



Atol Aviation Background Information

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Why an amphibious aircraft?

Two-thirds of the Earth's surface is covered with water, and runways or suitable landing strips are scarce. Thus, a waterplane offers a compelling option for aerial transportation, much like a helicopter, which can land and take off vertically.

Compared to helicopters, an aircraft is less noisy and produces far less vibration. It uses less fuel and typically can fly longer distances without refuelling stops. Pilot fatigue in helicopters may also be an issue on extended flights.

The Robinson R22 is very comparable to the Atol Aurora*. Both have a useful load of around 250 kg, seat two people and have similar purchase prices (299,000 EUR for Atol Aurora and around 350,000 USD for R22).

However, the R22's range is half that of the Atol's, and its operating costs are much higher. A helicopter pilot license costs more than an LSA license, and flying a helicopter is more demanding.

For easy access to lakes, shores, rivers, and other water areas, an amphibian outperforms helicopters—it can float and is quieter. The ability to land on water in an emergency is also a significant advantage for an amphibian.

The fun factor is noteworthy too: imagine landing on a lake on a beautiful summer day, floating, and fishing with the canopy open as the plane doubles as a boat. Spend a day outdoors and fly back to your base.

Potential Use Cases for Atol Aurora

Flying an Atol Aurora is fun, but it's also a serious business tool. Here are some potential use cases — only imagination limits the possibilities.



Private Owner in Stockholm

Stockholm's surroundings, with 14 islands and abundant water, make the Swedish capital ideal for seaplane operations. With the Atol, you can easily fly to Åland and Finland, exploring the vast archipelago of over 30,000 islands between the two countries. Perfect for day-tripping, fishing, enjoying views, or transporting to a holiday home on an island.

Flying around in Sydney

Take off from Rose Bay, a historic seaplane base in Sydney Harbour, and your friends Sydney Harbour, the Opera House, Harbour Bridge, Bondi Beach, and the Northern Beaches — or fly to the Blue Mountains or Hunter Valley, all within the Atol's endurance without refuelling.

Flight School in Florida

Tavares, a 45-minute drive or 20-minute flight northwest of Orlando, is known as "America's Seaplane City." With the Atol Aurora, a flight school there can conduct all basic training, from taxiing on runways to emergency water landings. Atol Aurora's easy and forgiving handling makes it an ideal basic training aircraft.

Environmental Measurements in Lapland

Satellites collect vast environmental data, but ground — or water — verification is often needed. With the Atol Aurora, researchers can easily gather reference measurements and take samples from land, air, and water.

Transport in Cannes

If your Atol is based at Cannes-Mandelieu Airport on the French Riviera, you can swiftly fly to Lake Annecy, Geneva, or other land and water destinations in the Alps, northern Italy, or southern France — down to Barcelona, Valencia, or Balears in Spain. The Atol seats one passenger and a pilot, perfect for most missions.

Vineyard Owner in Stellenbosch

South Africa produces excellent wines, with a key area near Stellenbosch. An amphibious aircraft is ideal for surveying grapes from the air, visiting Cape Town, entertaining guests, flying to coastal destinations, or even commuting to Johannesburg's O.R. Tambo Airport, with a refuelling stop at, for example, Port Elizabeth International Airport.

Firefighting in California

The Atol is too small for direct firefighting but excels in survey and target-spotting flights. Like Canadairs, it can land on water, making it useful for verifying water collection areas



and potentially fighting fires with tanks installed. While its water-bomber role is limited compared to helicopters or larger aircraft and remains optional, the Atol shines in observation, coordination, and targeting.

Loch Ness Observing

The Loch Ness Monster may be a legend, but the loch's beauty in Scotland is undeniable. Take off from Glasgow International Airport or Loch Lomond's seaplane facility and fly to Loch Ness — or elsewhere in Scotland. The Atol's 800 km range covers the entire country and its coastline, revealing Scotland's often-overlooked splendour.

Community Support in French Guiana

French Guiana, known for the European Spaceport in Kourou, is 99% Amazon rainforest, with access to the interior limited to rivers or air — no roads exist. The Atol enables officials, military, tourist operators, mining and forestry industries, and individuals to land at sparse airports or numerous rivers. Combining the best of boats and planes, it offers a significant advantage over traditional boat access.

Showing Off in Vancouver

Living in Vancouver (or Seattle) with money to spend? After a sports car and motorcycle, an amphibian aircraft could be your next toy! Learning to fly (an LSA license costs 5,000–9,000 USD and takes 25–35 hours) is easier and faster than earning a traditional private pilot or helicopter license, and flying the Atol is a delight. Take off from the Vancouver Coal Harbour Seaplane Base and land at Kenmore Air Harbor Seaplane Base on Lake Union in Seattle or explore the lake-rich area around both cities. Or just hang around in the plane in the harbour.

Exploring the Great Barrier Reef

Australia's Great Barrier Reef, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the seven natural wonders, spans 2,300 kilometres (1,400 miles) with over 2,900 reefs, 900 islands, and coral cays. For tourists, adventurers, or biologists, the Atol is ideal: take off from Cairns, fly to a Great Adventures reef pontoon or land near Fitzroy Island (~30 km offshore), and dive, look around, take samples or just enjoy the reefs as long as they exist.

Cottage Commuting In & Out from Helsinki

With a house in Helsinki (perhaps near the sea in Marjaniemi) and a holiday home in the Saimaa Lake area, the Atol lets you fly between them year-round. In autumn or spring, when ice is too thin to walk on, an amphibian can land, take off, and dock at your pontoon — optimal for you and one companion.



LiDAR Mapping in Africa

All Atols can be easily modified to carry a small or medium LiDAR system like the Velodyne Puck. Its low-speed capability, low cost, and versatile landing options make it perfect for observation and mapping. For example, it could map ecosystems in Central Africa, flying from Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, into equatorial rainforests.

Glaciology in Punta Arenas

Patagonia's glaciers near Punta Arenas are retreating due to climate change, with conditions varying by location and size. The Atol is ideal for research: operate from Presidente Carlos Ibáñez del Campo Airport to, say, Glacier Alley in the Beagle Channel, Tierra del Fuego, to study the Cordillera Darwin Ice Field, landing near glaciers for inspection or sampling.

Atol Goes to War

Though not designed for combat — lacking armour and armament — the Atol Aurora excels in defence-related missions like observation or ranger/jaeger dispatch. It can land on water to deploy a diver for special ops or rush supplies to forces. With minimal radar response, a quiet engine (compared to helicopters or heavy aircraft), and low-flight capability, it's perfect for special forces. An autonomous UAV version is in development.

Speed taxi everywhere

When floating in the water, Atol Aurora is officially a boat. So you can move around slowly or almost at the take-off speed without a pilot's licence. An aircraft taxiing is faster than a boat at maximum speed, so if you'd like to move from a to b on the surface, Atol is a perfect answer. There is just one danger: you'd like to take off and the pilot or licence is needed.

Looking at the Niagara Falls

Niagara Falls is a stunning sight on the ground, but even more so when seen from the air. Take off from Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport or Montreal's legendary Hydro-Aéroport on the St. Lawrence River, fly to the US-Canada border and land at Lake Ontario or Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport for lunch. Fly back and enjoy the evening at home.

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