

FLIGHT BOOK



NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM OF FRANCE

Aéroport de Paris – Le Bourget
3, esplanade de l’Air et de l’Espace
93 350 Le Bourget
01 49 92 70 00 / 7062
www.museeairespace.fr

OPENING HOURS

The museum is open all year from Tuesday to Sunday except on January 1st and December 25th:
- from 10am to 5pm, from October 1st to March 31st;
- from 10am to 6pm, from April 1st to September 30th.
Free entry on the first Sunday of each month.

Download the “Musée de l’Air et de l’Espace” app on your smartphone to enjoy exclusive content during your visit!



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AIR +
ESPACE
AÉROPORT PARIS – LE BOURGET



EMBARK ON A JOURNEY THROUGH AIR AND SPACE CONQUEST HISTORY

PIONEERS HALL

The “Pioneers of the air” exhibition offers a journey through time, from the first ascent in a balloon to aviation. Rare items, wooden and canvas aircraft, wicker airship baskets and ancestral kites bear witness to the time of trial and error and the first spectacular flights.

GREAT WAR HALL

The “Great War” exhibition illustrates the development of military aviation, from its early beginnings in 1914 to its affirmation as a weapon in its own right. It shows the growing role of aviators and how air superiority became a critical issue for belligerents.

SPACE HALL

This hall tells the story of the conquest of space and the use of space by human beings, from the first French rockets to the conquest of the Moon and the exploration of the solar system. Probes, satellites and other space suits provide a better understanding of this formidable adventure.

INTERWAR HALL

This place evokes the golden age of Le Bourget airport, witness to the era of the great North Atlantic raids of the 1930s, but also the beginnings of commercial and aerobatics. Mail transport, passenger transport, long-distance races and speed competitions are all evoked by these vintage machines.

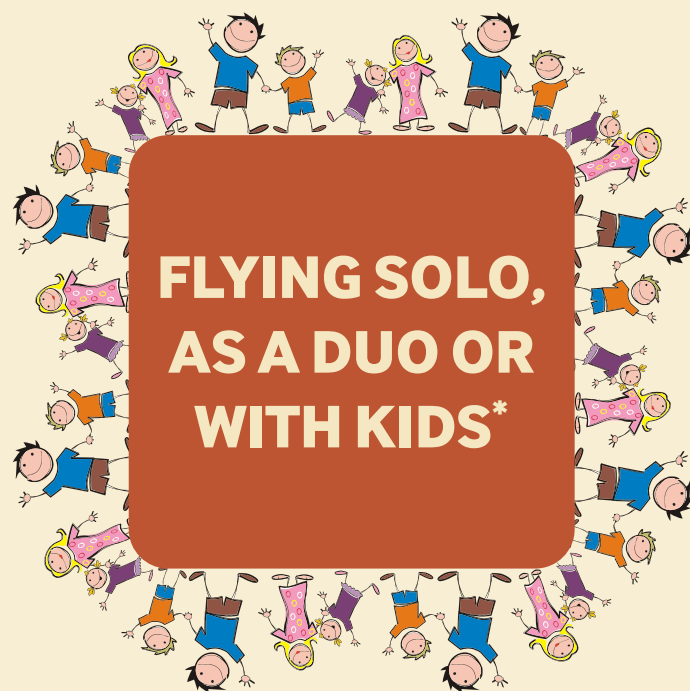
HELICOPTER HALL

This area traces the path taken from the first tests by Etienne Oehmichen to the high mountain rescue helicopters. Numerous gyrocopters and military helicopters show the range of missions and uses of rotary wings.

COCARDE HALL

FRENCH MILITARY AVIATION

The aircraft, equipment and documents on display present the French Air Force from the post-World War II era to the present day, from the first jet aircraft to the use of drones. Numerous films illustrate the missions, professions and capabilities of the modern air force.



**FLYING SOLO,
AS A DUO OR
WITH KIDS***

PLANETARIUM



Do you know the circumference of the Sun, how long it takes to travel to Mars, the names of the constellations? Can you read the map of the sky, locate the planets or the Milky Way? To answer these questions, come to the planetarium for a cloudless and light pollution-free journey through the starry sky, and let a specialist guide you in the discovery of the mysteries of our so familiar yet so mysterious universe.

PROTOTYPE HALL

Recognisable from their metallic livery, the aircraft on display show the technological profusion of the postwar and “jet” eras, from the first French jet aircraft to the vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) prototype aircraft.

CONCORDE HALL

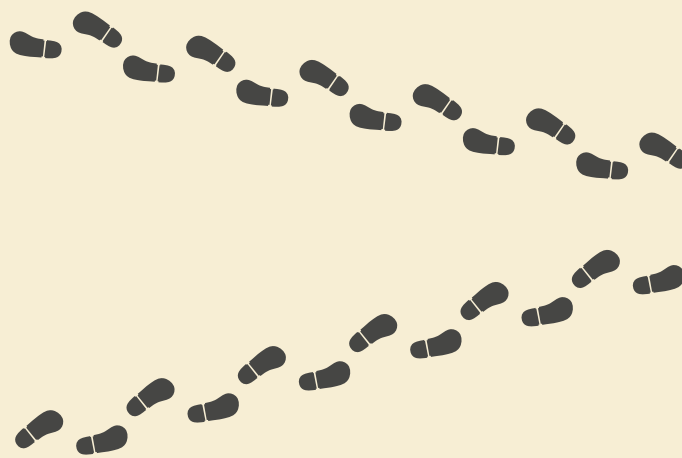
The only place in the world where you can visit two Concorde, the legendary French-British supersonic airliner! An exhibition recalls the extraordinary observation of a solar eclipse in 1973 by the Concorde prototype.

WORLD WAR II HALL

The aircraft on display bear witness to the air battles of the Second World War. American or French fighters, flying bombs or parachute drops, they show the use of the air force by the different participants during World War II.

NORMANDIE-NIEMEN HALL

This commemorative space tells the story of the Normandie-Niemen Fighter Group and its pilots who fought the Germans alongside the Soviets during the Second World War. Decorations, uniforms and simple everyday objects bring to life the adventure of this famous unit.



UP TO SPACE EXHIBITION



The special exhibition “Up to Space” allows visitors to experience astronautics digitally and in real life. Through numerous hands-on experiments, original objects and well-founded information about space, the exhibition provides insight into space travel and expert knowledge about life and work onboard the ISS. Embark on a real space mission!

TEACHING KITS



The museum offers teaching kits that you can borrow for free at the ticket office. Both entertaining and educational, they are meant to enhance family visits and make the aerospace field accessible to all. The kits are built around 5 themes : the general one, the creative one, the “eagle eye” one, animals and space. Each kit revolves around three games or creative activities and enables its users to increase their knowledge of the museum’s collections by making them think, observe and imagine.
Limited availability (1-2 per theme)

* Activities to be booked at the desk on the day of your visit. Current rates apply. Subject to availability.



PAUL BERT PRESSURE CHAMBER

PIONEERS HALL

But what on earth could this device be used for? Quantum teleportation, fitting room, space capsule project? Finding out more about this object will take your breath away.

FABRE HYDRO-AEROPLANE

PIONEERS HALL

Meet in front of the Fabre, the first seaplane in history. Look at its engine, its wings! But in which direction does it fly? A clue: the (fearless) pilot’s seat!

ZEPPELIN LZ113 REAR GONDOLA

GREAT WAR HALL

Meet in front of the gondola of the Zeppelin LZ113. It looks big, but did you know that the size of the whole airship was close to the size of the air terminal? It would fit inside, but not by much!

FARMAN F-60 GOLIATH FUSELAGE

INTERWAR HALL

Would you have liked to fly from Le Bourget airport in the 1920s? Go and see the Farman Goliath, and imagine yourself in the very relative comfort of this aircraft for a 2½ hour flight to London. Take-off!

FOCKE-ACHGELIS Fa 330

HELICOPTER HALL

Do you know the Fa 330? A genuine long-range lookout, this engineless rotary-wing observation platform was towed by German submarines during the Second World War - with the pilot suffering an unenviable fate if attacked.

MEDIA AND GAMES LIBRARY



Embedded in the visitor’s path across the museum, the media and games library invites you to travel to a new world of air and space knowledge. Intended for families, students and researchers, it offers a spacious reading room, a games centre and a specific library for research. Several databases allow you to access the latest publications from the specialist press or explore the career paths of the aeronautics industry. In the « On board » area, you can even consult museum resources from the seat of an Airbus A380 !

PLANÈTE PILOTE



With Planète Pilote, an edutainment space dedicated to 6–12-year-olds, the museum offers children, parents and accompanying adults a unique experience. For one hour, they can slip into the shoes of a pilot, an astronaut, a traveller, a steward or a stewardess. They can thus enter the cockpit of a commercial or passenger aircraft, observe airport activity from a control tower or discover the planets of the solar system to learn about the world of aeronautics and aerospace by experiencing it.

DOUGLAS AD-4NA SKYRAIDER

WORLD WAR II HALL

Space problems also exist on aircraft carriers. Admire the ingenious solution found to stow the *Skyraider* and its massive wingspan.

DASSAULT MIRAGE F-1 C

COCARDE HALL, FRENCH MILITARY AVIATION

Would you like to see through the metal or canvas fuselage of our aircraft? Then the Mirage F-1C is for you, to penetrate the secrets of a fighter plane, where almost all the space is used.

SNECMA C-400P2 ATAR VOLANT

PROTOTYPE HALL

A prototype is for experimenting, sometimes even in very surprising configurations. Go to the ATAR Volant (“Flying ATAR”) and look at the pilot’s seat. Would you be willing to embark on a flight in it?

TRENT-900 TURBOJET ENGINE

CONCORDE HALL

How big can an aircraft engine get? To find out, visit the Trent-900, the engine powering the Airbus A380, whose size is close to the fuselage of some aircraft.

CANADAIR CL-215

TARMAC

You all know its name, but only in part. It is yellow and puts out the fires. It often makes the headlines in summer. Did you recognise it?

SPACE FOOD

SPACE HALL

Feeling hungry? Let yourself be tempted by a space snack and discover what astronauts can eat. On the menu: orange juice, macadamia nuts and strawberry jam!



Take a gourmet break...

L'HÉLICE CAFÉ

L’Hélice Café, managed by Monument Café, offers a buffet of hot dishes served in cast iron casseroles and starters and desserts served in shot glasses. The dishes are made from local seasonal products, and are 95% home-made. A stopover at L’Hélice Café will give you the opportunity to eat while enjoying a breathtaking view of the museum’s tarmac, and especially on the Boeing 747!

Before you leave...

THE GIFT SHOP

The gift shop offers you items of aviation history: mock-ups, aeronautical and aerospace scale models, books and specialised magazines, collectors’ items, limited editions, games, aeronautical gadgets... From pilots to enthusiasts, families and children, everyone will find something to take home with them to remember their visit.

A QUICK PEEK INTO HISTORY...

The idea of an aeronautical conservatory appeared as soon as the armistice of 1918. This innovative project was proposed to the Ministry of War by Albert Caquot, director of the technical section of aeronautics. The agreement was given on 26 December 1918.

From 1919, the first “aeronautical collections” were housed in a hangar at the Voisin factory in Issy-les-Moulineaux. During the winter of 1919, the collected items were exhibited at the 6th International Aeronautical Exhibition at the Grand Palais. On 23 November 1921, the aeronautical museum was inaugurated in Chalais-Meudon in a former aerostatic workshop built during the Great War.

Due to a lack of space, part of the collections were moved in 1936 to Paris, on Boulevard Victor (15th arrondissement). The name “Musée de l’Air” was chosen. Although it closed its doors to visitors, the Chalais-Meudon site was kept for the museum’s reserves.

Closed in September 1939 and partially destroyed in June 1940, the hall on Boulevard Victor was rebuilt and assigned to other army departments in 1945. The collections on display in Paris were returned to Chalais-Meudon. It was not until 1961 that they were once again accessible to the public on a regular basis.

In 1973, with the creation of the new Paris-Charles-de-Gaulle airport, the Minister of the Armed Forces decided to regroup the museum’s collections on the site of Le Bourget airport, whose traffic was scheduled to decrease. On 19 October, the Concorde prototype 001 F-WTSS was handed over to the Musée de l’Air.

On 27 May 1975, the first exhibition hall was inaugurated on the Le Bourget site. From this date onwards, the museum expanded at the rate of one hall opening every two years until 1983 when the “Space” Hall was inaugurated, retracing the history of the conquest of space. The museum became the “Air and Space Museum”.

Dedicated to the history of aeronautics from its origins to 1918, the Grande Galerie was inaugurated in 1987 in the historic terminal built by Georges Labro in 1937. Completely renovated in its Art Deco architecture, the new Grande Galerie was unveiled after five years of work. on the occasion of the museum’s centenary on 9 December 2019.



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THE BEST THINGS TO SEE

THE ABSOLUTE MUST-SEE DURING YOUR VISIT TO THE MUSEUM

1 CLOCK: CHARLES AND ROBERT’S BALLOON, KNOWN AS “CHARLIÈRE”



Grande Galerie / Pioneers Hall
An example of “balloon mania” at the end of the 18th century

2 DUPUY-DE-LÔME AIRSHIP BASKET



Grande Galerie / Pioneers Hall
A 19th century arm-powered airship basket

3 SANTOS-DUMONT DEMOISELLE



Grande Galerie / Pioneers Hall
One of the first mass-produced airplanes

4 OIL ON CANVAS: VOISIN BROTHERS’ WORKSHOP IN BILLANCOURT



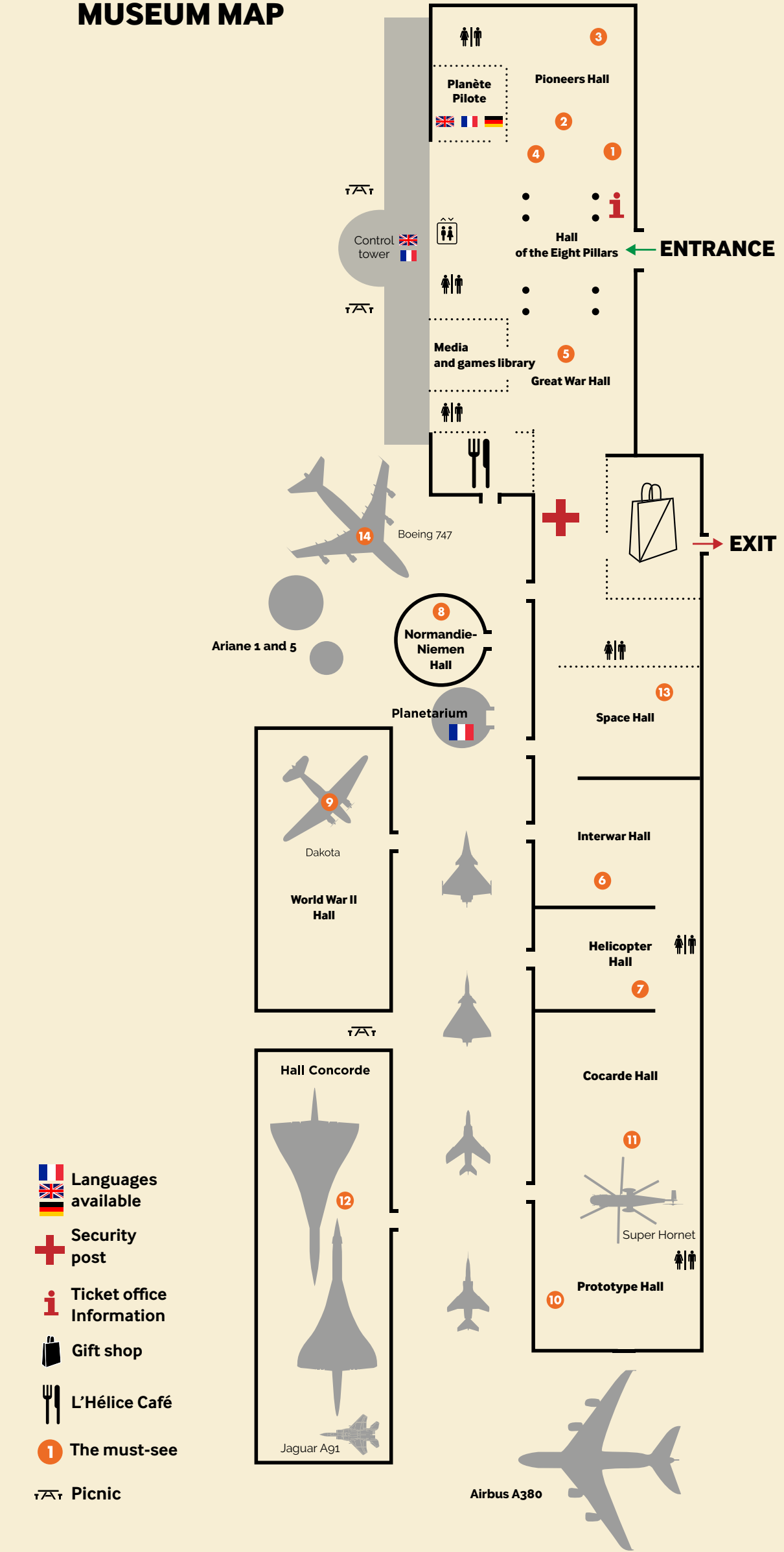
Grande Galerie / Pioneers Hall
A painting depicting aviation’s Belle Époque

5 NIEUPORT XI BÉBÉ



Grande Galerie / Great War Hall
An aircraft emblematic of the World War I fighters

MUSEUM MAP



6 BRÉGUET XIX TF SUPER BIDON POINT D’INTERROGATION



Interwar Hall
The first aircraft to fly east-west from Paris to New York

7 PESCARA HELICOPTER



Helicopter Hall
The beginnings of the helicopter

8 YAKOVLEV YAK-3



Normandie-Niemen Hall
The last existing original aircraft of the Normandie-Niemen Fighter Group

9 DOUGLAS C-47 SKYTRAIN



World War II Hall
One of the most produced aircraft in history

10 DASSAULT MYSTÈRE IV A-01



Prototype Hall
The first French fighter to break the sound barrier

11 DASSAULT MIRAGE 2000-01



Cocarde Hall, French military aviation
The prototype of one of the current French Air and Space Force aircraft

12 CONCORDE F-WTSS AND CONCORDE F-BTSD



Concorde Hall
The 001 prototype of the legendary supersonic airliner and the record-breaking Concorde Sierra Delta

13 SOYUZ T-6 CAPSULE



Space Hall
A genuine spaceship and one of the few objects to return from space

14 BOEING 747-128



Tarmac
The Jumbo Jet, the aircraft that revolutionised air transport