

COL DE BLEYNE HAS BEEN SAVED!!!

News just in – EDF/EN have finally decided to abandon their project to put 23 windmills each 150m high, along the Col de Bleyne ridge in the South East of France.

For years the site has been one of the best for XC flying with many distance records being set here. Probably the most famous flight was the one done by Luc Armant and David Dagault who flew from Col de Bleyne all the way to Switzerland - 339km !

<http://parapente.ffvl.fr/cfd/liste/2010/vol/20104693>

Not forgetting Luc's 250km out and return in 2012:

<http://parapente.ffvl.fr/cfd/liste/2011/vol/20116670>



The site has now been reopened with a permanent agreement signed by the land owner, M Varrone, his only request is that all pilots please respect a few simple rules:

Please respect the local people and their animals, don't fly or land near sheep and cows.

Please use the official landing field. The owner of the take off is a local farmer, we are very grateful to him and would ask everyone to respect his livelihood. He owns the Escaillon farm between Thorenc and Valderoure which has an excellent farm shop and unlike most other local businesses, is open all day!

<http://www.bienvenue-a-la-ferme.com/provence-alpes-cotes-d-azur/ferme-pedagogique/ferme-ferme-de-l-escaillon-2671-115566>

No wild camping at Col de Bleyne: there is a campsite in the nearby village of St Auban

<http://camping-saintauban.com/?lang=en>

Please frequent the local businesses as much as possible. There are several gites and bed and breakfasts in Thorenc namely La Becassiere, The Eden and Chalet les Genets. There is also a shop in Thorenc and a café/restaurant at the lake near the landing field.

The take off at Col de Bleyne has been saved because the Council of the village of St Auban on the north side of Col de Bleyne refused to give permission for the windmill project. For those of you who don't know St Auban, it has a spectacular gorge in which you can go canyoning with the local outdoor centre who also provide group accommodation:

<http://www.terredeslacs.com/Les-activites/Activites-ete>

<http://www.terredeslacs.com/Gite-Tonic/Descriptif-presentation>

Many, many thanks to everyone who has helped us so much to win this three year long battle, your support has been very much appreciated.

Bons vols

Ruth Jessop

President of the association:

Les Amis des Montagnes d'Azur.

