

Hunters' Rules - French Cota Challenge –



Dates of the 2026 challenge:

The 2026 challenge will take place from 01/01/2026 to 31/12/2026

Objective :

Organize an annual challenge for French, Corsican, and overseas COTA (Castel On the Air) castles to promote the architectural and historical heritage of France, Corsica, and its overseas territories. This challenge is rewarded with trophies and a certificate, with the possibility of earning COTA France Awards over time (levels: Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum).

The annual challenge:

An annual challenge is organized by the France division, the Corsica division, and the overseas stations.

The goal is to promote radio activity by activating castles (COTA).

The aim for the "hunters" is to contact as many castles as possible each year to compete for the annual certificate and its prizes, and to earn one or more awards over time.

Each year, a certificate of participation will be available from the challenge manager, 14AT061 Leo.

An official log sheet is available. It can be downloaded from the ATFR website – www.alfatango-fr.org, the FCOTAC Facebook page, or from the challenge manager.

Log Content:

The principle is based on the "In The Log" or "Log", so there are no exchanges of progressive numbers.

WE ARE NOT STRANGERS, JUST FRIENDS WHO HAVE NEVER MET

Noticed:

There is no COTA activity during the national and world "contests" of the ALFA TANGO group (CQ11WW, Aldo Memorial, WRM, etc.) as well as upon directives from the Asti HQ.

QSO validations:

Sending log sheets from "hunters" is not required. The logs from active users are sufficient to record a QSO and tally the points earned for each station.

Points calculation and ranking:

Each new COTA contacted earns 2 points, and each reactivation earns 1 point.

The top three hunters of 2026 will be recognized at the 2027 French Meeting/AG.

The top three "Europe" hunters of 2026 will be recognized at the 2027 French Meeting/AG.

The top three "World" hunters of 2026 will be recognized at the 2027 French Meeting/AG.

Other "surprise" awards may be given by the organizing committee to hunters, based on their results and the specific characteristics of their stations (location, QRP station, special merit, etc.).

QSL exchange:

QSL cards are initiated by the "activators"; it's not mandatory since there are certificates available for download at the end of the year.

If you would like to obtain a QSL card available at certain castles, please request it directly from the activating station, free of charge.

I remind you that I am the FCOTAC Manager, but not responsible for sending FCOTAC QSL cards, except for my personal activities (14AT061).

Annual diploma awarded:

Request to be made by email to the challenge manager: 14AT061 Leo.

Award Winners:

- Electronic awards are available from challenge manager 14AT061 Leo.
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- Four award categories are available:
- - o Bronze (12 Cota) ;
 - o Silver (25 Cota) ;
 - o Gold (50 Cota) ;
 - o Platinum (80 Cota).

Miscellaneous information

FCOTAC references are structured as follows: 14AT/CFYYXXX

CF = French castle

YY = department number

XXX = validation number, following an arithmetic progression, for example 14001 – 14002 – etc.

The listed FCOTACs can be forts, castles, manors, palaces, or citadels.

For those who wish to follow us throughout the year and receive real-time information, you can request to join the FCOTAC Facebook page. Please note that completing the questionnaire is mandatory for acceptance. This measure is intended to eliminate individuals who have no connection to our activities and are simply there to post advertisements or other inappropriate content.

The FCOTAC Facebook page is available in both French and English and is open to all those interested in FCOTAC, regardless of their group affiliation or other background.

Miscellaneous questions

For any questions, please contact the challenge manager:

14AT061 Leo: 14at061@gmail.com

Division France : atfrhq@gmail.com

Page Facebook : [FCOTAC](#)

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