoat Road south until it intercepts Island Road / A28.

Canterbury is located in the county of Kent in southeastern England. The city is famous for its cathedral, which is one of the most important monuments of English Gothic architecture and an important center of pilgrimage for Christians.

It has been an important city since Roman times because of its strategic location near the port of Richborough, one of the main ports of the Roman Empire in Britain. During the Anglo-Saxon period, Canterbury became the capital of the kingdom of Kent and the place where St. Augustine founded the first Christian church in England.

In 597 AD, Pope Gregory the Great sent St. Augustine on a mission to England to convert the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity. St. Augustine chose Canterbury as the site of his mission and founded the Abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul, which would later become Canterbury Cathedral.

In 1170, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Becket, was assassinated inside the cathedral by four knights of King Henry II. Becket's martyrdom attracted many pilgrims to Canterbury, helping to make the city one of the major pilgrimage centers of medieval Europe.

Over the following centuries, Canterbury continued to be an important religious and cultural center, with many historic buildings, including the Westgate, a fortified gateway dating from the 14th century, and Canterbury Castle, built in the 12th century.

Today, Canterbury is a vibrant and cosmopolitan city with a population of about 55,000. The city is famous for its university, founded in 1962, which has about 20,000 students from all over the world.

Canterbury Cathedral remains one of the city's main points of interest to this day, along with numerous other historical and cultural sites, including the Canterbury Roman Museum, which displays Roman archaeological finds discovered in the city, and the Canterbury Tales, an interactive museum that retells the stories told by Geoffrey Chaucer in his famous book 'The Canterbury Tales.

DOVER-Dover

Distance:	11,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	15,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	98,9 nm
True Course:	137°
Magnetic Course:	136°

Turn left to stay on Dover Road / A2. Fly over pretty country villages that separate you from Dover.

Dover is located on the English Channel coast opposite France in Kent County and is the main crossing point between the United Kingdom and the European continent. It has been a town of great strategic importance because of its coastal location. In Roman times, a fortress was built to protect the area from invaders. In the Middle Ages, it became a major port city in the United Kingdom, and the fortress was expanded and reinforced to protect it from French invasions. During World War II, Dover was an important logistics center for the landing of Allied troops in Europe.

Today Dover is a vibrant, multicultural city with a population of about 30,000. Famous for its imposing medieval castle, which dominates the entire town from its high hill. In addition to the castle, Dover has other tourist attractions, including St. Mary's Church, the Dover Lighthouse, and the Museum, which showcases the town's rich history.

It is also a city of great economic importance, thanks to its port, which is the busiest passenger port in the United Kingdom and one of the most important in Europe. It handles over 2.5 million passengers and 2.5 million vehicles per year.

POI2-Calais

Distance:	24,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	40,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	74,6 nm
True Course:	118°
Magnetic Course:	117°

Continue southeast and fly over the Strait of Dover toward Calais. Fly over the harbor, and on the horizon the French coast is already visible.

Calais is located in the Hauts-de-France region of France, on the Channel side of the Pas-de-Calais, the narrowest point of the English Channel, which separates France from England. It has a rich and varied history dating back to the Bronze Age. In 55 B.C., during Julius Caesar's conquest of Gaul, the city was conquered by the Romans. Over the centuries, Calais came under the control of the Vikings, the Normans, the English and finally the French. In 1347, the city became famous for its resistance against an eleven-month siege by the English during the Hundred Years' War. In 1558, the English managed to conquer the city again, and it remained under their control until 1558, when it was recaptured by the French.

Calais has a strong cultural, artistic and musical tradition. The city is home to several museums, including the Musée des Beaux-Arts et de la Dentelle, which displays works of art and fine textiles; the Musée de la Guerre, which presents the city's history during the wars of the 20th century; and the Musée de la Céramique, which displays local pottery. Calais is also famous for notching, a craft tradition that dates back to the 16th century and developed particularly during the 17th and 18th centuries. Today, the city is still home to numerous artisans who produce fine fabrics and lace wedding dresses.

Calais is also an important commercial and transportation center due to its location on the coast of the English Channel. Its port is one of the busiest ports in Europe, connecting France to England via the Channel Tunnel and ferries.

POI3-St Omer

Distance:	19,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	59,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	55,7 nm

True Course:	128°
Magnetic Course:	127°

At Calais continue southeast following the Route de Saint-Omer and the Rue du Conte Alage. Then fly over the village Recques-sur-Hem first and Moulle later.

Saint-Omer is located in the French department of Pas-de-Calais, in the Hauts-de-France region, in the floodplain of the Aa Valley. Founded by the Romans in the 1st century, it was an important commercial and religious center during the Middle Ages. In the 12th century, it became a free and prosperous city with a strong presence of merchants, artisans and monks. Over the following centuries, the town suffered numerous attacks and occupations, including that of the French, British and Germans during the World Wars.

Saint-Omer is known for its medieval architecture, with numerous buildings and churches dating from the 12th and 15th centuries. Notable buildings include the church of Saint-Denis and the church of Saint-Bertin, which dates from the 7th century and now houses a museum. The city also has a rich artistic heritage, with several collections of medieval works of art and manuscripts, including the Bibliothèque d'Agglomération in Saint-Omer, which houses more than 120,000 volumes.

Today it is an industrial and commercial center, with various manufacturing activities, including the production of glass, textiles and food products. The city also has an important university center, with several research and higher education institutions.

POI4-Bruay-la-Buissière

Distance:	19,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	78,6 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	36,2 nm
True Course:	145°
Magnetic Course:	144°

Head southeast and fly over a flat green area to Bruay-la-Buissière. On your left you can see the Canal de Neufossé, a segment of the Canal Dunkirk-Escaut.

Bruay-la-Buissière is located in the Pas-de-Calais department, in the region of Flanders that has been at the center of numerous conflicts in European history, including World War I and World War II. In fact, the city is located near the sites where major battles were fought between the Allied forces and the German army during World War II.

Founded by the Romans, it became an important center during the medieval period, when the church of Saint-Martin, which is still present in the town today, was built. In the 19th century, the town became an important mining center, thanks to the discovery of coal deposits in the area. This led to rapid development of the town and the arrival of many immigrants, especially Italians and Poles, who were employed in the mines. After the coal mines closed in the 1970s, the city had to

diversify its economy and focused on other sectors, such as the textile industry and the production of building materials.

In addition to the Saint-Martin church, built in the 12th century, the town also has an interesting mining museum, the 'Musée de la Mine,' which offers an immersive experience in the life of the town's miners. The town also houses a large public library, the "Médiathèque," which offers a wide range of cultural materials and activities.

ARRAS-Arras

Distance:	14,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	92,9 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	21,8 nm
True Course:	143°
Magnetic Course:	142°

Go ahead, pass the Parc d'Holain and you will soon have Arras in sight.

Arras is located in the Haute-France region. Known for its historic architecture and rich culture, it has been an important center of cultural and economic activities for many centuries.

During Roman times The city was known by the name of Nemetacum, and was an important center of trade. Later, during the Middle Ages, the city became an important center of weaving, linen production, and cloth trade. In the 15th century, Arras was the capital of the kingdom of Artois, and over the following centuries, the city was conquered and ruled by various empires and nations, including the Spanish and the French.

One of Arras' most important landmarks is its central square, the Grand'Place, considered one of the most beautiful squares in all of France. The square is surrounded by historic buildings, including the Hôtel de Ville, the Beffroi and the Saint-Vaast church. The Beffroi, a 75-meter-high medieval bell tower, was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2005. The tower has a long history and has been used as a watchtower, prison and also as a place for textile production.

Another interesting attraction in Arras is the Citadel, a vast fortified complex built in the 17th century by French King Louis XIV. The Citadel of Arras was also declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2008. The fortified complex includes a large green area, a war museum and several military facilities, including an arsenal and a prison.

POI5-Bapaume

Distance:	11,7 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	104,6 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	10,1 nm
True Course:	164°
Magnetic Course:	163°

Follow the flow of roads winding southward. Sequentially fly over the villages of Mercatel, Boyelles and Ervillers along the D917 road and reach Bapaume.

Bapaume has significant importance because of its strategic location. During World War I, the town was at the center of a bitter battle between German forces and the Allies, who were trying to advance toward Paris. In March 1918, the city was captured by German troops, but was later recaptured by the Allies at the end of the war.

Today, Bapaume is a relatively small town with a population of about 4,000. The town is known for its traditional architecture, with numerous brick and stone houses. The town center is home to the church of Saint-Nicolas, a 15th-century building that has undergone many alterations over the years.

Bapaume is also home nearby to a British military cemetery, the Bapaume Post Military Cemetery, where about 750 soldiers who lost their lives during World War I are buried. The town is also famous for its annual fair, the Foire de Bapaume, held every September. The fair is a large popular festival that features numerous events and attractions for all tastes.

LFAQ-Bray

Distance:	10,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	114,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	216°
Magnetic Course:	215°

Turn right and follow the D929 Road to reach Bray Airport.

The airport is located near the Seine River, which flows a few kilometers east of the airport. It was built in 1936 and used as a military air base during World War II. After the war, the airport was converted for civilian use and began serving mainly private flights. In the 1960s and 1970s, the airport was also used for air competitions.

Bray Airport is famous for its annual aerobatic flying festival, the Bray Air Meet, held every June. The festival attracts thousands of aviation enthusiasts from around the world and features some of the most spectacular aerobatics.

The airport has a grass runway and a 7216-foot asphalt runway, served by ILS (RW27, Freq. 108.75, OBS 264°)

Leg 2: LFAQ - LFQA

Departure: Bray (LFAQ)

Destination: Prunay (LFQA)

Distance: 77,3 nm

POI6-Péronne

Distance:	9,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	9,5 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	67,8 nm
True Course:	104°
Magnetic Course:	102°

About this flight.

Today we will fly over central France, following a route that winds south through lush cultivated fields and vineyards.

After takeoff, turn right and fly over the Somme River that will take you to Péronne.

Péronne is located in the Hauts-de-France region, in the Somme department.

Historically, Péronne has been an important city because of its strategic location on the bank of the Somme River. During World War I, the town was at the center of the Battle of the Somme, one of the largest battles of the war in which soldiers from many nations were involved. Péronne was

occupied by the Germans in 1914 and remained in their possession until 1916, when it was captured by British troops. The town suffered severe damage during the war, but many monuments and historic sites were rebuilt.

The Great War Museum (Museé de la Grande Guerre) is one of the city's most important museums. Located in the city's medieval castle, it displays objects and documents related to World War I, including uniforms, weapons, medical equipment and photographs. The museum also contains a reconstruction of a trench.

Péronne also has a beautiful old town with many half-timbered houses and old churches. The Church of St. John the Baptist (Église Saint-Jean-Baptiste) is an imposing Gothic church built between the 13th and 15th centuries. St. John's Tower (Tour Saint-Jean) is another popular attraction in the city. This 43-meter tower was built in the 13th century and offers a panoramic view of the city and its surroundings.

POI7-Saint Quentin

Distance:	14,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	23,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	53,6 nm
True Course:	110°
Magnetic Course:	109°

Continue straight ahead, overfly Cartigny and Vermand and reach Saint Quentin.

Located in the Hauts-de-France region in the Aisne department, Saint-Quentin overlooks the right bank of the Somme River. It was known as Augusta Veromanduorum during Roman times. In the Middle Ages it became an important city due to its strategic location between Paris and Belgium. Over the centuries, the town was often the scene of conflict, particularly during World War I and World War II.

Saint-Quentin has several museums, including the Antoine Lécuyer Museum, which exhibits works of art from the 16th to 20th centuries. The town also has a beautiful Victorian-era theater, the Jean Vilar Theater, which hosts theatrical and musical performances.

Saint-Quentin is an industrial city, with a strong presence of the manufacturing sector. The city has several enterprises specializing in textiles, clothing, automobiles and food products. The city is also an important commercial center for the surrounding region.

Interesting tourist attractions include the Saint-Quentin Basilica, an important 13th-century Gothic church, and the city hall, an 18th-century historic building. The town also has a beautiful public garden, Parc d'Isle, which covers about 47 hectares and includes an artificial lake, a forest, and numerous walking and biking trails.

POI8-La Fére

Distance:	11,8 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	35,5 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	41,8 nm
True Course:	162°
Magnetic Course:	160°

At Saint Quintin, turn right to stay to the right of Road D1044, toward La Fére.

La Fère is located in the Picardy area, on the left bank of the Oise River. During the Roman period, the town was an important military and commercial center. Later, La Fère became an important center of arms production, and its fortress was one of the most important in Europe during the 17th century.

Today, La Fère is a quiet town known for its architectural beauty. The town's historic center is characterized by its old stone houses, its cobbled streets, and its many churches and monuments. One of the city's most important sights is the La Fère fortress, built between 1550 and 1630 to protect the city from foreign invasions. This fortress was an important military center until the late 19th century, when it was turned into a museum.

LAON-Laon

Distance:	10,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	46,5 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	30,8 nm
True Course:	120°
Magnetic Course:	119°

Turn left to continue following the D1044 road. When you pass Cléry you have Laon in sight.

Laon, in the Aisne department, is located about 40 kilometers southwest of Reims. During the Roman period it was known as Augusta Viromanduorum. In the Middle Ages, it became a fortified city with a Gothic cathedral, which today is one of its main tourist sites.

The city is surrounded by city walls, which date back to the 12th century, and has many narrow, winding streets that lead to the Notre-Dame de Laon Cathedral. It was built in the 12th century and features a Gothic style. It is known for its sculpted facade, which depicts a series of biblical stories, and its interior, which is decorated with stained glass windows and sculptures.

In addition to the cathedral, Laon has many other places of interest, including the Laon Museum of Art and Archaeology, which houses an extensive collection of artwork and archaeological artifacts. The city is also home to several festivals and fairs throughout the year, including the St. Martin's Fair, held in November.

POI9-Cormicy

Distance:	16,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	62,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	14,5 nm
True Course:	137°
Magnetic Course:	136°

Turn slightly to the right and maintain a heading of about 135 degrees. Leave the Hippodrome de Laon on your left, in the direction of Cormicy.

Cormicy is a commune located in the Champagne region, in the Marne department. An important center of wine production due to its location in the Champagne region, during World War I, the town suffered severe damage from the fighting that took place in the area.

Today, Cormicy is a quiet, rural town surrounded by vineyards and wheat fields.

It also has an ancient stone bridge over the Ardre River, which dates back to the 15th century and has recently been restored. The bridge was an important communication route in the area, used precisely by pilgrims traveling the Via Franchigena.

The town is also home to several champagne wineries, which offer tours and tastings.

REIMS-Reims

Distance:	9,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	72,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	5,0 nm
True Course:	143°
Magnetic Course:	141°

Continue southeast along the Roas D944 and you should soon have Reims in sight.

Reims is located in the Champagne-Ardenne region in the Marne department. It has been a city of great importance to France. It was the seat of French kings and the place where sovereigns were crowned. The city suffered much damage during the world wars, but much of its historical heritage has been rebuilt.

Reims is known for its cathedral, Notre-Dame de Reims Cathedral, which was built in the 13th century in the Gothic style. It has been the coronation site of many French monarchs, including Charles VII, Charles VIII, and Louis XVI. The city also has many other places of interest, including the Palace of Tau, which was the residence of the bishops of Reims and later French kings; the Abbey of Saint-Remi, which houses a large collection of historical artifacts; and the Porte de Mars, an ancient Roman gate.

Reims is also famous for its Champagne wine, which is produced in the surrounding region. The city is home to many Champagne producers and offers many opportunities for wine tastings and visits to wineries.

Culturally, Reims has a vibrant art and music scene. The city hosts many festivals throughout the year, including the Reims Festival, which features theater, music, and dance performances.

LFQA-Prunay

Distance:	5,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	77,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	115°
Magnetic Course:	113°

Continue straight and prepare to land at Prunay Airport.

Prunay Airport is a small civil airport located in the Champagne-Ardenne region of France. The airport is used primarily for general aviation and pilot training and offers aircraft rental services and scenic flights over the city of Reims and the surrounding region. The airport is located in the countryside south of the city of Reims, about 8 kilometers from the city center.

It has a grass and an asphalt runway about 4,000 feet long (07/25) and a passenger terminal with basic facilities.
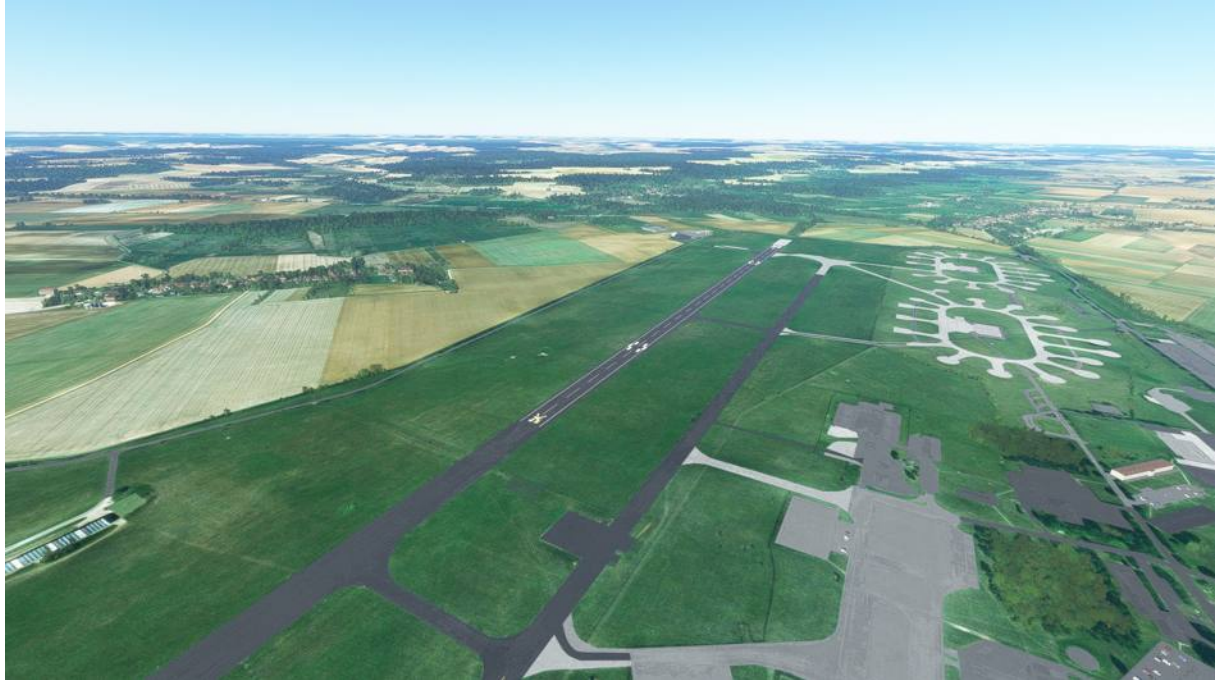
Leg 3: LFQA - LFJA

Departure: Prunay (LFQA)

Destination: Semoutiers (LFJA)

Distance: 82,4 nm

POI10-Châlons-en-Champagne

Distance:	16,7 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	16,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	65,7 nm
True Course:	152°
Magnetic Course:	150°

About this flight.

This leg is long and spectacular, requiring in fact to cross the Vosges and Jura mountains, with their valleys and lakes. It starts from Prunai following a southeast route, passing through the natural and historic landscape of the Grand Est, with its forests, castles, and archaeological sites. You finally arrive in Semoutiers, an airport located near Chaumont, a town known for its architectural heritage and its international poster festival.

Leave Prunay Airport and turn southeast. Intercept the A4 autoroute and follow it until Les-Granges-Loges. Then continue straight.

Châlons-en-Champagne, also known as Châlons-sur-Marne, is located in the Champagne region in the Marne department. The city has an ancient history dating back to Roman times, when it was known as Catalaunum. In the Middle Ages, it became an important city and was the site of one of the most important battles in French history, the Battle of the Catalaunian Fields, fought in 451 between the Romans and the Huns.

Today, Châlons-en-Champagne is a vibrant and modern city that retains many historic buildings and monuments. One of the main sights is the Notre-Dame-en-Vaux Cathedral, a 12th-century Gothic building that has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The cathedral is known for its architectural details, including its spires and stained glass windows.

Châlons-en-Champagne is also known for its production of champagne, one of the world's most famous wines. The city is home to several champagne cellars and offers a variety of tours and tastings for visitors.

POI11-Vitry-le-François

Distance:	16,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	33,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	49,2 nm
True Course:	147°
Magnetic Course:	145°

Fly following the course of the Marne River on your right. Pass a series of villages that stand on the banks of the river and reach Vitry-le-François.

Vitry-le-François is located in the Grand Est region in the Marne department. It was founded in the 16th century by King Francis I of France as part of a project to rebuild the region after wars and devastation. The town was designed by Italian architect Girolamo Marini and was built in the Renaissance style, with straight streets meeting in a large central space.

Vitry-le-François was also an important town during World War I, when it was on the Western Front and suffered several damages and destructions. The town was rebuilt after the war, but some historic buildings were repaired and preserved.

In addition to its Renaissance architecture, Vitry-le-François has many other tourist attractions, including the Notre-Dame Church, which dates back to the 16th century and features a Gothic style.

POI12-Lac du Der

Distance:	10,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	43,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	39,1 nm
True Course:	145°
Magnetic Course:	143°

Go straight ahead always keeping the river and reach Lac du Der.

Lac du Der-Chantecoq, also known as Lac du Der, is an artificial lake created in the 1970s as a rainwater catchment for hydroelectric power generation. It covers an area of about 48 square kilometers and has a capacity of 350 million cubic meters of water. It is fed by the Marne River and the Saulx River.

In addition to its role as a hydroelectric reservoir, Lac du Der has become a popular tourist destination, especially for nature lovers and water sports enthusiasts. The lake is surrounded by a vast natural area, including forests, meadows and wetlands, where many species of migratory birds can be observed.

The lake is also famous for hosting an exceptional event every year, 'the great migratio,' where thousands of gray cranes stop during their autumn migration to the south.

POI13-Soulaines-Dhuys

Distance:	13,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	56,6 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	25,8 nm
True Course:	179°
Magnetic Course:	177°

Turn right and head south in the direction of Soulaines-Dhuys.

Soulaines-Dhuys is located in the Grand Est region in the Aube department of Champagne. In the past it was a fortified town, with a medieval castle and a Romanesque church. In the 15th century, it became an important center of linen and cotton cloth production.

Today, Soulaines-Dhuys is known for its historical and cultural heritage. The town has many tourist attractions, including Soulaines Castle, which dates back to the 12th century and houses a museum on rural and artisan life in the region.

POI14-Bar-sur-Aube

Distance:	8,6 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	65,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	17,3 nm
True Course:	187°
Magnetic Course:	185°

Continue south-southwest. Fly between two villages, Fuligny on the right and Ville-sue-Terre on the left. Then proceed straight ahead again.

Bar-sur-Aube is located in the Grande Est region of France, in the Aube department. It played an important role during the Roman period, when it was located on the Roman road connecting Langres to Augusta Treverorum (today's Trier in Germany). In the Middle Ages, the town was a bishopric and played a significant role during the Hundred Years' War and the Wars of Religion.

The city is situated on the right bank of the Aube River and is surrounded by hills and forests. Bar-sur-Aube is a friendly town with many narrow, winding streets that lead to historic buildings such as the Church of St. Maur, the Chapel of the Cordonniers, and the Castle of the Counts of Bar.

St. Maurus Church is one of the town's main sights. It was built in the 12th century in the Romanesque style and features a series of statues, stained glass windows and unique architecture.

The city is also famous for champagne production, thanks to the presence of numerous wineries and vineyards in the surrounding region. Other local activities include craft brewing, woodworking and textile production.

POI15-Clairvaux

Distance:	6,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	71,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	11,3 nm
True Course:	150°
Magnetic Course:	148°

Turn slightly left and fly over the verdant fields that separate you from Clairvaux. On your left side you can see the road D396 running.

Clairvaux is located in the Aube department in the Grand Est region. Its history dates back to the 12th century, when the Abbey of Clairvaux was founded. The abbey, which was founded by St. Bernard of Clairvaux in 1115, became one of the most important Cistercian monasteries in medieval France. The abbey had a large library and school, and it became an important center of culture and spirituality. Over the centuries, the abbey was expanded and enriched with many works of art.

In the 18th century, the abbey was confiscated by the government during the French Revolution and later demolished. Today, only a few ruins of the original abbey remain.
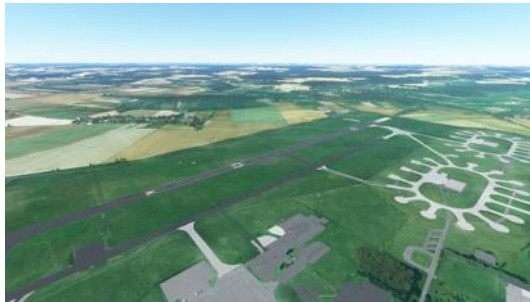
The town of Clairvaux is still an important cultural and tourist center. It houses the Clairvaux Abbey Museum, which displays a collection of artifacts and works of art from the medieval abbey. The museum also hosts temporary exhibitions and organizes guided tours of the abbey.

In addition to the museum, the town of Clairvaux is surrounded by beautiful countryside and offers many hiking and biking trails. The town is also close to the Forêt d'Orient Regional Nature Park, a vast protected area that offers many outdoor activities, such as hiking, fishing, and birdwatching.

Clairvaux and its region are also known for their wine production, including Champagne, Chablis, and Rosé des Riceys.

LFJA-Semoutiers

Distance:	11,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	82,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	107°
Magnetic Course:	105°

Turn left and prepare to land at Semoutiers Airport.

Semoutiers Airport has an asphalt runway (18/36) approximately 5,000 feet long, capable of handling light and medium aircraft. The airport also offers fueling, aircraft maintenance and aircraft parking services.

Leg 4: LFJA - LFQM

Departure: Semoutiers (LFJA)

Destination: La Veze (LFQM)

Distance: 70,2 nm

POI16-Richebourg

Distance:	4,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	4,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	66,1 nm
True Course:	176°
Magnetic Course:	174°

About this flight.

Our journey continues through the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region, following a route along the Doubs valley. We can admire the rural landscape of Burgundy-Franche-Comté, with its cultivated fields and vineyards. Finally, you arrive at La Veze, an airport located near the city of Besançon, a fortified city and World Heritage Site located on the Doubs River.

After takeoff, fly south in the direction of nearby Richebourg.

Richebourg is a town located in the Haute-France region of the Pas-de-Calais department, . about 10 kilometers south of Lens.

It was an important town during World War I, when it was the scene of bitter fighting between French and German forces. The town was located on the western front line and suffered severe damage during the war. Today, the town is home to a military cemetery, where British and German soldiers who fell in the area during the war are buried.

Richebourg is also famous for its vineyards, which produce some of the best wines in the region. The town is part of the Champagne region's wine production area, and produces mainly red and white wines.

POI17-Lac de la Mouche

Distance:	11,7 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	15,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	54,4 nm
True Course:	136°
Magnetic Course:	134°

Turn left and follow the A5 highway for about 11 miles. It flies over the villages of Abbaye de Mormant and Merac before arriving at Lac de la Mouche.

Lac de la Mouche is a beautiful alpine lake located in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region of France, in the Isère department of the French Alps. It is located at an altitude of about 1,200 meters and covers an area of about 11 hectares.

The lake is located within the Chartreuse Regional Nature Park, a nature reserve that covers an area of 69,000 hectares and includes the Chartreuse mountain range. The lake is surrounded by mountains, coniferous forests and alpine pastures, making it a very picturesque place.

POI18-Champlitte

Distance:	19,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	34,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	35,4 nm
True Course:	147°
Magnetic Course:	145°

Continue southeast observing the D67 road on your right. Leave Saints Geosmes on your left and set course to 145 degrees to reach Champlitte. You can also follow the Salon River.

Champlitte is located in the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region, in the Haute-Saône department. It was an important town during the medieval period, when it was a strategic fortress on the road connecting northern France with Burgundy. The town was disputed between the French and Germans until the 15th century, when it became permanently French.

Today, Champlitte is a quiet and picturesque town with a rich history and culture. The town is surrounded by green fields and forests, and is located on the right bank of the Saône River.

Champlitte has a number of places of historical and cultural interest, including Champlitte Castle, a medieval fortress dating back to the 12th century, which now houses a local history museum. The castle was rebuilt and expanded in the 15th century, and features an imposing tower, a large throne room, and a chapel.

GRAY-Gray

Distance:	10,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	45,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	24,5 nm
True Course:	163°
Magnetic Course:	161°

Still following the D67 road you will soon reach Gray, after passing Oyrières.

Gray is located in the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region, in the Haute-Saône department. During the Roman period it was known as Grannum. In the Middle Ages, it became a fortified town with a Gothic cathedral and castle, which today is one of its main tourist sites.

The city is crossed by the Saona River and surrounded by a series of hills. It is also crisscrossed by a series of canals and rivers, which made the city an important commercial center during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Of note are the Baron-Martin Museum, which houses an extensive collection of artwork and historical artifacts, and Gray Castle, which now houses the city's tourist office.

POI19-Emagny

Distance:	13,6 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	59,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	10,9 nm
True Course:	125°
Magnetic Course:	122°

Turn left to fly over the Saint Adrien airport, then continue southeast and pass through pastoral sceneries toward Emagny.

Emagny is a commune located in the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region, in the Doubs department. It has been an important center of brick and textile production due to the presence of clay in the area. In the Middle Ages, the village was part of the Burgundy region and later came under the control of the Duchy of Lorraine. In the 18th century, Emagny was annexed to France during the reign of Louis XV.

Today, Emagny is a small farming community with a population of about 400. The town has retained its rural charm, with numerous farms and vineyards surrounding the village.

One of the main tourist sites in Emagny is the Church of St. Maurice, which dates back to the 12th century and features a Romanesque style. The church has a bell tower dating from the 16th century and a nave decorated with 17th-century frescoes. Other sites of interest include the Lavoir, a public fountain built in the 19th century, and the Maison du Temps Jadis, a museum presenting rural life in the region.

POI20-Besançon

Distance:	6,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	66,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	4,0 nm
True Course:	124°
Magnetic Course:	122°

Continue straight and Besançon already appears in front of you.

Besançon is located in the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region, in the Doubs department. It was a Roman city called Vesontio, which has maintained great strategic and commercial importance over the centuries. In the 18th century, the city became an important watchmaking center and was home to one of the world's first watch factories.

The city is situated on a hill overlooking the Doubs River, and is surrounded by a 17th-century city wall, which has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city's historic center is characterized by narrow, winding streets, Renaissance and Baroque-style buildings, and many squares and fountains.

One of Besançon's main sights is the Citadel, a 17th-century fortress built on a hill overlooking the city. In addition to being a historic site, the Citadel houses a natural history museum and a series of botanical gardens.

The city is also home to many other cultural attractions, including the Museum of Fine Arts and Archaeology, which houses an extensive collection of artwork and archaeological artifacts. Saint-Jean Cathedral, with its Gothic facade, is another site of cultural interest.

On the culinary side, Besançon is known for its traditional French cuisine, which includes dishes such as cancoillotte, a string cheese; wine from the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region; and chocolate-based desserts, including Besançon cake.

LFQM-La Veze

Distance:	4,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	70,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	131°
Magnetic Course:	128°

Prepare to land at La Veze Airport.

La Veze Airport is a regional airport located about 7 kilometers northwest of Besançon. It has an asphalt runway over 4,000 feet long (05/23), a control tower, and a range of passenger facilities. The airport is mainly used for general and tourist flights, but also offers scheduled flights to some domestic and international destinations.

LFQM-La Veze

Leg 5: LFQM - LIMW

Departure: La Veze (LFQM)

Destination: Aosta (LIMW)

Distance: 109,1 nm

POI21-Ornans

Distance:	6,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	6,5 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	102,6 nm
True Course:	156°
Magnetic Course:	153°

About this flight.

Today's flight segment allows you to fly over the French and Italian Alps with their valleys and glaciers, following a route along the Rhone Valley and the Great St. Bernard Pass. It departs from La Veze following a southeast route, passing through the cities of Lausanne and Martigny. You can admire the natural and historic landscape of Burgundy-Franche-Comté, French-speaking Switzerland, and Valais, with their lakes, forests, and castles. Finally, you arrive in Aosta, Italy, a Roman and medieval city located in the valley of the same name.

Complete the takeoff procedure then head southeast. Follow the D67 road, pass Tarcenay and reach Ornans.

Ornans is located in the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region, in the Doubs department. Famous for its natural beauty and its artistic and cultural history. it lies on the Loue River, which runs through the city and divides it into two parts.

Ornans was an important city during the Roman period, when it was known as Ursinium. In the Middle Ages, it became an important commercial and craft center due to the presence of mills, forges, and paper factories.

Today, Ornans is best known for being the hometown of the famous French painter Gustave Courbet, who was born there in 1819. The town is home to the Courbet Museum, which contains an extensive collection of works of art by the painter and other artists from the region.

Ornans is also famous for its unspoiled nature, with a variety of hiking and biking trails through the Jura Mountains and along the Loue River. The surrounding landscape is characterized by green hills, valleys and gorges, with numerous waterfalls and mountain lakes.

POI22-Pontalier

Distance:	14,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	21,0 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	88,1 nm
True Course:	145°
Magnetic Course:	143°

Follow the D67 road towards the villages of Montgesoye and Vuillafans, then go straight to Pontalier. Maintain 6000 feet.

Pontarlier is located in the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region, in the Doubs department, a few kilometers from the Swiss border. It was an important town during the medieval period, when it was an important center for clock making and woodworking. During the Thirty Years' War, the town was the scene of numerous clashes between French and Spanish forces.

Today it is known for its distillation industry, particularly the production of absinthe, an alcoholic beverage made from aniseed. The town is also home to a museum dedicated to the history of absinthe, called the Absinthe Museum.

Pontarlier is also a popular tourist destination due to its location in the Jura Mountains region, which offers many opportunities for hiking, skiing, and rock climbing. The city is surrounded by numerous nature reserves and parks, including the Jura Massif Regional Nature Park.

One of Pontarlier's most important sights is the Fortress of Joux, a medieval fortress built in the 12th century and then expanded and renovated in the 17th and 18th centuries. The fortress played an

important role in French military history and was used as a prison during the French Revolution. Well preserved is the old town, with numerous half-timbered houses and stone buildings.

POI23-Yverdon-les-Bains

Distance:	13,8 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	34,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	74,3 nm
True Course:	122°
Magnetic Course:	119°

Turn left and pass a dense hilly wooded area. Then fly toward the southern shore of Lac de Neuchâtel. On the horizon you can see the snow-capped peaks of the Alps.

Yverdon-les-Bains is located in the canton of Vaud in western Switzerland. It is located on the northeastern shore of Lake Neuchâtel. The history of Yverdon-les-Bains dates back to Roman times, when the town was an important trading center. In the Middle Ages, it became a fortified town with a castle and a monastery, which today are among its main tourist sites.
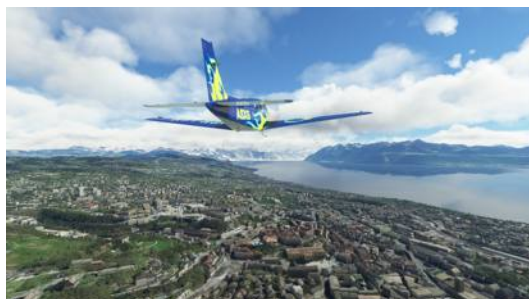
The town is known for its hot springs and thermal baths, which have made Yverdon-les-Bains a popular spa center since ancient times. The hot springs of Yverdon-les-Bains are located in a large public park, Parc des Bains, which covers 13 hectares and also houses the Yverdon Museum.

The town also has several cultural and artistic sights, including the Church of St. John the Baptist, which dates back to the 13th century, and the Rocket Tower, which is the only remaining tower of the town's medieval fortifications.

Yverdon-les-Bains is also home to the People's University, which was founded in 1900 and offers continuing education courses in several disciplines, including culture and languages.

The town is also known for its cultural events, including the Yverdon-les-Bains International Film Festival, held annually in March, and the Yverdon-les-Bains Baroque Music Festival, held annually in September.

POI24-Lausanne

Distance:	15,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	50,6 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	58,5 nm
True Course:	180°
Magnetic Course:	177°

Turn right and follow Route 5 south toward Lake Geneva (or Lake Leman).

Lausanne, located in the French-speaking region of Switzerland on the shores of Lake Geneva, is the capital of the canton of Vaud and one of the most important cities in Switzerland, as well as the headquarters of the International Olympic Committee.

Founded by the Romans in the first century B.C. as Lousonna, over the following centuries the city became an important commercial and cultural center in the Lake Geneva region. In the Middle Ages, Lausanne also became an important ecclesiastical center, with the construction of the Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Lausanne in the 12th century, The Gothic-style cathedral features a series of fine stained glass windows.

The city is situated on a hill overlooking Lake Geneva and offers panoramic views of the surrounding region. Lausanne is surrounded by vineyards and parks, and is known for its historic architecture, which includes medieval and Renaissance buildings as well as modern and innovative buildings.

The city also has several museums, including the Olympic Museum, which celebrates the history of the Olympic Games and their impact on global culture. A vibrant and cosmopolitan city, it has a large student community and many cultural and entertainment opportunities. The city hosts numerous festivals and events throughout the year, including the Lausanne International Film Festival and the Old Town Festival.

AIGLE-Aigle

Distance:	18,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	69,0 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	40,1 nm
True Course:	132°
Magnetic Course:	130°

Fly southeast and cross the lake to its southern shore. Enter the Rhine River valley and reach Aigle.

Aigle is a Swiss town located in Canton Vaud, at the foot of the Alps, along the Rhône River. It was founded in the 12th century and has been an important commercial and cultural center of the region for many centuries. Aigle owes its name to the eagle, which has been the town's symbol since ancient times.

Among the town's sights, the Château d'Aigle, a 15th-century medieval castle that houses the Swiss Wine Museum, is one of the most important. The museum displays an extensive collection of objects related to the history of Swiss wine, including wine tools, antique bottles, advertising posters and more.

Aigle is also home to the headquarters of the Union Cycliste Internationale, the international organization that governs the sport of cycling. The UCI training center, known as the UCI World Cycling Centre, is located in Aigle and is one of the world's leading training centers for young cyclists.

POI25-Saint Maurice

Distance:	6,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	75,5 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	33,6 nm
True Course:	167°
Magnetic Course:	164°

Stay in the valley to the south and fly over Saint Maurice. Climb to 11000 feet.

Saint Maurice is located in the Haute-Savoie region of France. It has been an important religious and cultural center. The town owes its name to Saint Maurice, a saint revered by the Catholic and Orthodox churches, who according to legend was the leader of the Theban Legionaries, a Roman military unit composed of Christians. The town is also known for being an important center of paper production in the 18th century.

Saint Maurice is home to many places of cultural and tourist interest. One of the city's main sites is the Abbey of Saint-Maurice d'Agaune, a Benedictine abbey founded in the 5th century and declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983. The abbey is known for its fine stained glass windows, its choir and its crypt.

The town also has an imposing fortress, the Fortress of Saint-Maurice, which dates back to the 18th century and was used as a prison during the French Revolution. Today it houses a military museum.

Saint Maurice is surrounded by the mountains of the French Alps and offers many outdoor activities, such as hiking, skiing, and mountain biking.

POI26-Martigny

Distance:	7,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	82,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	26,4 nm
True Course:	154°
Magnetic Course:	151°

Follow the course of the Rhine River and reach Martigny.

Martigny is a Swiss city located in the Valais region. Historically, the Martigny region was inhabited by the Celts and the Romans, who left numerous traces of their presence, such as the Roman road connecting the town to Aosta, Italy. In the Middle Ages, Martigny became an important trading center due to its location on the Great St. Bernard Road.

Today, Martigny is a modern and vibrant city with many cultural and tourist attractions. One of its main points of interest is the Martigny Museum of History and Archaeology, which houses an extensive collection of archaeological artifacts, including ancient Roman mosaics.

Another site of interest is the Château de la Bâtiaz, an imposing medieval fortress located in the hills surrounding the town. The castle offers panoramic views of the city and surrounding mountains.

Martigny is also a popular destination for nature lovers because of its location between the Swiss Alps and the Valais mountains. The city is surrounded by hiking and biking trails, and offers numerous outdoor activities such as paragliding and skiing.

In terms of gastronomy, Martigny is famous for its wine, particularly Gamay, a grape variety native to the region. The town also hosts numerous festivals and fairs throughout the year, including the Saint-Maurice Fair, held in September and celebrating the town's patron saint.

POI27-Saint Bernard Tunnel

Distance:	13,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	95,9 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	13,2 nm
True Course:	160°
Magnetic Course:	157°

Go straight ahead and pass the mountainous reliefs on top of which is the Saint Bernard Tunnel.

The Great St. Bernard Tunnel is a road tunnel located between Italy and Switzerland, crossing the Alps at an altitude of about 2,500 meters. It connects the Italian city of Aosta with the Swiss city of Martigny, crossing the Great St. Bernard Pass.

Construction of the tunnel began in 1959 and was completed in 1964. The tunnel is 5.8 kilometers long and consists of two separate tubes, one for each direction of travel. The tunnel was built to replace the Great St. Bernard Pass road, which was often subject to winter closures due to adverse weather conditions.

The tunnel was opened on March 19, 1964, and has since undergone several renovations and upgrades to ensure its safety and efficiency. Today, the Great St. Bernard Tunnel is one of the main communication routes between Italy and Switzerland and an important transit corridor between northern and southern Europe.

Culturally, the Great St. Bernard Tunnel has a long history, dating back to Roman times. In the Middle Ages, the pass was one of the main transit routes between Italy and Switzerland and was frequented by travelers heading to northern or southern Europe. In 1049, the Order of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem founded a hospice on the pass, which provided assistance to travelers and pilgrims. The hospice is still in operation today and houses a museum illustrating the history of the pass and the tunnel.

The area has also been the scene of several important historical events. During World War II, the pass was used by many soldiers and fighters trying to cross the border between Italy and Switzerland. In 1950, famous Italian driver Tazio Nuvolari set the speed record over the pass, driving a Ferrari 166 Inter Sport at an average speed of 97 km/h.

POI28-Aosta City

Distance:	11,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	107,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	1,9 nm
True Course:	150°
Magnetic Course:	147°

Go straight on to reach the valley, on whose slopes Aosta rises. Gradually begin the descent.

Aosta is a city located in the Aosta Valley region of Italy, at the foot of the Alps. The city has a population of about 35,000 and is the largest and most important city in the Aosta Valley.

Aosta's history dates back to Roman times, when the city was known as Augusta Praetoria. The city was founded in 25 BC by Emperor Augustus as a military base to defend the crossing of the Alps. During the Roman period, Aosta became an important commercial and cultural center.

Aosta has a strong presence of Roman history and culture. Some of the city's most important Roman sites include the Roman Theater, built in the first century AD, and the Arch of Augustus, a monumental gate erected in 25 BC that marks the entrance to the city. The city also has a Regional Archaeological Museum, which houses an extensive collection of Roman and Celtic artifacts.

In addition to its Roman heritage, Aosta is famous for its medieval architecture and the natural beauty of the Aosta Valley. The city has a number of medieval churches, including the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta, built in the 12th century, and the Church of Sant'Orso, which dates back to the 11th century.

The Aosta Valley is also a popular tourist destination for winter sports enthusiasts. The region is famous for its ski resorts, including Courmayeur, Cervinia, and La Thuile, which offer some of the most beautiful ski slopes in Europe.

LIMW-Aosta

Distance:	1,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	109,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	86°
Magnetic Course:	83°

Turn left and. If necessary, do some maneuvers to lose altitude and prepare to land at Aosta Airport.

Aosta Airport is located about 5 km east of downtown Aosta and serves primarily as a stopover for charter and private flights. It was opened in 1948 and has recently been renovated and expanded to improve its capacity to accommodate large aircraft. The airport is located at an altitude of 1700 feet and has a single asphalt runway 5682 feet long (09/27). The 27 is served by ILS (Freq. 109.75 OBS 268°.

The airport mainly handles charter flights to tourist destinations in the Italian and Swiss Alps, as well as private flights for businessmen and tourists wishing to visit the region. Some of the airlines operating at Aosta Airport include Air Vallée, AlbaStar, and Helvetic Airways.

It has a modern and well-equipped passenger terminal with several areas for check-in, security, and boarding. There are also several facilities available at the airport, including a bar/restaurant, a duty-free store, and a VIP area for upper-class passengers or members of airline loyalty programs.

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