

California, Part 3



The Pilot Club: U.S. Tour

"We have lost many men and planes trying to intercept them."

AUGUST 2, 2022

Not a TPC Member?! Click [here](#) to join!



- Recommend airplane: single or twin engine 100-150kts
- Set the weather as you like. Most use live weather with time set back a few hours.
- Moving map GPS: ForeFlight, FltPlan Go, Garmin Pilot.
- Bring your camera and share your pictures in our Discord.

Suggested add-ons & charts

1. San Diego sectional chart // San Diego FLY // San Diego TAC
2. Los Angeles sectional chart
3. Phoenix sectional chart

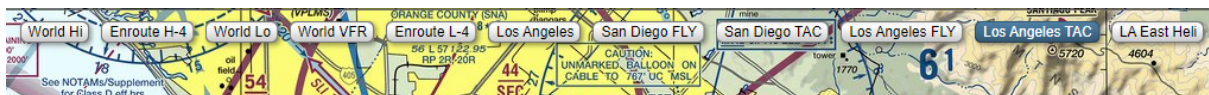
FSX/P3d	X-Plane 11	MSFS 2020

Flight plan

KSDM - OCA6 - IPL - L04 - BLH - P20

Use the briefing section to visualize the route in your electronic flight bag (EFB). The challenge of VFR is to not become *Children of the Magenta*. The Flight Ops team wants you to understand the flight plan and special rules with certain airspace; then execute the plan. Use your charts as reference instead of a crutch.

Use the dynamic charts that are made available in SkyVector to see sectional, TAC, FLY, and other specialized charts for the area.



Briefing

We will take off from **BROWN FIELD MUNICIPAL (SDM)** heading east roughly at 073° using the flyway in order to stay parallel with Mexico's border. Just west of TIERRA DEL SOL you will see a railroad track and a bridge. Use that landmark to turn northeast (058°) heading towards **EMORY RANCH AIRPORT (OCA6)** and a field of wind turbines.

Once you arrive at the Emory Ranch turn east and fly in between IMPERIAL COUNTY (IPL) and CALEXICO INTL (CXL). You can use the 258° radial of **IMPERIAL VORTAC (IPL)**. Where I-8 and SR 111 intersect, turn a bit north (050°) to head towards **HOLTVILLE (L04)**.

Continue heading northeast (037°). At this point we're entering R-2512 and ABEL EAST MOA. Follow the highway SR78 until it intersects another road. At that same point you should be at the valley of two mountain ranges. Turn north (003°), follow the power lines and the COLORADO RIVER.

At this point you can either follow the river north to our destination, **AVI SUQUILLA AIRPORT (P20)**, or you can fly to **BLYTHE VORTAC (BLH)** and then outbound 022° to our destination.

A bit of realism

We aim to interject real world parameters to the VFR flights. Read and understand the procedures prior to flight. Any questions or comments contact the Flight Ops team.

MOAs (military operations area) are established to contain non hazardous, military flight activities including, but not limited to, air combat maneuvers, air intercepts, low altitude tactics, etc. The restricted airspace we are passing through are:

1. **R-2512** - to and including 23,000 ft.
2. **Abel East MOA** - 5,000 to but not including 13,000 ft.
3. **Quail MOA** - 10,000 ft.

Airport information

Take a few minutes to become familiar with the airport, the runway diagrams, etc. Most of the information can be found on Skyvector's site. Each ICAO links to their respective pages.

Departure

Name	ICAO	Elevation ¹	Runways
Brown Field Municipal Airport	KSDM NOTAM	526 ft	08L/26R, 08R/26L

Brown Field is 1.5 miles north of the US/Mexico border in the Otay Mesa Community of the City of San Diego. The airport, originally named East Field in honor of Army Major Whitten J. East, opened in 1918 when the U.S. Army established an aerial gunnery and aerobatics school to relieve congestion at North Island.

Arrival

ICAO	ICAO	Elevation ¹	Runways
Avi Suquilla Airport	P20 NOTAM	458 ft	01/19

Avi Suquilla Airport is a public use airport located 1.15 miles east of the central business district of Parker. It is owned by the Colorado River Indian Tribes. The airport is located near the Colorado River and serves many people who come into the area to make use of the river.

¹ All elevations are indicated as feet mean sea level.

VATSIM

One of the goals during the flight is to have air traffic control support from real people through the VATSIM network. Register for a free account at vatsim.net and complete the new member orientation in order to join the network.



When filing a flight plan with VATSIM make sure to add the following remarks to help support the club and increase our presence on the network.

/RMK OPERATED BY THEPILOTCLUB.ORG

Flight Ops General Aviation Team

- Paul, TPC25
- Cody, TPC991
- Miguel, TPC83
- Marc, TPC444

For more information about this organisation visit thepilotclub.org. There is also good information on the [Standard Operating Procedures](#) page. We also have a very active Discord server.

References

1. https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/flight_info/aeronav/digital_products/vfr/
2. <https://notams.aim.faa.gov/notamSearch/nsapp.html#/>
3. <https://www.thinkaviation.net/notams-decoded/>
4. https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/atpubs/pham_html/chap25_section_1.html