24th FAI European Gliding Championship

VINON 2027

Vinon-sur-Verdon, France

18 m / 20 m Two-Seater / Open Classes

3-17 JULY 2027

BULLETIN No. 1

OFFICIAL BULLETIN - VERSION 2

1 November 2026

AAVA: Association Aéronautique Verdon Alpilles, host club

Supported by FFVP: Fédération Française de Vol en Planeur (French Gliding Federation)

Competition Director: Philippe Souquet, President of the club

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01 Invitation

Dear fellow Glider Pilots, Competitors and Team Captains,

We are pleased to invite you to the 24th FAI European Gliding Championship at Vinon-sur-Verdon in the 18 m, 20 m Two-Seater and Open Classes.

In Provence, at the gateway to the Southern Alps, Vinon welcomes you to an event combining sporting competition, friendship and a shared passion for gliding. We look forward to welcoming European delegations, their teams and accompanying visitors.

Our aim is to deliver a championship where sporting standards, flight safety and a warm welcome for participants are central priorities. We hope everyone will enjoy the competition to the full and share the spirit of our sport, both on the ground and in the air.

This first bulletin will help you prepare for the championship and your stay. Further information and updates will be published on the championship website.

We look forward to welcoming you to Vinon in 2027!

Roger Eyrier

Sporting Director

02 Vinon and contact details

Located at Vinon-sur-Verdon, where Provence meets the Southern Alps, Vinon airfield has a long gliding tradition. The airfield and its resident club, Association Aéronautique Verdon Alpilles (AAVA), are a meeting place for French and international glider pilots.

Vinon hosted the European Gliding Championships in 1984 and 2013, and the World Gliding Championships in 2006. Many French nationals and international competitions have also contributed to its sporting history. The 2027 championship continues this tradition of international events.

Set between the landscapes of Provence and the Alpine mountains, Vinon provides a distinctive setting for a major European competition. Task planning and Local Procedures will help teams become familiar with the operating environment for the championship.

Accompanying visitors and families will also have the opportunity to discover the villages of Provence and the scenery of the Verdon region.

On-airfield and nearby accommodation options, together with the adopted 2027 rates, are presented in the Accommodation and Stay section. Capacity and booking arrangements will be announced by the organisers.

The airfield

The championship will take place at Vinon-sur-Verdon airfield, using the facilities of Association Aéronautique Verdon Alpilles (AAVA). The airfield has three runways, hangars and an approved maintenance workshop. Facilities for visiting teams are presented in Section 8.

Access to the airfield

Arrival address:

Association Aéronautique Verdon Alpilles (AAVA)

1, lieu-dit l’Aérodrome

83560 Vinon-sur-Verdon

France

Google Maps driving directions to AAVA, Vinon-sur-Verdon airfield:

Google Maps - driving directions to AAVA

Access instructions for vehicles towing glider trailers will be provided later.

Host club contact

For general enquiries about the airfield and its facilities, please contact the AAVA office:

Email: secretariat@vinon-soaring.fr

Telephone: +33 4 92 78 82 90

Championship contacts

Official championship contact: vinonegc2027@gmail.com

Club accommodation: bookings must be made directly with the club, subject to confirmation.

Competition Director: Philippe Souquet, President of the Vinon club.

Sporting Director and Flight and Ground Operations Manager: Roger Eyrier, Head of the Vinon gliding centre.

Roger Eyrier's email: rogeraava@gmail.com

Championship information (Soaring Spot):

https://www.soaringspot.com/fr/24th-european-gliding-championships-vinon-2027/

03 Schedule

Entry and payment deadlines

Date	Milestone
1 January 2027	Entries open
28 February 2027	Preliminary entries close
30 May 2027	Final entries close
30 May 2027	Deadline for receipt of entry fees in full
30 May 2027	Deadline for submission of administrative documents

Programme at Vinon

Date or period in 2027	Programme
From 26 June	Arrival and reception of delegations
26 June to 2 July	Registration, document checks and technical inspections
27 to 29 June	Unofficial practice; aerotows charged at club rates
29 June	First Team Captains' briefing
30 June	Safety briefing for all competitors and Team Captains, before the first official practice flights
30 June to 2 July	Official practice; aerotows charged separately
3 July	Opening ceremony
4 to 16 July	Competition days
17 July	Closing ceremony and prize-giving

Times will be announced later. Team Captains should take these dates into account when planning their delegation's arrival.

Administrative documents must be submitted no later than 30 May 2027. Submission arrangements will be announced later.

04 Organisation and officials

The championship is organised by Association Aéronautique Verdon Alpilles (AAVA), with the support of Fédération Française de Vol en Planeur (FFVP).

Competition Director: Philippe Souquet, President of the Vinon club.

Sporting Director: Roger Eyrier.

Flight and Ground Operations Manager: Roger Eyrier.

Chief Scorer: Jean-Marc Savoie.

Entries Coordinator: to be appointed.

Chief Steward: Mandy Temple (Australia).

Steward: Hynek Chovan (Czech Republic).

Jury President: Marina Vigorito (Italy).

Remote Jury Members: To be announced (TBA).

The organising committee will appoint a Safety Officer for the championship. For greater impartiality, this person will be from outside the Vinon club (AAVA). Their name will be announced following appointment.

05 Delegation entries

Entries will open on 1 January 2027. Preliminary entries will close on 28 February 2027 and final entries on 30 May 2027.

Entries must be submitted by Team Captains or national federations on behalf of their delegation.

Each entry will cover one sailplane and its pilot or crew. In the 20 m Two-Seater Class, both crew members' details must be included in the same entry.

Entry quotas per nation

Class	Quota per nation
18 m	Up to two sailplanes
Open	Up to two sailplanes
20 m Two-Seater	Up to two sailplanes, each with its two-pilot crew, as agreed by the IGC board

Additional entries for reigning champions in the relevant classes are governed by FAI Annex A, paragraph 3.4.3 d. Each 20 m Two-Seater sailplane must have a separate entry.

Entries will be reviewed by authorised members of the organising team. Submission does not constitute final acceptance into the championship.

Delegations may prepare details of their national federation, Team Captain or representative, pilots and entered sailplanes. The documents to prepare are listed in Section 11. Eligibility requirements and event entry limits will be specified in the official documents. The document submission deadline is 30 May 2027.

The championship website is under construction and will be available in mid-December 2026. Entries will open on 1 January 2027; submission arrangements and the entry form link will be published there.

06 Fees and payment

Entry fee: 900 EUR per entered sailplane. In the 20 m Two-Seater Class, this fee covers the entry of both pilots and their sailplane.

The entry fee includes:

- Entry processing, on-site registration, document checks and technical inspections.
- Sporting organisation and task setting.
- Team Captains' briefings, safety and daily briefings, meteorological information and airspace instructions.
- Flight-log processing, scoring and publication of results.
- Provision of official championship documents and data files: bulletins, Local Procedures, turnpoints and airspace.

Aerotows, self-launches, accommodation, meals and any retrieve services are charged separately.

The entry fee also covers sporting organisation, weather briefings and scoring during official practice from 30 June to 2 July 2027. Aerotows on these days are charged separately.

During unofficial practice from 27 to 29 June 2027, aerotows are charged at club rates.

Aerotow charges will be published in Bulletin No. 2.

Self-launch: 20 EUR per launch. Operating procedures will be specified in the Local Procedures.

Entry fees must be received in full no later than 30 May 2027.

Entry fees must be paid by a single bank transfer for each delegation. The payment must be accompanied by a summary of the entered sailplanes or crews and a reference identifying the delegation.

Bank details are given in the entry form.

Entry cancellation and refund conditions will be announced before entries open on 1 January 2027.

07 Accommodation and stay

On-airfield accommodation

The club has two campsites and a limited number of rooms. Availability and accommodation arrangements for the championship will be announced later.

Accommodation rates - Championship 2027

The following on-airfield accommodation rates have been adopted for the 2027 championship, subject to availability.

Accommodation	2027 rate	Unit
AAVA single room	30 EUR	Per room per night
AAVA double room	43 EUR	Per room per night
AAVA VIP room	55 EUR	Per room per night
AAVA caravan	30 EUR	Per accommodation unit per night
Tent, caravan or motorhome for a temporary stay on the East camping area	14 EUR	Per person per night

The camping rate takes account of higher energy costs associated with operating the campsite facilities.

Any discounts, security deposit, bedding arrangements and tourist tax will be specified later.

Campsite and room bookings must be made directly with the club, subject to availability and confirmation.

Accommodation must be paid for separately to the club. Payment arrangements and conditions will be announced later.

Nearby holiday rentals

To find a holiday cottage, apartment or house, consult local tourist offices and rental platforms such as Airbnb, Abritel or Gîtes de France. Focus on Vinon-sur-Verdon and nearby towns, particularly Gréoux-les-Bains and Ginasservis, checking that the property address is within the intended area of approximately 15 km around the airfield.

Bookings must be made directly with the accommodation provider. Check availability for your dates and the road journey to the airfield.

Restaurants and local services

A selection of restaurants is provided within approximately 10 km of the airfield, measured in a straight line. Road journeys may be longer.

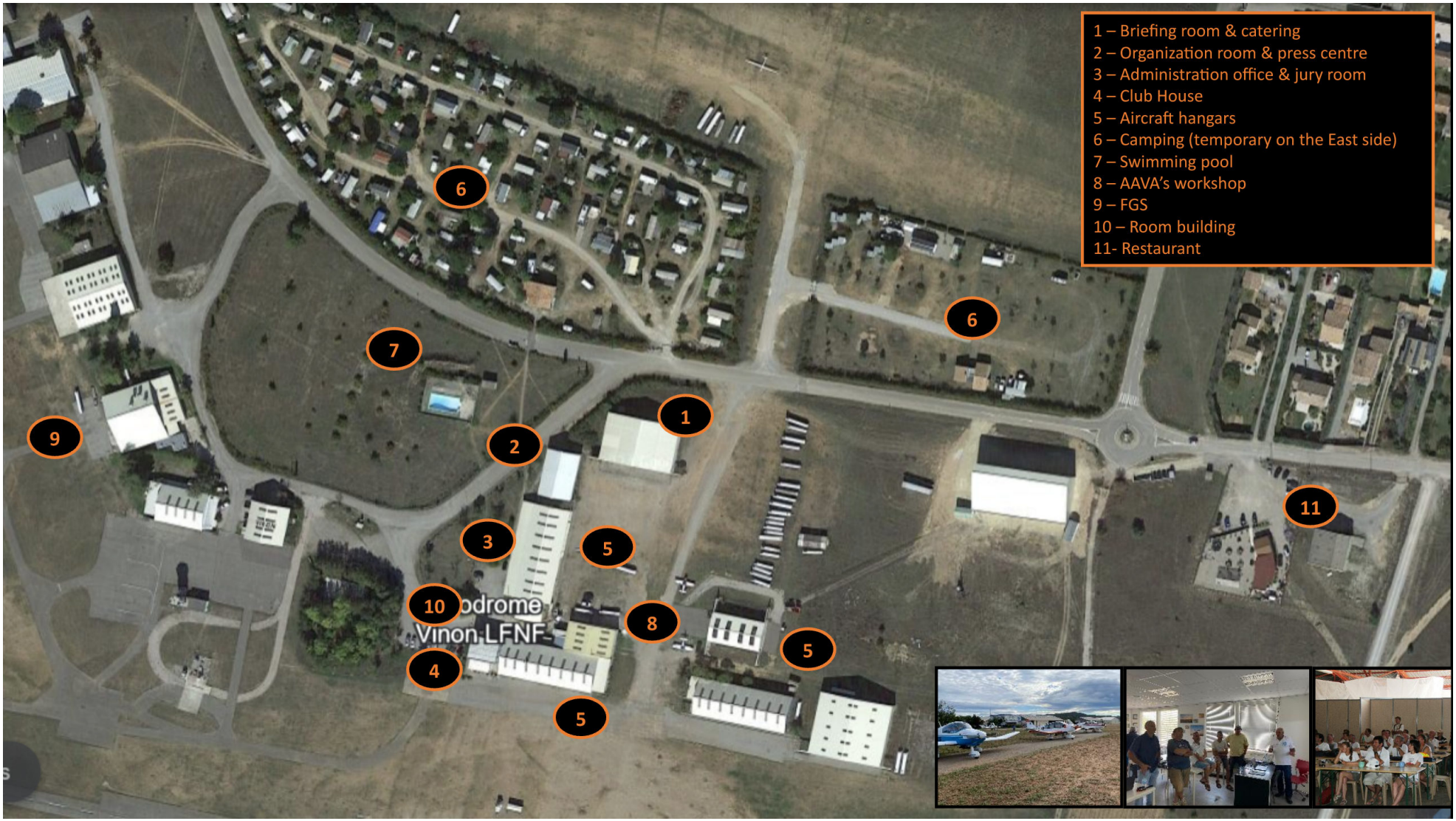
Restaurant and cuisine	Town	Address
Le Planeur chez Chris - restaurant immediately beside the airfield	Vinon-sur-Verdon	919 route de l'Aérodrome
Sulla Pasta - Italian cuisine and pizzas; eat in or takeaway	Vinon-sur-Verdon	80 rue Saint-André
La Dolcezza Di Giuseppe - pizzas and home-made dishes; eat in or takeaway	Vinon-sur-Verdon	130 esplanade Le Cours
Karl and Co - home-made French cuisine; eat in or takeaway	Vinon-sur-Verdon	555 avenue de la République
Le Chemin Neuf - traditional cuisine, pizzas and burgers	Gréoux-les-Bains	4 rue du Chemin Neuf
La Table de Pauline - contemporary bistro and Provençal cuisine	Gréoux-les-Bains	Hôtel Villa Borghèse, avenue des Thermes
La Bergerie Provençale - Mediterranean and regional cuisine	Ginasservis	300 chemin de Saint-Jean

Check opening days and times and book directly with the restaurant, especially for groups.

For shops, local services and transport options, consult the local tourist offices. Their websites provide practical information for your stay. Check current opening times and routes with shops and transport operators.

Any on-airfield catering arrangements during the championship will be announced by the organisers.

08 Airfield facilities and team arrival



09 Spring training and the Southern Alps

Preparing for the championship in spring 2027

National teams are invited to plan a spring 2027 training visit to become familiar with the Southern Alps before the championship. Association Aéronautique Verdon Alpilles (AAVA), at Vinon, and Centre National de Vol en Planeur (CNVP), the French National Gliding Centre at Château-Arnoux-Saint-Auban, are the points of contact for exploring hosting and training opportunities. CNVP contact: info@cnvp.net.

These visits will help teams become familiar with the terrain, local soaring conditions and cross-country flying in the region. Teams are invited to send their preferred dates, team size and requirements well in advance to the championship contact: vinonegc2027@gmail.com. Availability, services, any coaching, accommodation and charges are to be agreed directly with the host centre.

Spring training visits are separate from unofficial practice on 27-29 June and official practice on 30 June-2 July 2027.

The Southern Alps, the championship task area

Championship tasks will be flown in the Southern Alps, a cross-country soaring region well known to international glider pilots. Tasks will be set according to weather conditions and available airspace; the precise task area, restrictions and official files will be issued in the championship documents.

10 Sporting and technical information

Classes and sporting rules

The championship will include the 18 m, 20 m Two-Seater and Open Classes. It will be organised within the framework of the FAI Sporting Code, particularly Section 3 and Annex A for World and Continental Gliding Championships. The applicable editions and the Vinon 2027 Local Procedures will be identified in the official championship documents.

FAI documents are available from the IGC document centre:

https://www.fai.org/page/documents-0

Competition area and navigation files

Championship tasks will be flown in the Southern Alps, as described in Section 9. The task area, available airspace and restrictions will be specified by the organisers.

Links to the official turnpoint and airspace files will be published on the championship website. The files will be available through the document spaces described in Section 12. Version numbers and update dates will be shown so that teams can prepare their navigation equipment.

Sailplane preparation and technical inspections

Details of technical inspections, sailplane configuration, competition numbers and required equipment will be issued before the championship. They will also specify requirements for GNSS flight recorders and, for powered sailplanes, recording engine use.

Safety equipment and any visibility markings required for Vinon 2027 will be specified in the applicable documents, allowing teams to prepare their sailplanes before arrival.

Tracking and safety

Sailplane tracking is mandatory for safety and to monitor airspace compliance. The system and arrangements for its provision and use will be communicated to teams before the championship.

Flight operations and retrieves

The Local Procedures will specify gridding, launching, arrivals and landings, together with ground movement instructions. Aerotow and self-launching procedures, where self-launching is authorised, will also be specified.

Outlanding procedures and retrieve arrangements will be communicated to teams. Provision of tow ropes and the conditions of any retrieve services remain to be specified.

Briefings and daily information

The first Team Captains' briefing will take place on 29 June 2027. The time will be announced later.

The safety briefing will take place on 30 June 2027, before the first official practice flights, for all competing pilots and Team Captains. The time will be announced later.

The programme will set out briefing times and arrangements. Daily information will include weather, tasks, airspace and safety instructions. Official channels for information, results and updates will be announced to delegations.

Mountain competition safety and Local Procedures

The IGC Safety Committee is working on new rules for mountain competitions. Further information will be communicated after their official publication.

The final Local Procedures will be prepared using the new official FAI template, following publication of the 2026 edition of Annex A.

11 Administrative documents

Teams are invited to prepare the documents below. Documents must be valid for the championship period. The document submission deadline is 30 May 2027. The final list and presentation or submission arrangements will be specified in the official championship information. On-site checks remain scheduled for 26 June to 2 July 2027.

For delegations

- Confirmation of entry approved by the relevant National Airsport Control (NAC).
- Appointment of the Team Captain and evidence of authority to represent the delegation.
- Evidence of team members' insurance covering accidents, illness, hospital treatment and repatriation; arrangements for presenting individual or group cover will be specified.

For each competing pilot

- A FAI Sporting Licence valid for 2027.
- A Sailplane Pilot Licence or recognised equivalent, with any validation required for flying in France.
- A valid aviation medical certificate.
- Identification and proof of nationality or residence to verify eligibility to represent the entered nation.
- Evidence of the qualifications and experience required by the applicable sporting rules.
- Evidence of personal insurance covering accidents, illness, hospital treatment and repatriation, unless already provided in the delegation's documents.

In the 20 m Two-Seater Class, personal documents are required for both pilots. Any necessary Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) is handled through a separate confidential procedure; details will be provided later.

For each sailplane

- Certificate of Registration.
- Certificate of Airworthiness or recognised equivalent document.
- Airworthiness Review Certificate (ARC), where applicable.
- Evidence of third-party liability insurance covering participation in the competition.
- Aircraft Radio Station Licence, where applicable.

Only one set of sailplane documents is required for a two-seater crew. Any other documents required for operation and flight must also be available in accordance with the applicable regulations.

Teams using licences or documents issued outside the European framework should check any recognition or validation requirements sufficiently early.

12 Information and updates

The official championship website will bring together the schedule, entry information and links to bulletins, Local Procedures and files useful for team preparation. Its final address will be announced with the championship contact details. The website is under construction and will be available in mid-December 2026.

Links to championship documents and the Soaring Spot page will be published on the championship website.

Bulletins and operational files will be dated and versioned. Teams should use the latest versions.

Team Captains should check the website regularly before arrival and pass relevant information to pilots, team members and accompanying visitors.

For championship enquiries, contact vinonegc2027@gmail.com. Daily information and operational instructions will be communicated at briefings.