GLIDER TOUR 2026

1) WELCOME

The glider was a cornerstone of early aviation; in France, in particular, **Jean-Marie Le Bris**, a sailor by training, flew the very first glider in **1856**, the first in a long series of flights.
The period from **1890 to 1896** is best remembered for the German **Otto Lilienthal**, who made over **2000** flights in gliders of his own design.

Today, gliding is practiced at one of the **192 clubs** affiliated with the FFVP; with an average fuel consumption of 0 kg per hour, it is one of the few aircraft with an **attractive cost per hour of flight.** Gliding is often described as a great way to learn, both because of the **precision it requires** and the **team spirit that prevails**, not to mention the in-depth knowledge of **meteorological phenomena**.

After more than a decade without a glider tour, the FO department is proud to present this tour to you. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or feedback!

2) HOW DOES A GLIDER FLY?

To fly, gliders primarily rely on three meteorological phenomena:

- **Thermal updrafts:** the sun heats the ground, and the warm air rises; if this air contains water vapor, a cloud forms: **a cumulus!**

- **Slope soaring**: When the wind hits the slope of a hill or mountain, it is deflected upward, creating updrafts.

- **Wave riding**: Under certain conditions of strong winds and terrain, ripples can form and create a series of "waves," sometimes reaching heights of over 15,000 meters!

3) THE WEATHER IN THE SIM

Not all flight simulators are well-suited for gliding, particularly MSFS. That's why we strongly recommend using *Soaring Weather*. Simply place the **SSC-Weather-MSFS_202X** folder in the Community folder. Then, when the game loads, you can select one of the 200 available profiles on the weather page. In the briefing for each stage, we recommend three weather profiles based on your skill level: **Beginner, Intermediate,** and **Advanced.**

GLIDER TOUR 2026

4) TYPES OF TAKEOFF

- **Winch launch**: A cable attached to the glider is wound by a winch at the end of the runway, allowing the glider to gain speed and climb its first 1,000 meters. Thrills guaranteed!
- **Tow launch**: Attached to a tow plane, the glider follows the plane's path until it is released.
- **Self-launch:** For motor gliders only, the glider takes off under engine power; then, to maintain a high glide ratio, the engine retracts.

5) THE 3 TYPES OF FLIGHT

For this flight, you will be required to perform three types of flight, each identified by a color code:

🟢 Local: A local flight departs from and returns to the same airfield. The flight must last at least 30 minutes, and there are one or more requirements that must be met (cf. respective briefings).

🔴 Navigation: A flight consists of a journey from one airport to another, with no specific restrictions.

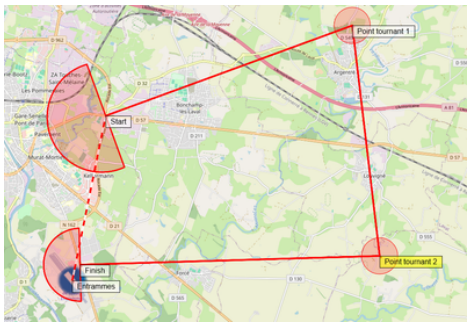
🔵 Circuit : the circuit is the most complex part of this flight; it requires precision and attention to detail.

In each circuit briefing, you will find a .pln file that you can import into the *B21 Task Planner* as well as into the GPS (import via the MSFS menu). Be sure to adhere to the specified horizontal and vertical constraints.

The start: this is where the course "begins" (the timer starts) The entry is on the curved side, and the exit on the flat side.

Each point has a radius, and often a minimum/maximum elevation requirement.

The finish: this is where the course "ends" (the timer stops) Entry is on the flat side, and exit is on the curved side.



MANUEL TOUR PLANNEUR 2026

6) USEFULL LINKS

- Good gliders list for MSFS : https://simsoaring.club/gliders
- Soaring Weather for weather presets : https://flightsim.to/addon/56827/soaring-weather
- B21 Task Planner to see circuits : https://xp-soaring.github.io/tasks/b21_task_planner/
- NB21 Logger for tracking : https://flightsim.to/addon/64628/nb21-logger
- For XPlane : https://xp-soaring.github.io/xplane/index.html
- For FSX : https://xp-soaring.github.io/fsx/index.html

7) RULES

This tour is designed for gliders, only approved aircraft type : Glider - GLID

The use of **IVAO France Tracker** (VERSION 1.3 ONLY DON'T FORGET TO UPDATE) is mandatory for this tour*

*For all macOS users and anyone else who wishes to do so, we are providing an **alternative solution** for this round only: *NB21 Logger* – the generated .isc file must be uploaded to your flight report.

Any pilot who completes this round will be awarded the glider award : 

If you have any questions or need help, feel free to use the **tour's Discord channel** or contact us at **fr-flightops@ivao.aero.**