



**52nd French Hot Air Balloon Championship
British National Hot Air Balloon Championship**
Marmande – 10 to 16 August 2026



WEATHER CONDITIONS

Beware of high temperatures:

- Make sure to stay hydrated throughout the day. Watch for headaches and dizziness in people (the first signs of dehydration)
- Do not expose yourself unnecessarily to the sun

Beware of the risk of thunderstorm:

- Do not shelter under a tree
- Remember to protect your equipment

FIRE RISK

This risk remains high throughout the area.

If the grass is dry, wet the area underneath your burner.

Keep a fire extinguisher close to the basket.

In the event of any fire starting, even if it is brought under control by the crew, calling 112 is mandatory and an exact location must be provided. Only a firefighter can declare a fire extinguished.

ROAD TRAFFIC

Strictly observe speed limits and traffic lights.

There are many speed cameras in town and around Marmande.

When a vehicle has to stop, it must at least ensure that it does not obstruct traffic.

LAUNCH SITE

Before entering the site to assemble your balloon, you must have the owner's permission, even if the field has already been harvested.

You must ensure that the vegetation is not liable to catch fire (following the exceptional periods of drought).

When being inflated, the balloon must be attached to the towing vehicle.

FLIGHT and POST-FLIGHT

Maintain the required altitude from built-up areas, power lines, animals, etc.

During this hot period, animals are weakened by a lack of water (wildlife and livestock); please take care not to disturb them.

To retrieve the balloon, the vehicle may only enter the site once the balloon has been packed and provided that the owner has not approached the crew and/or pilot while the equipment was being packed.

RTE / ENEDIS (Power lines)

The electrical networks will remain live during flights.

Automatic reclosers will not be deactivated.

The Safety Officer must be notified during the event of contact with a power line. They can contact these organisations to report any problem.

If a power line is on the ground, do not attempt to touch it. Instead, move away from it by very small steps.

DRUGS and DOPING

The use of these substances is prohibited.

Checks may be carried out.

If you take special medicines, please inform the federal doctor.

ALCOHOL

Alcohol consumption is prohibited before flights.

Checks may be carried out.

PARKING

Crews must use their designated areas in the Parc Expo car park.

If a crew uses several vehicles, the other vehicles must be parked in the "PASSENGERS" car park.

All vehicles associated with a balloon must display the number, visible from the outside on both sides of the vehicle. Numbers placed inside the vehicle on tinted windows are not acceptable.

GAS

Follow the designated route for refuelling: wait until a space becomes available. Do not remove the cylinders beforehand.

Do not park too close to the manifolds.

There will be 2 refuelling points.

When refuelling, wear long sleeves, trousers, closed-toe shoes and gloves.

No electronic equipment and/or open flames are permitted.

1 person per cylinder during filling.

SOLAR ECLIPSE (12/08)

To observe this eclipse, it is essential to use glasses specifically designed for this purpose.

Do not use the glasses too far in advance, as this could damage them (the IR filter is sensitive to sunlight).

FARMERS

In the event of a problem with farmers, remain courteous and inform the Safety Officer (+33 6 62 34 71 82) and the officials. We will see how to handle the situation with Mr. Agriculture if necessary.

Benoit Péterlé – Safety Officer