

# Samedan, Switzerland

## February 2010

After three years, I was (again) able to spend one week in the Engadin Valley (Kanton Graubünden), Switzerland. As a "preparation" of my school exams, I went together with my parents on winter holiday. Instead of skiing or snowboarding, I preferred to go to the winter spotting paradise called Samedan Airport, the highest airport in Europe. The airport is close to St. Moritz, where the rich and famous have their winter holiday. Below you'll find a list of all aircraft noted during the week. Please keep in mind that all aircraft are noted only once per airfield and that some aircraft paid more than one visit during the week.

In the morning of Saturday 20 February we flew from Düsseldorf to Zürich with Air Berlin (B737-700) for just €29 per person (one way, all inclusive).

### 20 February 2010 Düsseldorf EDDL

D-ABAS	Boeing 737-800	Air Berlin
D-ABBS	Boeing 737-700	Air Berlin
D-ABIK	Boeing 737-500	Lufthansa
D-AIPA	Airbus A320-200	Lufthansa
F-GUGO	Airbus A318-100	Air France
HB-IPX	Airbus A319-100	Swiss
TC-SKL	Airbus A321-200	Sky
TC-SKP	Boeing 737-900ER	Sky

### 20 February 2010 Zürich-Kloten LSZH

D-ABBS	Boeing 737-700	Air Berlin
D-AECC	Embraer 190LR	Lufthansa Cityline
G-CFAA	BAe 146-RJ100	British Airways
G-ECOG	Dash 8-400	Flybe
G-LCYG	Embraer 170STD	British Airways
HB-IJU	Airbus A320-200	Swiss
HB-IOH	Airbus A321-100	Swiss
HB-IOR	Airbus A320-200	Swiss
HB-JHC	Airbus A330-300	Swiss
HB-VNU	Cessna 500	JetClub
N800AK	Boeing 727-200	Peninsula Aviation
N88WR	Boeing 737-700 BBJ	Seaflight Aviation
P4-MIS	Airbus A319-100	Sheikh Mustafa Ali Ideis
VP-CAD	Cessna 525	Reynard Motorsports

After our arrival at Kloten, we had to wait for our train to the Engadin, so I had a little time to go to Parkhaus P3 and write down some aircraft. Photography was not possible anymore due to the upcoming backlight. P3 is only recommended from sunrise till about 10 AM when speaking of photography.

### 20 February 2010 Samedan LSZS

9H-AFQ	CL-605	Comlux Aviation
A6-AZH	Gulfstream IV-X	Elite Jets
CS-DHR	Cessna 550B	Netjets Europe
CS-DLC	Falcon 2000EX	Netjets Europe
CS-DLE	Falcon 2000EX	Netjets Europe
CS-DXV	Cessna 560XLS	Netjets Europe
CS-DXX	Cessna 560XLS	Netjets Europe
CS-DXY	Cessna 560XLS	Netjets Europe
D-AJGK	Gulfstream IV-SP	Windrose Air

D-CLIC	Cessna 560XLS	Jetline
EC-JON	Cessna 550	Aerotaxi Los Valles
HB-AEU	Dornier Do 328-300JET	Swissjet
HB-FOI	Pilatus PC-12/45	Swissjet
HB-FOY	Pilatus PC-12/45	Aviswiss
HB-VMY	Cessna 550B	Jet Aviation Business Jets
HB-XWD	Agusta A109K2	REGA
HB-ZHY	AS350B3 Ecureuil	Heli Bernina
HB-ZIS	AS350B3 Ecureuil	Heli Bernina
I-DMSB	Raytheon 390 Premier 1A	Sirio Executive
M-FIVE	Beech 350	Larvotto
N525MW	Cessna 525	
OE-GVX	Learjet 40	VistaJet
OE-HVJ	Bombardier BD-100-1A10	VistaJet
OK-PPP	Pilatus PC-12/47E	Piper OK
OK-SLA	Cessna 525	Silesia Air
OK-SUN	Embraer 135BJ	ABS Jets
OM-ALE	Beech 200	Timeair
OO-AIE	Cessna 560XLS	Flying Service
OO-CIV	Cessna 525A	ASL Air Service Liege
S5-BAW	Cessna 525B	Linair

After a four-hour train trip through a winter wonderland, I went straight on to Samedan Airport. The walk from the train station to the airport lasted about ten minutes. First thing to do was to go to the C-office to obtain airside access, even though the fences haven't grown since 2007. After showing my online safety-test results (I completed the tests before my trip) I got a spotter badge and an orange safety vest. Airside access wasn't a problem anymore for the rest of the week. As you can see, the two hours before sunset resulted in quite some interesting aircraft. Due to a combination of fine weather, weekend and White Turf (horse racing), lots of bizzers and helicopters would visit Samedan on Saturday and Sunday.

After the sun had gone behind the mountains, it was time to go to the restaurant for a hot chocolate and a "debriefing" with the other spotters. Two of them, Hans-Peter from Bern (and the spotter-guide of Samedan) and Norbert from Frankfurt, would be at the airport for the rest of the week as well, just like me. The restaurant is called "Intersection" and is located in a former hangar, opposite of the runway intersection (hence the name...).

As one may know, the Swiss are very friendly people. The air traffic controller, Ingo, came also to the restaurant to show the spotters the expectations list for tomorrow. And that list looked very impressive...

## 21 February 2010 Samedan LSZS

CS-DFV	Cessna 560XLS	Netjets Europe
CS-DKH	Gulfstream V-SP	Netjets Europe
CS-DLH	Falcon 2000EX	Netjets Europe
CS-DRR	BAe 125-800XPI	Netjets Europe
CS-DUD	BAe 125-750	Netjets Europe
CS-DUE	BAe 125-750	Netjets Europe
D-AJJK	Gulfstream V-SP	Windrose Air
D-BANN	Bombardier BD-100-1A10	
D-CAUW	Cessna 560 Encore	Aerowest
D-FDAK	Cessna 208B	Cloudbusters
D-HABM	Agusta A109E	Burda
D-IATT	Raytheon 390 Premier 1	Vibro Air Flugservice
D-IDAS	Cessna 525A	Donau Air Service
G-BVXX	Yak-52private	
G-CDLT	BAe 125-800XP	Gama Aviation
G-EGVO	Falcon 900EX	TAG Aviation

G-FRYI	Beech 200	London Executive Aviation
G-IRSH	Embraer 135BJ	Jet Options
G-TBEA	Cessna 525A	Xclusive Jet Charter
HB-FOW	Pilatus PC-12/45	Future Finance Corporation
HB-FPZ	Pilatus PC-12/47	Air Sarina
HB-FVD	Pilatus PC-12/47E	Swissjet
HB-JEL	Embraer 135BJ	G5 Executive
HB-JIG	Cessna 680	Cat Aviation
HB-LQJ	Piper PA.34-200	Gribair
HB-LQP	Piper PA.31T1	Ursella
HB-PKS	Piper PA.46-350P	Jetag
HB-VOV	Cessna 525	Mathys Aviation
HB-ZAL	Bell 206B	Karen
HB-ZFM	EC-120B	Heli Gotthard
HB-ZGL	Robinson R44	Valair
HB-ZGY	EC-120B	Swissjet
HB-ZIL	AS350B2 Ecureuil	Heli Alps
HB-ZIP	Agusta A109A2	BG Air
HB-ZIU	Agusta A119	Swissjet
HB-ZIY	AS350B3 Ecureuil	Air Grischa
HB-ZSM	Agusta A109S	Skymedia
HB-ZUT	AS350B3 Ecureuil	Swissjet
HB-ZUU	AW 139	Swissjet
I-GCFE	EC-155B1	Elicotteri Ferero
I-PRAD	Learjet 60	Prada
I-TOPS	Pilatus PC-12/45	Topjet Executive
LN-RYG	Cessna 525	Fly Direct No
LX-LOU	Learjet 60	Luxembourg Air Rescue
LZ-YUM	CL-600S	Air Lazur
N10EU	Falcon 2000EX	
N110JJ	Gulfstream G150	TAM Aviation
N113CS	Gulfstream IV	TAG Aviation
N189RB	Falcon 20F-5	Fly Dix-Huit
N198GS	Gulfstream IV	Maughold
N246PR	Piper PA.46-350P	DLX Aviation
OE-FKW	Raytheon 390 Premier 1	European Star Aircraft
OE-FPK	Cessna 525A	Salzburg Jet Aviation
OE-GEM	Cessna 680	Jet Pool Network Luftverkehrs
OE-GGC	Learjet 40	International Jet Management
OE-GSZ	Cessna 560XLS	Jet Pool Network Luftverkehrs
OK-UNI	Cessna 680	Travel Service
OM-AES	Cessna 510	ION Mustang
P4-PET	BAe 125-900XP	Global Jet Luxembourg
PH-MYX	Cessna 650	Solid Air
VP-BGM	CL-605	Elitavia
VP-BLM	Falcon 900	Monarch General Aviation
YU-MDV	Cessna 501	Dyrodam Corporation

As you can see, Sunday was one crazy day. Just a few minutes after the airport was open (8 AM), the first aircraft arrived. This would continue on for about ten hours... About seventy aircraft and helicopters were noted today. Together with the overnights from yesterday and the not noted small single engine props, one could have seen almost a hundred different aircraft in one day, amazing for such a small airport without ILS. With these amounts of aircraft, it is no wonder that the main apron was way too small. Therefore the smaller aircraft (props, Citations, Learjets and so on) had to park on the snow apron instead of the main (asphalt) apron. It was a unique sight, seeing bizjets taxiing on snow.

Because this would probably be the busiest day of the year, I was already airside at 8 AM and I didn't leave before sunset. That wasn't always easy with temperatures of about minus 20 degrees Celsius... But it was absolutely worth it, lots of awesome winter pictures could be taken from various spots, especially because the sun was shining for almost all day.

After a perfect day, the spotters went to the restaurant again for a well deserved coffee or a hot chocolate. We were showing our pictures to each other, sharing our experiences and so on. Ingo, the air traffic controller, was also there and he told us he had to reject the incoming small single engine props in the afternoon, because of the huge load of bizjet traffic...

## 22 February 2010 Samedan LSZS

D-ARTE	CL-601-3A	ProAir
D-HHBP	AS350B1 Ecureuil	Helicopter Travel Munich
HB-JGL	Gulfstream G200	TAG Aviation
N239AX	Falcon 900	Aspen Executive Air

After a good sleep, I went to the airport again around noon. The weather wouldn't be very good and the afternoon provides the best photo opportunities anyway.

After my arrival, I noticed that nearly all aircraft had gone. What a different sight compared to the last two days. The weather became worse and worse, so Hans-Peter, Norbert and I decided to go to the restaurant a little bit earlier than usual.

## 23 February 2010 Samedan LSZS

D-IIHA	Beech C90	
I-AMVH	AS350B3 Ecureuil	Air Service Center
N300GP	CL-300	Glen West 300
OE-FPS	Cessna 525A	DJT Aviation
OK-JDM	Learjet 60XR	ABS Jets
P4-JET	Falcon 50EX	Sunwood Aviation

On Tuesday the weather was a lot better than yesterday and so was the traffic. In the late afternoon, light conditions were absolutely fabulous, so I was able to take some very nice photos, including photos of two P4-registered aircraft (the P4-PET visited Samedan again).

## 24 February 2010 Samedan LSZS

84+14	CH-53G	German Army
T-741	DHC-6-300 Twin Otter	Swiss AF
D-CJJJ	Cessna S550	Travel Air
D-CPPP	Cessna 550B	Windrose Air
G-YPRS	Cessna 550B	Executive Aviation Services
HB-ZDE	AS350B3 Ecureuil	Rhein Heli
HB-ZJU	Agusta A109S	Helifin
N87PP	Cessna 421C	
OK-EMA	Cessna 680	Travel Service
YR-DAD	Cessna 510	Direct Aero Services

When I arrived at the airport around noon, I was shocked to see a huge CH-53 on the apron! It was on a training flight and the crew made a lunchstop here. As the parking position was just perfect (thanks to Ingo of the ATC), the CH-53 was a very nice catch. I think it's not hard to imagine what a take-off of this bird would look with an airport full of snow and the spotters standing just 20-30 meters off the runway...A great experience! In the afternoon a second military aircraft visited Samedan, the sole Swiss Air Force Twin Otter. That, and some civil stuff, made my visit again worthwhile.

## 25 February 2010 Samedan LSZS

CS-DRW	BAe 125-800XPI	Netjets Europe
F-HAPE	Beech 1900D	Hex Air
HB-HOY	CASA 325A-3	Ju-Air

HB-LTQ	Partenavia P.68C-TC	Swissjet
HB-VMX	Cessna 550B	Jet Aviation Business Jets
HB-XQE	Agusta A109E	Schweizer Eidgenossenschaft
I-ISAR	AS350B2 Ecureuil	Elicampiglio
I-PREE	Piaggio P.180 Avanti	Air Walser
M-OOUN	BAe 125-800XP	United Airgroup
N540FX	Bombardier BD-100-1A10	Flexjet
OE-INS	CL-605	VistaJet
OE-XHO	AS350B3 Ecureuil	Wucher Helicopter
OM-OIG	BAe 125-800XP	VIP Air
PH-JNE	Cessna 525A	Jet Netherlands
PH-UKK	Socata TBM-850	ES Management

Another afternoon visit resulted in quite some new aircraft. Highlights were the Ju-52 of Ju-Air and the French Beech 1900. Another remarkable thing was the presence of no less than three Dutch aircraft, with the PH-MYX on its second visit of the week.

Because of a visit of the Swiss aviation authority (BAZL) we had to be a little more low-profile at airside than usual. Fortunately they left after some time with their helicopter HB-XQE.

### 26 February 2010 Samedan LSZS

G-WINT	Pilatus PC-12/47	Air Winton
HB-HOT	Junkers Ju-52/3M	Ju-Air
I-ESPO	Agusta A109S	
OO-INN	Beech 200	Sky Service

After a morning of heavy snowfall I decided to go to the airport in the afternoon, when it stopped snowing and even some sunny spells came in sight. When I arrived, I was amazed to find yet another Ju-52 on the apron! With only a few seconds of sun this day, I was lucky to be at the right time at the right place...

After a few hours, we got again heavy snowfall with low visibility. Time to go to the restaurant again for my last hot chocolate. After sunset it was time to say thanks and goodbye to the airport and especially to Ingo, the air traffic controller and Hans-Peter, the spotter guide.

### 27 February Zürich-Kloten LSZH

4X-EKF	Boeing 737-800	EI AI
A6-AZH	Gulfstream IV-X	Elite Jets
C-FXCN	CL-604	Flexjet
D-ABLC	Boeing 737-700	Air Berlin
D-AGPK	Fokker 100	Contact Air
EC-KOY	Airbus A319-100	Iberia
G-EZAE	Airbus A319-100	EasyJet
G-EZKB	Boeing 737-700	EasyJet
HA-LQB	Dash 8-400	Malev
HB-AEU	Dornier Do 328-300JET	Swissjet
HB-FOQ	Pilatus PC-12/45	Lions Air
HB-IAU	Falcon 2000EX	Cat Aviation
HB-IOP	Airbus A320-200	Air Berlin
HB-IOW	Airbus A320-200	Air Berlin
HB-IOX	Airbus A319-100	Air Berlin
HB-JST	Falcon 7X	Cat Aviation
HZ-ALFA	Gulfstream V-SP	
N180DN	Boeing 767-300ER	Delta
N700NY	Gulfstream IV-SP	GKMG Partners
N9040V	Beech 60	
PH-VBG	Falcon 2000EX	Jet Netherlands
VP-CAO	Bombardier BD-100-1A10	
VP-CBA	Boeing 737-200	

Plus Swiss A319-100/A320-200/A321-100/A330-200/A340-300

While waiting for our return flight there was some time for a short visit to Parkhaus P3. Since the sun was shining and the light was not too bad, I finally was able to take a couple of decent pictures at Zürich-Kloten.

**27 February 2010 Düsseldorf EDDL**

A6-EMQ	Boeing 777-300	Emirates
D-ABDX	Airbus A320-200	Air Berlin
D-ABLC	Boeing 737-700	Air Berlin
HB-IOT	Airbus A320-200	Azerbaijan Airlines

And then my winter holiday had come to an end... It was a great holiday in a great environment and I'm really looking forward to my next visit to Samedan, definitely the most beautiful airport of Switzerland.