

Lots of pilots dream of flying in the desert, at least once in their lifetime. But in the meantime, it's the desert that has flown to us...
Photo : Sascha Burkhardt

WEATHER: WHEN THE DESERT PAYS US A VISIT.



Date: 3/4/2014
Local: 19:30
UTC: 17:30

Weather Forecast

- High Resolution
- Regional
- Meteo/Dust Grams
- Local Forecast

Dust

- Med-Europe
- North Atlantic
- Central Asia
- Arabian Gulf (N)

Wave Forecast

- Global
- North Atlantic
- Mediterranean
- Aegean Sea
- Adriatic Sea
- Black Sea
- Cyclades

Air Quality Forecast

- Mediterranean

Interactive Forecast (Weather & Wave)

- Europe
- Mediterranean

Current Weather

- Satellite Images
- Surface Observations
- Airport Observations
- Radar

Dust Forecast

SKIRON Model Characteristics

Select Domain:

- Mediterranean-Europe
- North Atlantic
- Central Asia

Select Field:

- Dust Concentration
- Dust Load
- Dust deposition(Dry)
- Dust deposition(Wet)
- MSL Pres.&Precip.
- T&GH at 850hPa

Select Period

(in UTC):

(Time in Greece: UTC +03:00)

- 03/04/2014 at 00:00
- 03/04/2014 at 06:00
- 03/04/2014 at 12:00
- 03/04/2014 at 18:00
- 04/04/2014 at 00:00
- 04/04/2014 at 06:00
- 04/04/2014 at 12:00
- 04/04/2014 at 18:00
- 05/04/2014 at 00:00
- 05/04/2014 at 06:00
- 05/04/2014 at 12:00
- 05/04/2014 at 18:00
- 06/04/2014 at 00:00

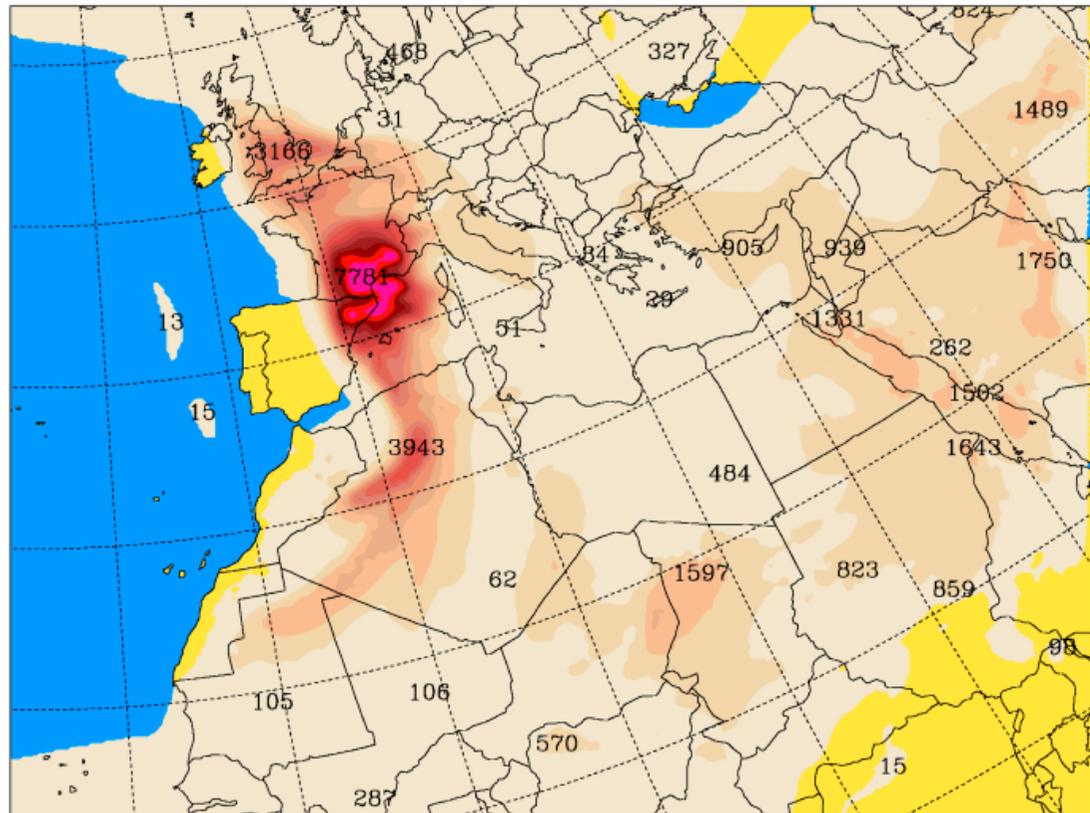
Animate

University of Athens (AM&WFG)

SKIRON Forecast

Total Dust Load (mgr/m²)

Thu 03.04.14 at 06 UTC



Weather forecasting showing dust in the air calculated by Athens University.

For nearly a week, large quantities of sand from the Sahara have been brought to the skies above Europe by air currents from the South. It's a pretty normal phenomenon but, this time, the sand has been a killjoy for flying as well. Even if at the beginning of the week, the weather forecasters promised thermals for many regions, the sand in the atmosphere greatly reduced the amount of sunshine.

In fact, the models used for weather forecasting don't take into account this type of pollution which, all the same, can darken the sky significantly and limit the thermals, spoiling a day which looked promising for the first big XCs...

Dust or no dust, today is toast in France as a big front is sweeping across the country.

Two services which warn about the presence of dust:

Prev'air (France)

http://www.prevoir.org/fr/prevision_pous_desert.php

Université d'Athènes

<http://forecast.uoa.gr/dustindx.php>

Translation: Ruth Jessop