

2023 Gordon Bennet Cup Distance Balloon Race Update #2

At 9am, Sunday 10/8, ESP-1 leads the way passing into Texas Panhandle

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media contact: media@balloonfiesta.com

Albuquerque, NM – The 66th Coupe Aeronautique Gordon Bennett, sponsored by BayoTech, is underway. As of the latest update at 9:00 am from the Gordon Bennett Command Center, there are currently sixteen balloons in flight. The team representing Spain is currently in the lead as the balloons cross into Texas, with USA-1 close on their heels. As they cross the Texas panhandle, the balloonists must adjust their altitudes to catch one of three potential wind pathways: due North, due East, or Southeast. Clear and partly-cloudy skies predicted across the flight path.

Competitors of this prestigious long-distance gas balloon race launched on Saturday morning, October 7th from the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta.

We will continue to provide updates on the progress of all teams. For the most up-to-date information and to track the balloons in real-time, please visit the official Gordon Bennett Cup website at <https://balloonfiesta.com/Gordon-Bennett-2023> and our dedicated tracking site at <https://live.gordonbennett.aero>. Don't forget to tune in to [Gordon Bennett TV](#) for exclusive coverage and insights.

Team Updates (8:30am 10/8/23 MDT)

Place	Team	Pilots	Country	Distance Covered
1	ESP-1	Anulfo González / Angel Aguirre	Spain	345.09 km (214.42 mi)
2	USA-1	Noah Forden / Brenda Cowlshaw	United States	332.95 km (206.89 mi)
3	GER-2	Benedict Munz / Matthias Schlegel	Germany	321.91 km (200.02 mi)
4	GBR-1	Deborah (Day) / Scholes John Rose	United Kingdom	319.71 km (198.65 mi)
5	GER-3	Max Michels / Andreas Michels	Germany	304.61 km (189.28 mi)
6	LTU-1	Robertas Komža / Romanas Mikelevičius	Lithuania	305.61 km (189.90 mi)

7	FRA-2	Eric Decellières / Benoît Havret	France	306.48 km (190.63 mi)
8	POL-1	Krzysztof Zapart / Pjtor Halas	Poland	304.09 km (188.95 mi)
9	AUT-1	Gerald Stürzlinger / Wolfgang Spät	Austria	198.50 km (123.34 mi)
10	GER-1	Wilhelm Eimers / Benjamin Eimers	Germany	296.34 km (184.14 mi)
11	POL-2	Jacek Bogdański / Przemyslaw Mościcki	Poland	294.38 km (182.92 mi)
12	USA-3	Mark Sullivan / Cheri White	United States	274.92 km (170.83 mi)
13	FRA-1	Benoît Pelard / Benoît Petérlé	France	240.31 km (149.32 mi)
14	USA-2	Barbara Fricke / Peter Cuneo	United States	236.31 km (146.84 mi)
15	SUI-1	Balthasar Wicki / René Erni	Switzerland	218.49 km (135.76 mi)
16	AUT-2	Christian Wagner / Stefanie Liller	Austria	202.34 km (125.72 mi)
17	FRA-3	Hervé Moine / Christophe Blanchard	France	DID NOT LAUNCH

The next update will be provided at 5:00pm MDT.

About the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta & Gordon Bennett Cup

The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, powered by ExxonMobil, is the host for the 66th Gordon Bennett Cup. The Balloon Fiesta is a festival of hot air balloons that takes place in October in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. For details on events, schedule, entertainment and photographs visit our website www.balloonfiesta.com and follow us on Twitter @BalloonFiesta and Facebook.