**L’Envol des Pionniers : a Legendary Site at Toulouse-Montaudran, on the Piste des Géants**

It was here, on the very site of L'Envol des Pionniers that the great love story between Toulouse and airplanes began. It was between 1918 and 1933 that the planes of "La Ligne" took off from here to Africa and South America.

One hundred years ago, Pierre Georges Latécoère said: "I did all the calculations again, the project is unachievable; there is only one thing left to do: achieve it!”

And they did it! One hundred years after its first flight, rediscover the fabulous epic of L’Aéropostale in its historic buildings. L’Aéropostale was a crazy challenge that gathered hundreds of men and women in an incredible adventure around MERMOZ, GUILLAUMET, ST EXUPERY....!

What adventure? Nothing less than crossing a desert, an ocean and the second highest mountain in the world when no plane could do it....

The mail had to get through, the people had to surpass themselves!

L’Envol des Pionniers: **this is where it all began. This is where the story continues.**

**THE PERMANENT EXHIBITION**

Relive **the great moments of the beginning of civil aviation** in Toulouse and its pioneers with a succession of human stories: Lignes Aériennes Latécoère and Compagnie Générale Aéropostale which contributed to the birth of Air France. **Discover an adventure that is both human and technological!**

You can continue your exploration in our hangar where a **life-size replica of the Salmson 2A2**, the first aircraft used on the Latécoère Airlines to transport airmail, is on display.

**THE TEAM OF PRESENTERS IN PERIOD COSTUME** to immerse you at the heart of the 1920s at the beginnings of airmail transport. **Come to meet the pioneers of aviation** in Toulouse **through period characters**: pilots, mechanics, passengers, canvas workers.

**THE NEW EXHIBITION EVENT: “Air France, a Story of Elegance"**

L’Envol L'Envol des Pionniers presents the temporary exhibition **"Air France, a Story of Elegance".** An invitation to travel to the heart of the history of our national airline, to **rediscover the strong relationship that has always bound Toulouse to the airline**, in historic buildings operated by Air France for 70 years.

Find out how Air France designed its **travel experience** over the years down to the smallest detail, promoting **the French lifestyle** to destinations around the world.

Immersive sets, rare objects, haute couture uniforms and models of legendary aircraft, etc.. **Dive into the world of Air France** and its timeless values!

**In Addition – Only in French:**

* **The Family Workshop:** with a presenter in period costume, plunge into the heart of Toulouse in 1930! A family immersion in the daily life of the pioneers of L’Aéropostale. The family workshop invites you to play the role of "journalists for a day" here to cover the preparations for the first commercial plane crossing of the South Atlantic. To succeed in the challenge, you will have to work together and carry out several missions as the pioneers of Aeropostale did (mail sorting, telegram decoding, map observation, morse communication transmission, puzzle reconstruction and map observation...) using vintage tools and objects. As your missions progress, you will also discover three iconic spaces: Didier Daurat's office, the sorting wagon, La Ligne workshop.
* **The Air France Guided Tour:** accompanied by a guide, enter the world of this iconic company and discover its key stages under the banner of elegance. In the historic buildings operated by Air France for 70 years, explore the exhibition "Air France: a Story of Elegance" from another angle. With unusual stories that will make you smile, dive behind the scenes of several decades of history.

**For Groups (from 20 people) – possible in English or Spanish:**

* **The Runway Tour:** avec un animateur en tenue d’époque, découvrez l’ensemble du site de Montaudran, du bureau de l’inflexible Didier Daurat au wagon postal authentique des années 30. Une visite guidée qui va vous surprendre.

**L’Envol des Pionniers**6 Rue Jacqueline Auriol, 31400 Toulouse - **05.67.22.23.24**

**Length of Visit:** 2 hours 30 mins. (average visit time)

**Price Information:** Free for children under 6 years

Check pricing on the website [lenvol-des-pionniers.com](https://www.lenvol-des-pionniers.com/). Save time by booking your tickets on line.

Website accessible to people with disabilities (Tourisme & Handicap registered).

**How To Get There?**

**Bike**With the new VélôToulouse service. Classic bikes and electric bikes are at your disposal. You can book using the dedicated app.

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT
Bus Lineo 8:** Piste des Géants stop
**Bus 23:** the city centre or the Rangueil metro station(line B), Latécoère or Jardins De La Ligne stops
**Bus** **80 and 27:** from the Rangueil metro station(line B), Latécoère stop

**Train:
By TER:** Take the **Toulouse – Carcassonne Narbonne** line, **Gare de Montaudran stop.** Travel Time: 5 mins. from Gare Toulouse Matabiau [Further Information](https://www.sncf.com/fr)

**CAR**From the Toulouse ringroad, exit 20 Complexe Scientifique

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