

 **Accurate
FRANCE**

for

Microsoft
**Flight
Simulator
2020**

and

Microsoft
**Flight
Simulator
2024**



3D Terrain Elevation

High Resolution **Lidar Data**

Massifs du Mont-Blanc

Aravis

Bornes

BETWEEN THE ARAVIS AND LAKE ANNECY, A LANDSCAPE TO DISCOVER

Overlooking the shores of Lake Annecy and the valleys of Haute-Savoie, the Aravis range and the Bornes massif offer one of the most distinctive pre-alpine landscapes in the French Alps.

From the sharp ridges of the Aravis range to the alpine pastures of the Glières plateau, and on to the peaks watching over Lake Annecy, this area holds a remarkable diversity of terrain: limestone cliffs, alpine meadows, forests and deep valleys.

A land of mountaineering and hiking since time immemorial, this pre-alpine massif has also become a hub for mountain flying, thanks to its close proximity to Lake Annecy.

This region holds a special place in mountain flying in Haute-Savoie, thanks to its proximity to the Annecy-Haute-Savoie-Mont-Blanc flying club and the diversity of its terrain, ranging from plains to high mountains.

With Massifs du Mont-Blanc 02 - « Aravis, Bornes », discover these landscapes through a new generation of terrain built from official IGN LiDAR HD data — Open Licence / Open Data Licence 2.0.



Pointe Percée in all its glory - Aravis range — Accurate France - 3D Terrain Elevation — MSFS 2024

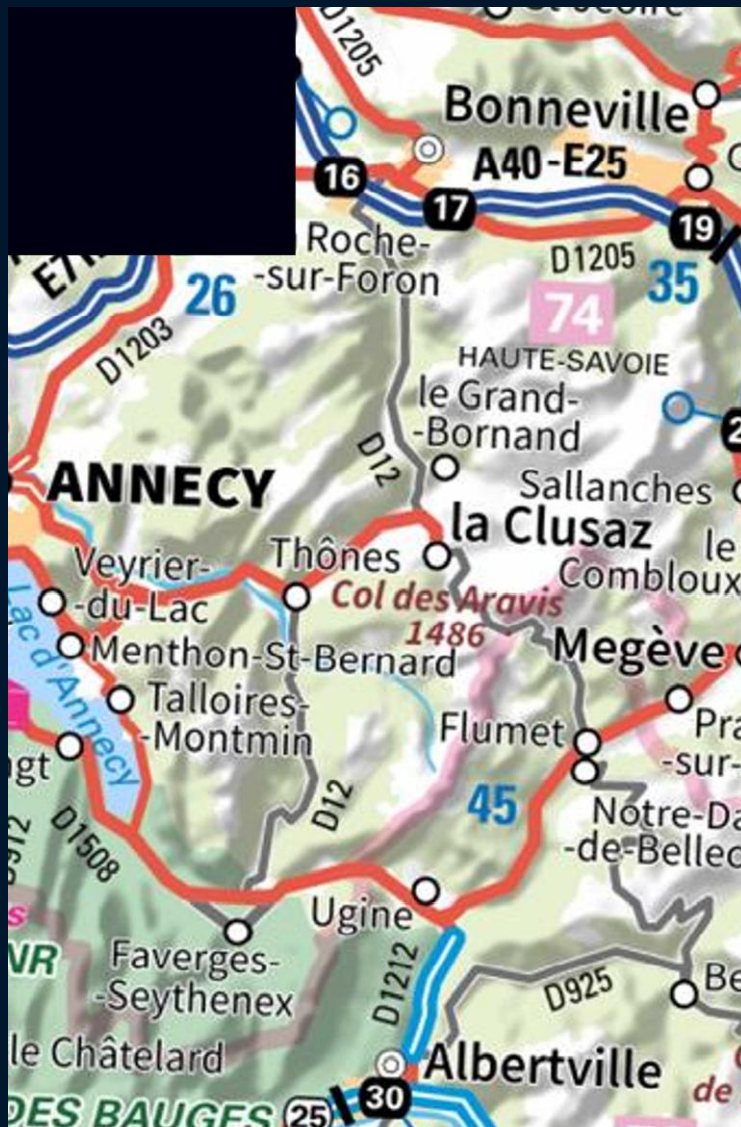
AN EXCEPTIONAL REGION

The product covers two emblematic massifs of the Haute-Savoie Pre-Alps, down to the Lake Annecy basin:

- Aravis Massif
- Bornes Massif

This selection represents one of the most characteristic pre-alpine areas of Haute-Savoie. It notably includes:

- The Aravis range and its limestone ridges;
- The Glières plateau;
- The peaks overlooking Lake Annecy;
- The Grand-Bornand and La Clusaz valleys;
- The alpine pastures and forests of the Bornes massif;
- The gorges and deep valleys of the region;
- La Tournette and Mont Parmelan.



Product coverage area — Extract from IGN Scan 1000 map

WHEN THE MOUNTAIN BECOMES A MOUNTAIN AGAIN

Microsoft Flight Simulator offers a remarkably detailed rendering of our planet on a global scale.

However, the most complex terrain requires particularly precise elevation data to reveal its full richness.

In certain mountainous regions, native data can soften some of the terrain's characteristic details:

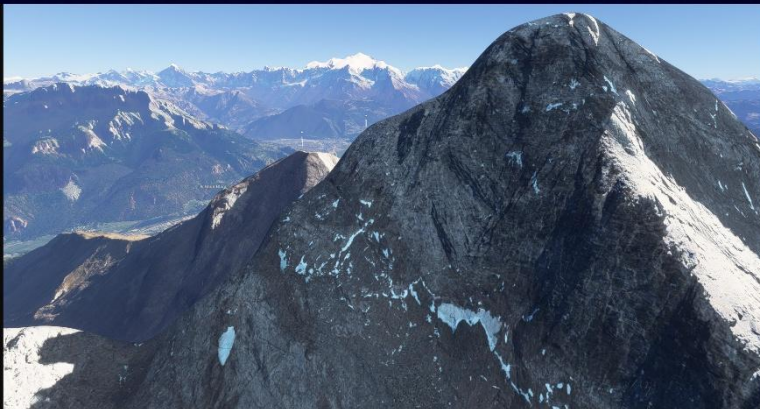
- Softened limestone ridges;
- Less pronounced cliffs;
- Simplified valleys;
- Smoothed-out alpine pastures and rugged terrain;
- Less visible geological structures.

These differences often go unnoticed in gentler terrain, but become particularly clear in areas of limestone pre-alps such as the Aravis.

The Aravis range is probably one of the best examples of this issue.

Our goal is simple: to render the terrain exactly as it truly is.

Microsoft
Flight Simulator 2024



Accurate
FRANCE

3D Terrain Elevation
High Resolution Lidar Data

Massifs du Mont-Blanc

Aravis Bornes



THE POWER OF LIDAR HD

To produce this terrain, we use official LiDAR HD data from the French national mapping agency (IGN).

LiDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) is an airborne laser mapping technology that measures terrain with centimetre-level precision.

Millions of laser pulses are emitted from an aircraft to reconstruct the real shape of the terrain with exceptional accuracy.

Today, LiDAR HD is one of the most precise elevation mapping methods available. This precision makes it possible to render:

- The limestone ridges and cliffs of the Aravis;
- The alpine pastures of the Bornes massif;
- Glacial valleys and gorges;
- Scree slopes and rocky areas;
- Slope breaks;
- Mountain ridges and arêtes;
- Small-scale topographic details.

The result is immediately visible during VFR flights, mountain approaches, or low-altitude flights around Lake Annecy.

Numerous POIs have been added to help you locate your flights more precisely, with optional aids you can activate to inform you throughout your flight.



MICROSOFT FLIGHT SIMULATOR 2024: THE TERRAIN COMES TO LIFE

The product is fully compatible with both Microsoft Flight Simulator 2020 and Microsoft Flight Simulator 2024.

A dedicated MSFS 2020 version is included so all users can benefit from the improved terrain. However, only Microsoft Flight Simulator 2024 fully unlocks the potential of LiDAR HD data.

Thanks to its new procedural terrain generation technology, the simulator makes far greater use of the information contained in high-resolution elevation models.

Limestone ridges, alpine pastures, gorges and pre-alpine terrain gain considerably in realism as a result.

The iconic peaks of the Aravis and Bornes regain a spectacular visual presence that transforms the mountain flying experience.

For this reason, although compatible with both platforms, this product reveals its full visual potential under Microsoft Flight Simulator 2024.



Tête du Parmelan – Bornes Massif — Accurate France - Massifs du Mont-Blanc 02 — MSFS 2024



Comparison with MSFS 2020

View of the Aravis – « Pointe Percée » — MSFS 2020



Comparison with MSFS 2020

View of the Aravis – « Pointe Percée » — Accurate France - Massifs du Mont-Blanc 02

MOUNTAIN FLYING

The Bornes and Aravis massifs, together with their proximity to Lake Annecy, make this area a prime destination for mountain flying in the French Pre-Alps.

The valleys of Grand-Bornand, La Clusaz and Thônes, as well as the Col des Aravis area, have long welcomed pilots training in the specific techniques of flying in an alpine environment.

Mountain flying calls for specific knowledge, including:

- Managing updrafts and downdrafts;
- Reading the terrain;
- Wind effects;
- High-altitude approaches;
- Use of mountain airstrips (altisurfaces and altiports).

Below are several links to organisations, flying clubs and specialised schools where you can learn more about this fascinating field:

• [BAS ULM FFPLUM — Landing site map](#)

For detailed information sheets on glaciers authorised for landing.

• [Aéroclub du Dauphiné — Mont-Blanc Flight Certificate](#)

• [Aéroclub du Dauphiné — Mountain Flying Qualification](#)

• [Aéroclub d'Annecy — Mountain Flying](#)

• [AFPM — Regulations](#)

• [ATO-AFPM — Mountain Flying Instructions](#)



La Pointe Blanche – Bornes Massif — Accurate France - Massifs du Mont-Blanc 02 — MSFS 2024

BUILT TO EVOLVE

All our products are generated using a processing pipeline and software tools developed specifically in-house.

This proprietary technology allows us to make the most of LiDAR HD data and continuously improve our production methods.

We closely follow developments in Microsoft Flight Simulator as well as new possibilities offered by the official SDK.

Whenever new features or generation techniques become available, we systematically re-evaluate our products to identify potential improvements.

Our goal is simple: to offer our users the best possible representation of the terrain.

All updates resulting from improvements to our generation processes, SDK developments, or optimisations of our production tools will be provided free of charge to customers who have purchased the relevant product.

This commitment ensures that your investment continues to benefit from ongoing progress in simulation and terrain representation.



The Mont-Blanc massif in the background of the Aravis range — Accurate France - Massifs du Mont-Blanc 02 — MSFS 2024

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is LiDAR HD?

LiDAR HD is the latest generation of high-precision elevation data, produced from airborne laser surveys. This technology can measure terrain with a precision of just a few centimetres.

Why does the terrain look more realistic?

Thanks to its exceptional precision, LiDAR HD renders limestone ridges, alpine pastures, gorges and other natural terrain features far more faithfully. The Pre-Alps regain their true character and geological complexity.

What are the benefits for VFR flying?

The terrain becomes easier to read, natural landmarks are better defined, and the landscapes around Lake Annecy are closer to reality. Low-altitude flights gain considerably in immersion.

Is this product compatible with Microsoft Flight Simulator 2020 and 2024?

Yes. A version compatible with Microsoft Flight Simulator 2020 is included. However, Microsoft Flight Simulator 2024 makes greater use of the high-resolution data and delivers the best visual result.

What is the impact on performance?

In the vast majority of cases, the impact on FPS remains comparable to the simulator's native areas. Depending on your setup, it may help to reduce Terrain LOD from 400 to 300 to limit occasional micro-stutters. A PC configuration with more RAM is always welcome for MSFS 2024.

Are loading times longer?

Yes. Because more data needs to be loaded, flight start-up times are generally longer than with native data. On a mid-range configuration, expect around 60 to 90 seconds additional at initial load.

Do products come with free updates?

Yes. All improvements related to our generation tools or to Microsoft Flight Simulator SDK developments will be provided free of charge to customers of the relevant product.

Thank you for your trust.



Accurate France

3D Terrain Elevation — High Resolution LiDAR Data

Massifs du Mont-Blanc

Aravis • Bornes

IGN - Open Data 2.0

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Coming soon

Massifs des Pyrénées Centrales

Vignemale Massif – Néouvielle Massif – Mont Perdu Massif

Balaïtous Massif

