



Airplane

From €40pp

Location

Méribel Altiport

Operation Times

Daily tours are available weather permitting

Early winter when the nights get darker earlier - last flights are around 1600hrs

As the season progresses and days get longer flights can continue up to 1900hrs

Operation

Take off and land from Méribel Altiport

Méribel - has a landing strip that is made of asphalt meaning that in fact it is a proper runway but during the winter months, it is covered in snow. If the snow is not cleared the landing strip is known as an Alti-surface not a runway. When landing and taking off from an Alti-surface the plane needs skis instead of wheels. When landing on snow, planes with skis do not have brakes! Pilots with their skill and experience make the flaps go down by pulling back on the controls, then power down and slide the plane to a stand still.

Duration & Format

5 brief

10, 20 or 30 minutes flying dependant on flight chosen

Restrictions

No real restrictions – but space is restricted as it is a small plane

Suggested Items

Ski Clothing - Jacket, hat, gloves, ski trousers, normal shoes

Numbers

Minimum 2– it is possible for one to fly if the cost for two people is paid for

Maximum 2

Safety / Flying Conditions

Flying conditions are different in summer and winter - Conditions in winter are said to be much calmer due to ground expelling less heat due to snow cover and the fact that the snow is white which stops the ground absorbing the heat from the sun. In the summer, the ground heats up much quicker which produces more thermals in turn creating more turbulence meaning a much bumpier flight.

Equipment Spec.

Mousquetaire D140

Designed for mountain flying this plane is ideal for landing on Glaciers

Airplane flights can also be arranged through Whitetracks in Courchevel. There has been a flying surface in Courchevel since 1953. Originally the runway was a grass field that went across the mountain not down. It wasn't until the 1992 Albertville Winter Olympics that the landing strip as it stands today was built. Unlike Méribel it is a runway that is true to its name during the winter months the asphalt landing strip is cleared firstly by a plough and then swept clear in order to remove any access snow that the plough can not remove.

At 2000m the runway is officially the highest runway in Europe it is 535m long by 40m wide and slopes downwards or upwards depending on whether you are taking off or landing.