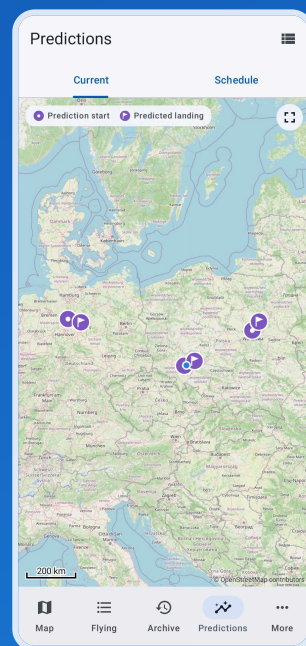
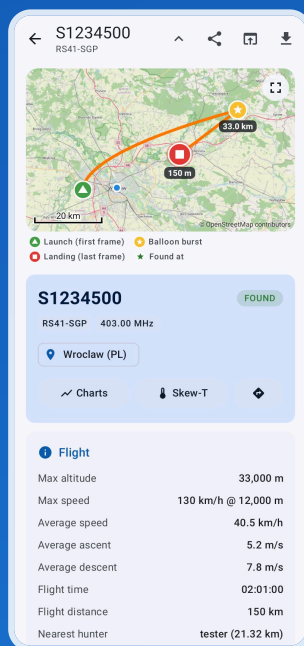
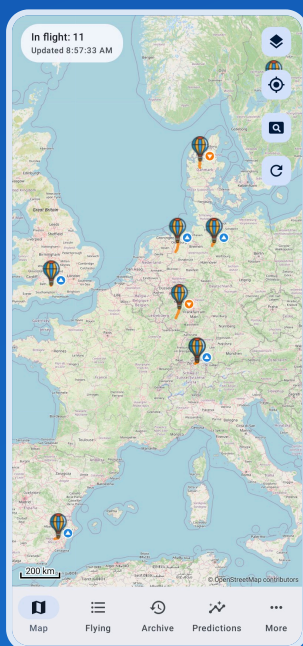




RadioSondy.info for Android

User guide



App version: 1.2.0

As of: 24 October 2026

radiosondy.info

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1. About the app

The **Radiosondy.info** app is mobile access to **radiosondy.info** – the meteorological radiosonde tracking system run by SQ6KXY. It shows sondes in flight on a map, landing predictions, the flight archive and statistics of launch sites and receiving stations. Once signed in, you can change a sonde's recovery status, announce that you are going for a sonde and manage your notifications.

Requirements: Android 8.0 or later, an internet connection and a radiosondy.info account with an API key assigned. All data comes from the radiosondy.info API – the app does not use Google services (OpenStreetMap maps, location from the system).

Languages: Polish, English, German and Italian – the app follows the phone language; you can also change it in *Settings*.

Navigation: five tabs at the bottom of the screen: **Map**, **Flying**, **Archive**, **Predictions** and **More**. When the phone is turned sideways, the tab bar moves to the left edge and screens with a map place the map next to the content.

2. Getting started

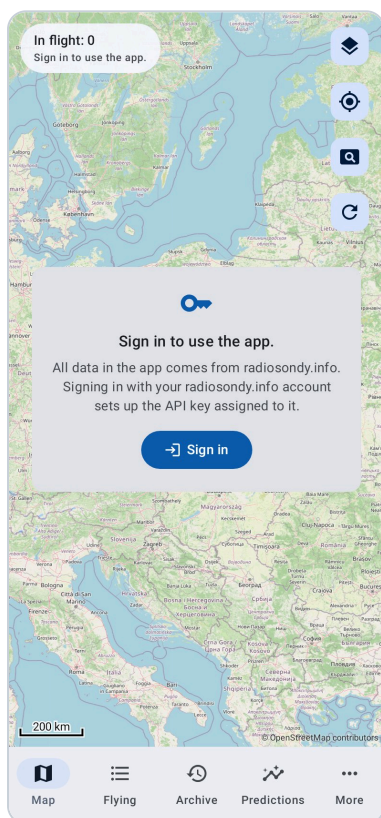


Fig. 1. First start

First start

Without signing in, the app has no access to data – the map shows **“Sign in to use the app”** with a **Sign in** button.

When you sign in with your radiosondy.info account, the app sets up the API key assigned to the account by itself. If the account has no key, you will see **“No API key was found for your account”** with an **Generate API key** button – the key is created at once and the app starts using it.

On first start the app asks for location access right away; later you can grant it with the **my location** button on the map.

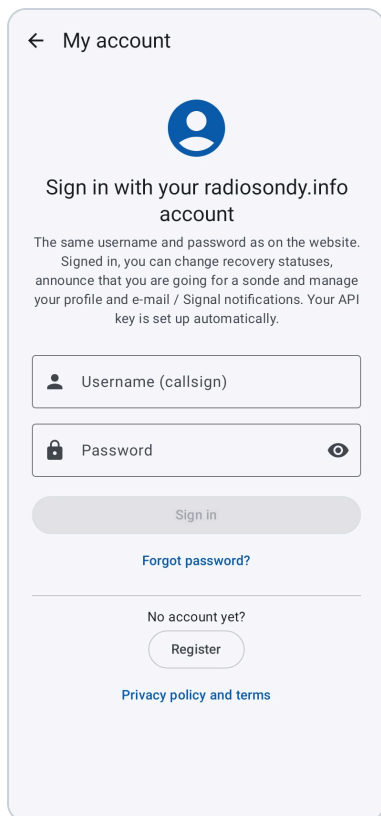


Fig. 2. Signing in

Signing in

Username (callsign) and password are the same as on the radiosondy.info website.

- **Forgot password?** – sends a link for setting a new password to the account e-mail (valid for 60 minutes).
- **Register** – accounts are created on the website; the button opens the form in the browser.
- After 5 wrong passwords the account is locked for 15 minutes – the same as on the website.

Signing in lets you change sonde statuses, announce “I’m going for it” and edit your profile and notifications.

3. Live map

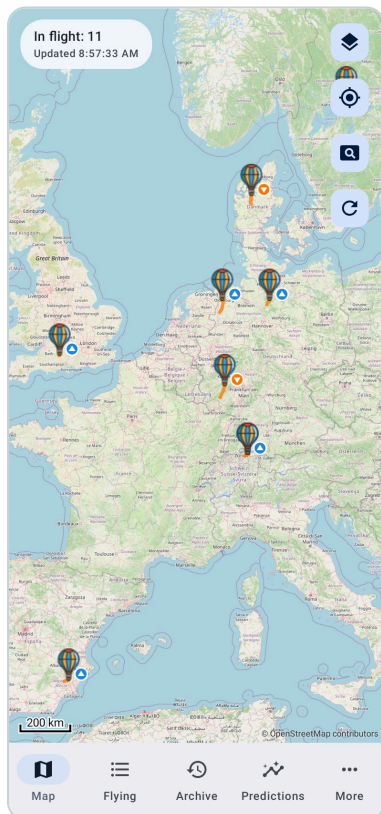


Fig. 3. Sondes in the air

Sondes in the air

The **Map** tab shows every sonde that sent a frame in the last 10 minutes. Data refreshes automatically (every 30 s by default).

- **Balloon marker** with a flight-phase badge: **blue** ▲ – ascending, **orange** ▼ – descending, **red** – descending below 2000 m.
- **Orange line** – the track so far. A **red** track and label mean a **duplicate** (a second number of the same flight – the site does not show its live data).
- When you zoom in, numbers and altitudes appear next to the markers.
- The bar in the top-left corner: number of sondes in flight and time of the last update.

Buttons on the right: **map layers**, **my location**, **show all** (fits the map to all sondes and your QTH) and **refresh**.

Your position is shown on every map in the app if you allow location access: with precise location – using the marker chosen in settings (dot with a cone or an arrow), with approximate location – as a plain dot with an uncertainty circle. A sonde point on any map opens that sonde.

Every map in the app has a **full-screen** button in the top right corner; X in the same corner closes the full-screen map.

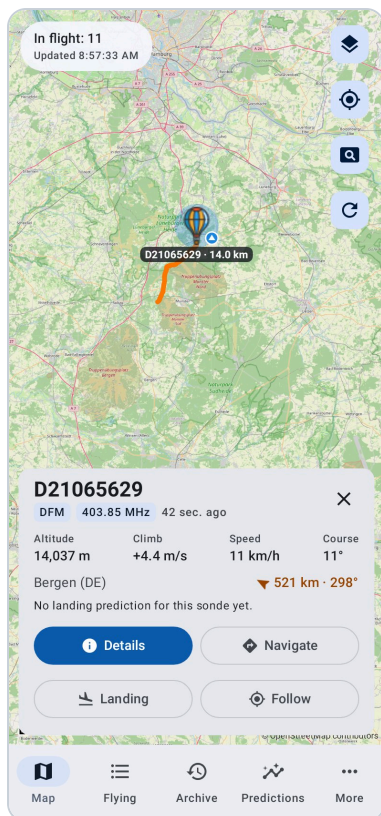


Fig. 4. Selected sonde and landing prediction

Selected sonde and landing prediction

Tapping a marker or a track opens the sonde card: number, type, frequency, time of the last frame, altitude, vertical and horizontal speed, course, launch site, and distance and bearing from your QTH.

- **Details** – the full sonde screen.
- **Navigate** – opens navigation (e.g. Google Maps) to the current position of the sonde.
- **Landing** – loads the prediction and draws a violet track with three points: **prediction start** (●), **predicted burst** (★) and **predicted landing** (■). The card shows the landing coordinates and the distance from you.
- **Follow** – the map follows the sonde on every update.

The map moves so that the selected sonde stays visible above the card.

Close the card with X or by tapping an empty spot on the map.

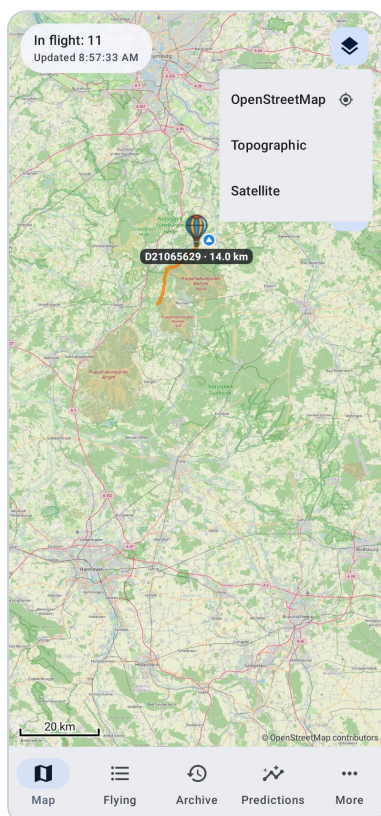


Fig. 5. Map layers

Map layers

The layers button switches the base map: **OpenStreetMap**, **Topographic** (OpenTopoMap, with contour lines – handy in the field) and **Satellite** (Esri). The choice is remembered in settings.

4. Flying – list of sondes in flight

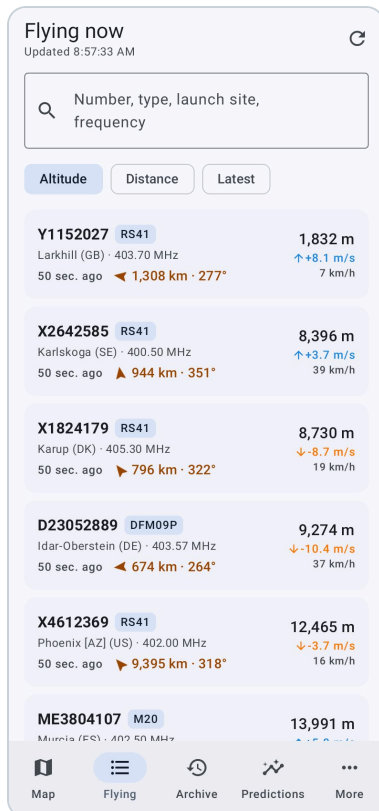


Fig. 6. List of sondes in flight

List of sondes in flight

The same sondes as on the map, as a list. Each tile shows the number, type, launch site, frequency, time of the last frame, distance and direction from your QTH, and altitude, vertical and horizontal speed.

- **Search** by number, type, launch site or frequency.
- **Sorting**: by altitude, distance (needs a QTH) or newest frames.
- **Duplicates** have a red tile background and a “Duplicate” badge.
- Pull the list down to refresh; tap a tile to open the sonde details.

5. Details of a sonde in flight

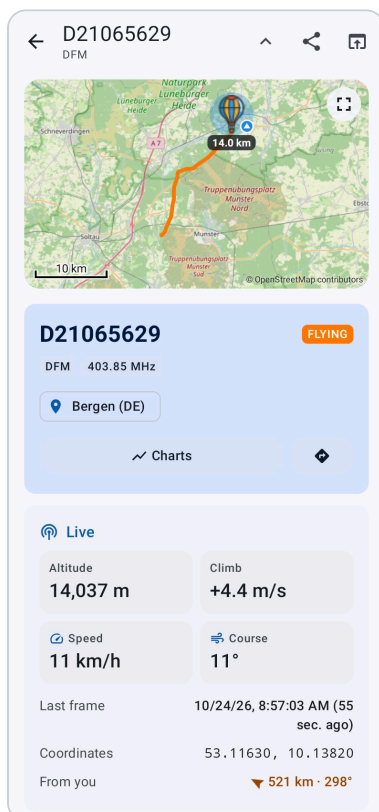


Fig. 7. Sonde screen

Sonde screen

At the top, a map with the flight track, the current position and – if available – the landing prediction (violet points, explained in the legend under the map). Tap the map to open it full screen.

Toolbar buttons: **hide/show map**, **share** the sonde link, **open on website**.

- Header card: number, type, frequency, the **FLYING** badge, launch site (tap to open it), **Charts** and navigation buttons.
- **Live** card: altitude, climb, speed, course, time of the last frame, coordinates and distance from you.

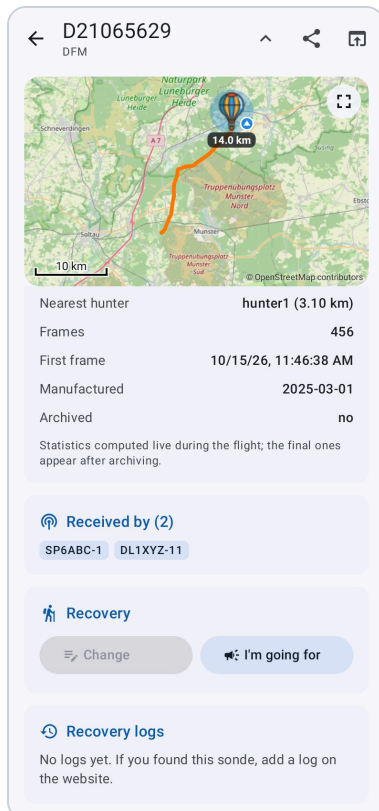


Fig. 8. Prediction, receivers, recovery

Prediction, receivers, recovery

- **Flight** – flight phase, time in the air, maximum altitude and speed, average ascent, distance, number of frames and the **nearest hunter** (the registered user closest to the sonde). During the flight the statistics are computed live.
- **Landing prediction** – coordinates, locator, altitude, expected time, distance from the last position and from you, computation time and a **Navigate to landing point** button.
- **Received by** – stations that received the sonde.
- **Recovery** – **Change status** is greyed out until the flight has been archived; **I'm going for it** works right away.

6. A sonde after the flight

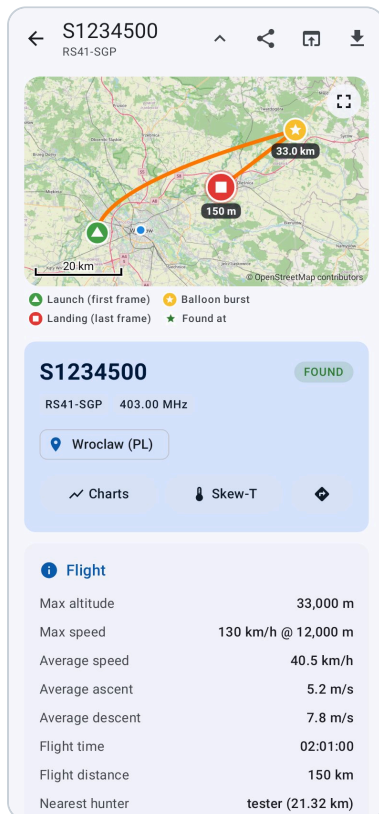


Fig. 9. Archived flight

Archived flight

When no new frames arrive for 10 minutes, the sonde gets the **Waiting for data** badge: the sounding has probably ended and the landing prediction is computed from the last known position. The flight is archived after about 15 minutes of silence if notifications were already sent, otherwise after about 60 minutes.

After archiving the sonde map shows three points on the track: **launch** (first frame), **balloon burst** (highest frame, with altitude) and **landing** (last frame). A star in the status colour is the **place where it was found**, reported by the finder; violet points are the last prediction from the flight. The legend under the map explains every marker.

- Status badge: FOUND, LOST, NEEDS ATTENTION or UNKNOWN.
- **Chart** and **Skew-T** (sounding) buttons.
- **Download** icon in the toolbar: flight data as XLSX, CSV, KML, GeoJSON or a ZIP package.
- **Flight** card: final flight statistics and the nearest hunter from the landing place.

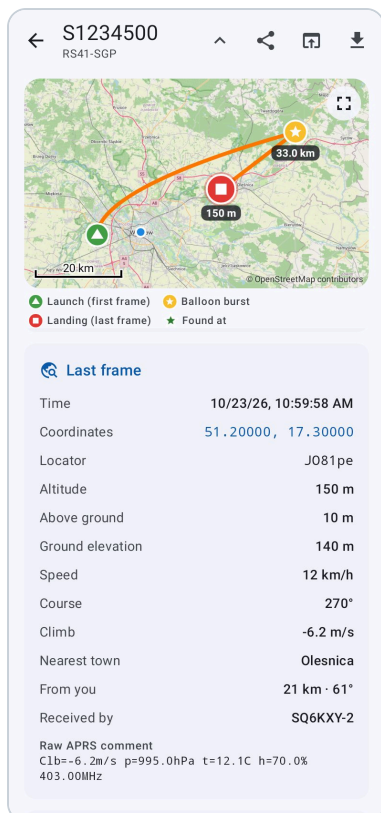


Fig. 10. Last prediction and last frame

Last prediction and last frame

The **Last landing prediction** section notes that it is the predictor result from the flight, not the place where the sonde was found. The **Last frame** card shows the time, coordinates (tap to copy), locator, altitude above sea level and above ground, ground elevation, speed, course, nearest town, distance from you, the station that received the frame and the raw APRS comment.

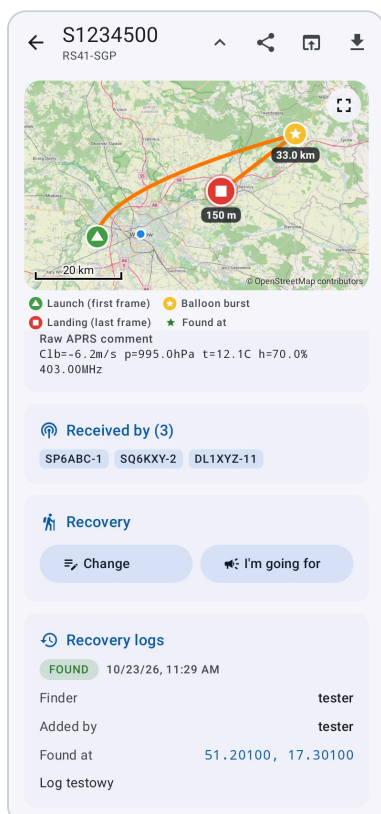


Fig. 11. Recovery and change history

Recovery and change history

- **Change status** – opens the recovery status form (needs signing in, available after the flight has been archived).
- **I'm going for it** – announces that you are on your way to the sonde.
- **Recovery logs** – history of status changes: status, date, finder, who added the entry, where it was found (tap to navigate) and the comment.

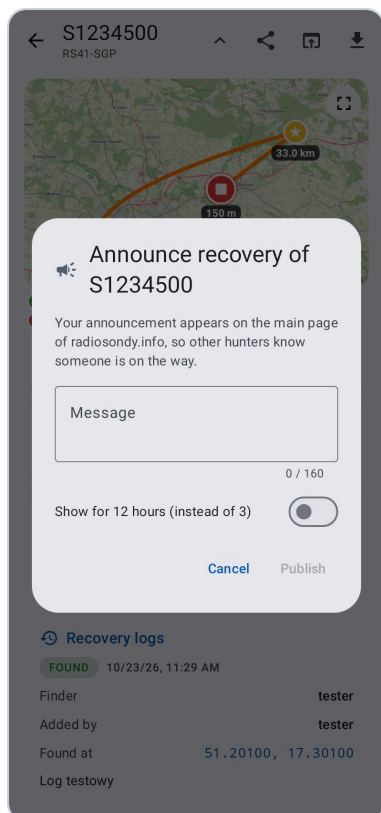


Fig. 12. "I'm going for it" announcement

"I'm going for it" announcement

A short message appears on the radiosondy.info main page and in *Planned recoveries*, so other hunters know someone is already on the way. By default the announcement is shown for 3 hours; the switch extends it to 12 hours. The message can have up to 160 characters. You can delete your announcements in *Account* → *History*.

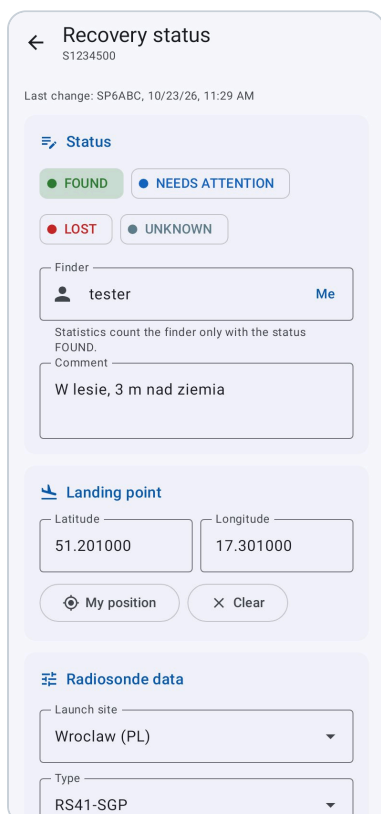


Fig. 13. Changing the recovery status

Changing the recovery status

The form matches editing on the website:

- **Status:** FOUND, NEEDS ATTENTION, LOST, UNKNOWN.
- **Finder** – the **Me** button fills in your callsign; statistics count the finder only with the status FOUND.
- **Comment, landing point** (manually or with the **My position** button).
- **Radiosonde data:** launch site, type, AUX payload and frequency.

A change is possible only after the flight has been archived – a sonde still in the air cannot be marked as found.

7. Flight charts and sounding



Fig. 14. Flight charts

Flight charts

At the top a summary: maximum altitude, flight time, lowest temperature and number of frames. Charts: **altitude over time** and **vertical speed**. Touch and drag along a chart to read exact values. The charts also work during the flight. Each chart shows at most 100 points – on a long flight every n-th frame; the altitude chart always includes the highest point of the flight.

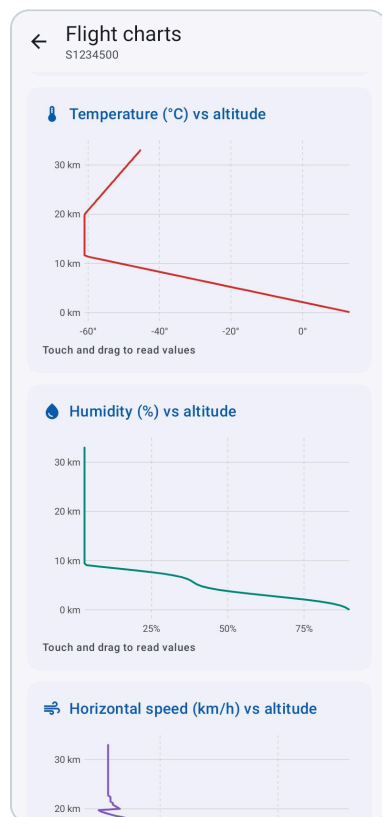


Fig. 15. Vertical profiles

Vertical profiles

Profiles from the ascent: **temperature**, **humidity**, **horizontal speed (wind)** and **pressure** against altitude. Frames without sensor data (e.g. 0.0 °C reported when nothing was measured) are left out.



Fig. 16. Sounding – Skew-T diagram

Sounding – Skew-T diagram

For archived flights: a Skew-T log-P diagram with the **temperature** and **dew point** profiles, the **tropopause** and the **LCL** marked, and wind barbs. Buttons under the diagram switch layers on and off: dry and moist adiabats, mixing ratio, isotherms, wind barbs.

Below: a summary (launch, surface conditions, LCL, tropopause, burst) and a table of standard levels. Touching the diagram shows the values at that level.

8. Archive

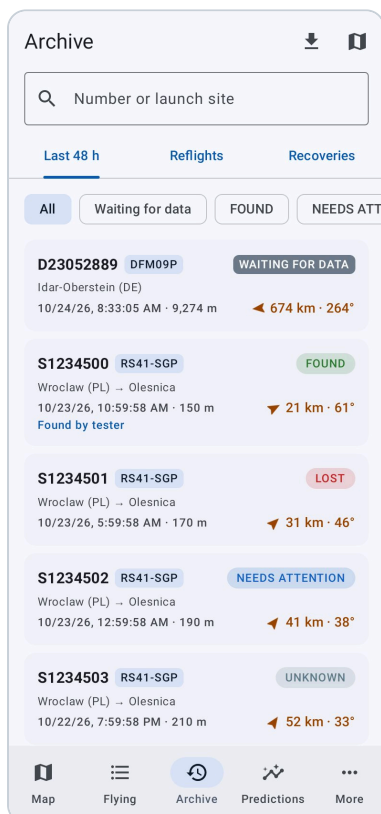


Fig. 17. Finished flights

Finished flights

- **Search by number or launch site** – the text narrows the list in every tab right away, and suggestions appear as you type: launch sites (picking one shows only its flights) and sonde numbers from the whole archive (picking one opens the sonde).
- Tabs: **Last 48 h**, **Reflights**, **Recoveries**.
- At the top of **Last 48 h** are flights with the **Waiting for data** badge – the sonde stopped transmitting more than 10 minutes ago, but the flight is not archived yet.
- Filter: All, Waiting for data, FOUND, NEEDS ATTENTION, LOST, UNKNOWN. Flights waiting for data are listed only under their own filter – **UNKNOWN** shows archived flights only.
- Tile: number, type, status, launch site → nearest town of the landing, time and altitude of the last frame, finder, and distance and direction from you.
- **Download** icon – the whole flight archive as a ZIP (CSV or KML).

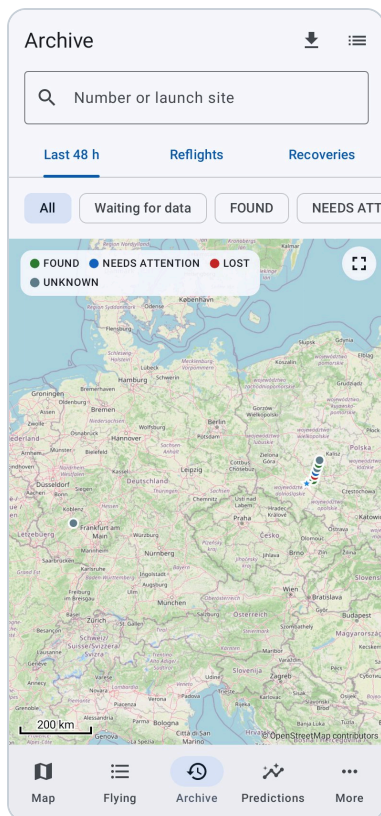


Fig. 18. Map of recent flights

Map of recent flights

The map icon switches the list to a map: flight tracks and last-frame points in status colours (legend in the corner). Tap a point or a track to open the sonde. In landscape the search field is hidden to leave room for the map.

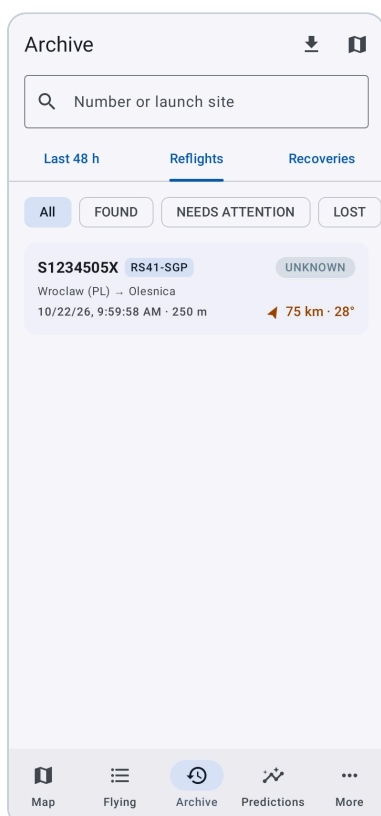


Fig. 19. Reflights

Reflights

Sondes that were launched again after recovery (the same unit, a new flight) in the last 48 hours.

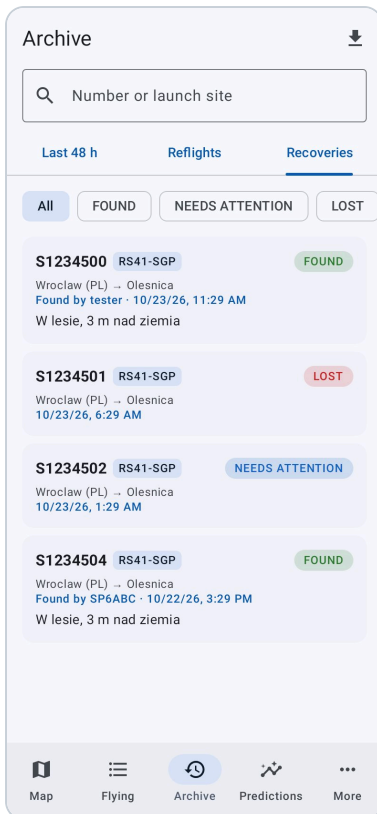


Fig. 20. Recoveries

Recoveries

Recent recovery status changes from the last 48 hours: who found the sonde, when and with what comment. Tap to open the sonde.

9. Landing predictions

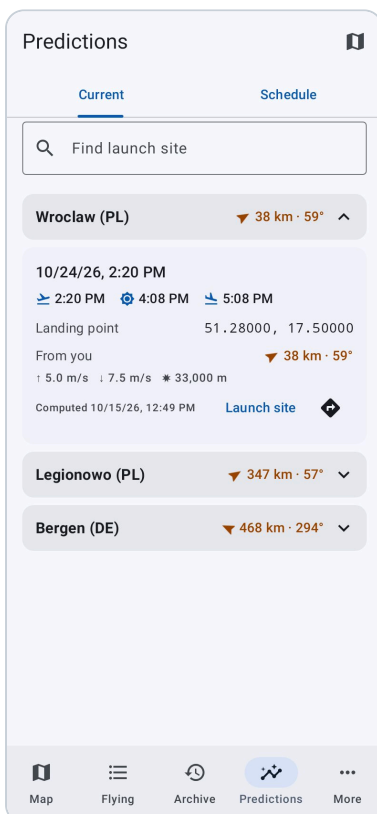


Fig. 21. Current predictions of launch sites

Current predictions of launch sites

The prediction for the next launch from each site: **launch**, **burst** and **landing** times, landing point, distance and direction from you, balloon parameters (ascent, descent, burst altitude) and the computation time. **Launch site** opens the site page; the navigation icon leads to the landing point. The list shows only the site names, sorted by the nearest landings – tap a site to expand its prediction. The **Find launch site** field narrows the list.

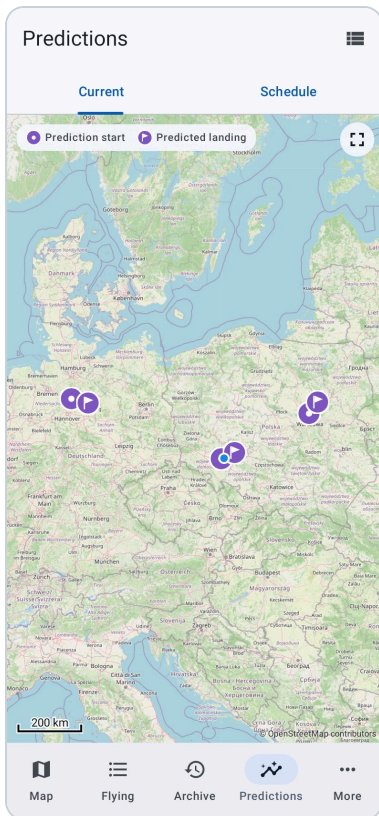


Fig. 22. Prediction map

Prediction map

The map icon shows all predictions at once: the full predicted track and three points – launch (●), burst (★) and landing (■). The legend is in the top-left corner. Tap a track to open the prediction card.

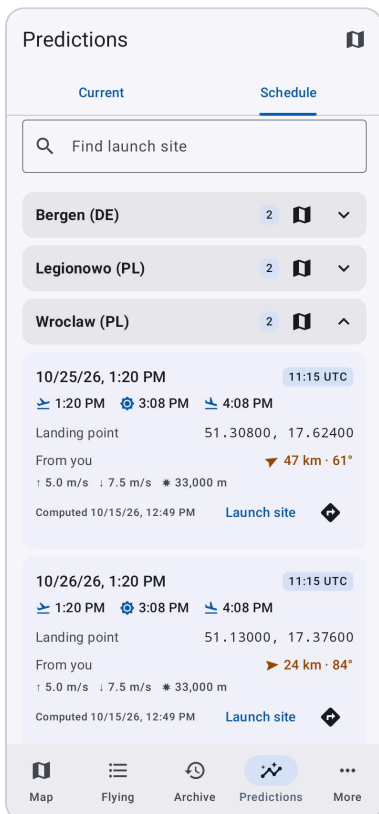


Fig. 23. Schedule

Schedule

Planned launches for the coming days, grouped by launch site. The list is collapsed to site names with the number of runs – tap a site to expand its schedule; the **Find launch site** field narrows the list. The map icon next to the name opens a map of all runs of that site, and the **Launch site** button on a card opens its page.

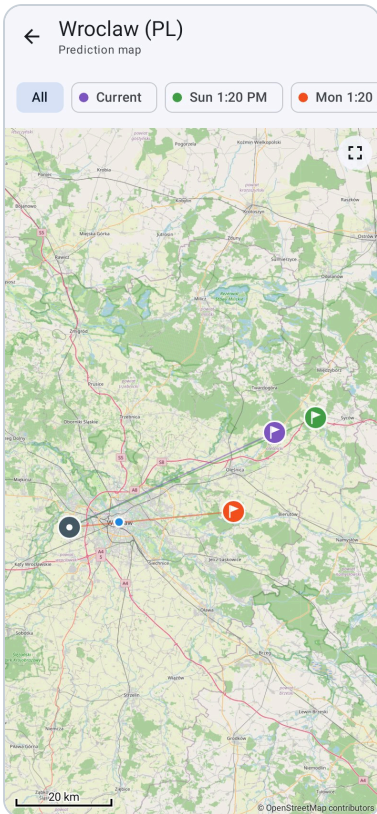


Fig. 24. Prediction map of a launch site

Prediction map of a launch site

All runs of one launch site on a single map – each day in a different colour, the current prediction in violet. The bar above the map lets you choose **All** or a single run (e.g. “Fri 11:15”) – the map then shows only its track with launch, burst and landing.

10. More

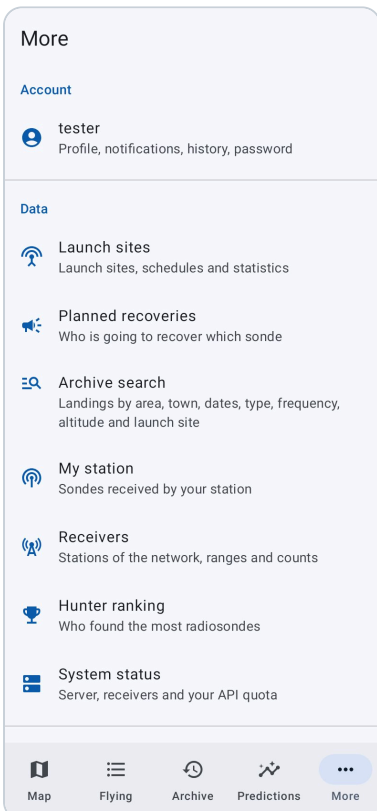


Fig. 25. The “More” menu

The “More” menu

Account (sign in or the user panel) and additional data: **Launch sites**, **Planned recoveries**, **Archive search**, **My station**, **Receivers**, **Hunter ranking** and **System status**.

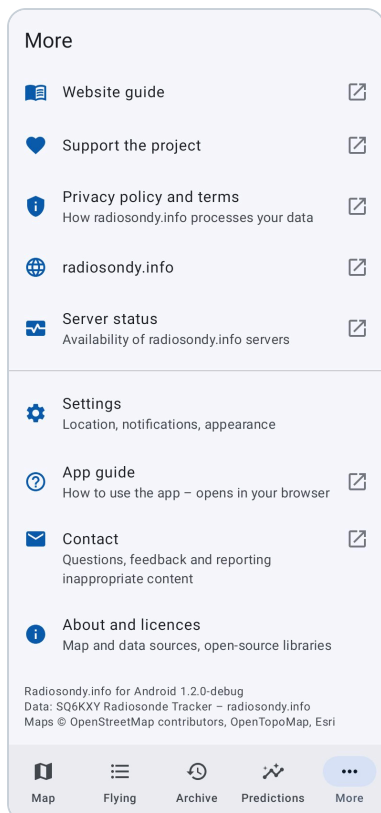


Fig. 26. Website, settings, information

Website, settings, information

Links to the radiosondy.info website (registration, website guide, supporting the project, privacy policy and terms, server status) as well as **Settings**, the **App guide** (opens in your browser) and **About and licences**. **Contact** opens an e-mail to the administrator - also for reporting inappropriate content.

11. Launch sites and planned recoveries

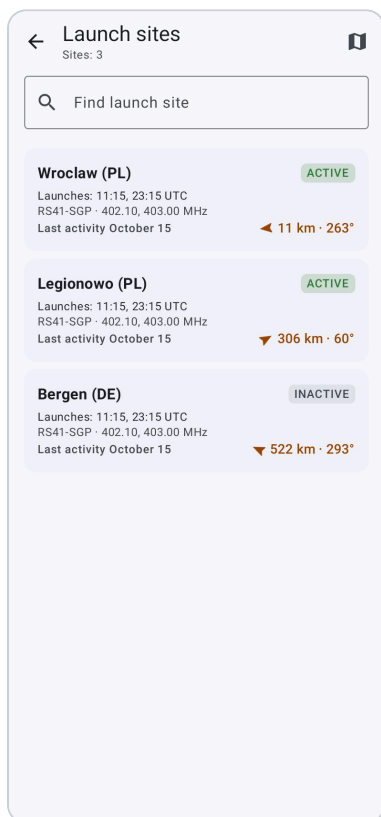


Fig. 27. Launch sites

Launch sites

A list of launch sites with search: status (ACTIVE / INACTIVE), launch times (UTC), sonde types, frequencies, last activity and distance from you. The map icon shows the sites on a map.

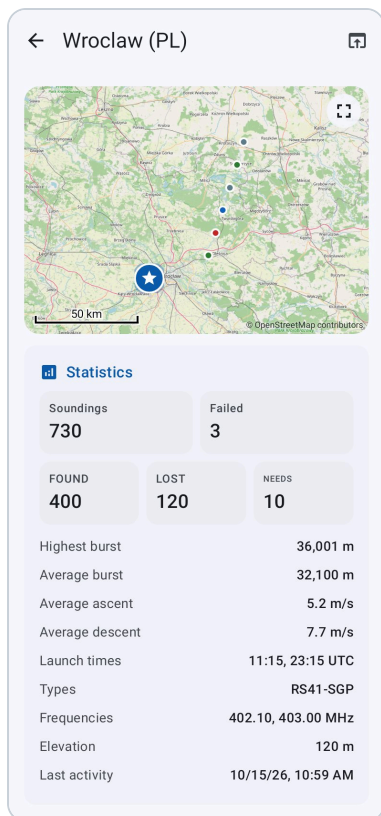


Fig. 28. Launch site page

Launch site page

A map of landing places of flights from the site (in status colours), statistics (soundings, failed, found, lost, needing attention, highest and average burst, average ascent and descent, launch times, types, frequencies, elevation), **upcoming predictions** with a **Prediction map** button, and a list of flights from the chosen period (7, 30, 90 or 365 days). Tap a point on the map to open that sonde.

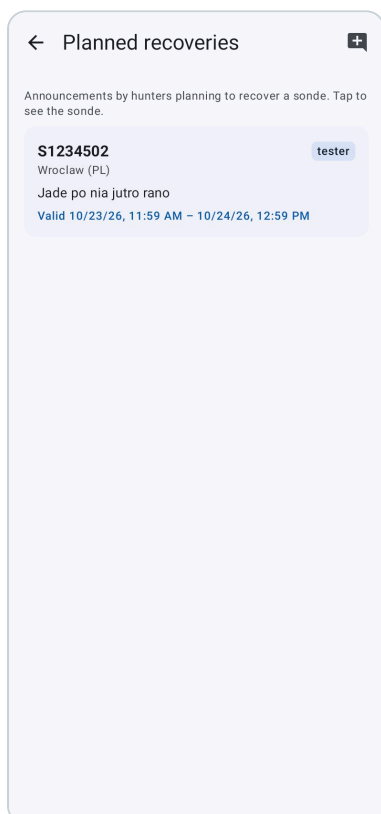


Fig. 29. Planned recoveries

Planned recoveries

Active "I'm going for it" announcements: sonde, launch site, author, message and validity period. Tap to open the sonde. The icon in the top-right corner adds your own announcement: type the sonde number (the app suggests matching numbers) or pick it from the **Latest flights** list, add a message and publish.

12. Archive search

Archive search

Reset

Area

My QTH Map Town Anywhere

Around 51.11000, 17.03000 (JO81mc)

Radius: 50 km

Newest first Nearest first

Period

1 day 3 days 7 days 30 days

90 days 365 days Date range...

Filters

Status

FOUND NEEDS ATTENTION LOST

UNKNOWN

Sonde types (optional)

Fig. 30. Searching for landings

Searching for landings

- **Area:** around your QTH, a point chosen on the map, a town (with suggestions) or no limit; radius and order of results (newest / nearest).
- **Period:** 1, 3, 7, 30, 90, 365 days or your own date range.
- **Filters:** status, sonde types, frequencies, launch sites, altitude of the last frame (from-to), maximum number of results.

Results can be viewed as a list or on a map and downloaded as CSV or KML.

Reset restores the default filters.

13. Receivers and my station

Receivers

Stations: 3 · online: 3

Find callsign

SP6ABC ONLINE

Sondes: 3 today · 20 this week · 80 this month · 5400 total

Beacon 21 min. ago

2.4 km · 242°

SQ6KXY ONLINE

Sondes: 4 today · 25 this week · 95 this month · 9100 total

Beacon 21 min. ago

6.6 km · 47°

DL1XYZ ONLINE

Beacon 21 min. ago

501 km · 290°

Fig. 31. Receivers of the network

Receivers of the network

Receiving stations with a callsign search: ONLINE/OFFLINE status, number of received sondes (day, week, month, total), time of the last beacon and distance from you. The map icon shows the stations on a map.

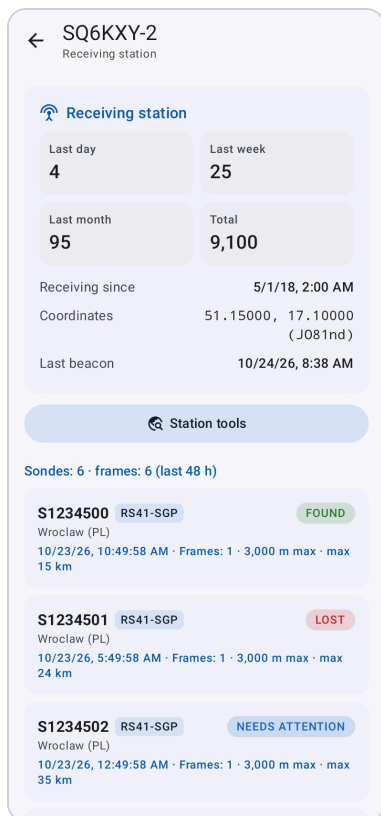


Fig. 32. Receiving station

Receiving station

Counts of received sondes, date of the first reception, coordinates with locator, last beacon and the **longest reception** of sondes below 40, 20, 10, 5 and 1 km of altitude. Below: sondes received in the last 48 hours and the **Station tools** button.

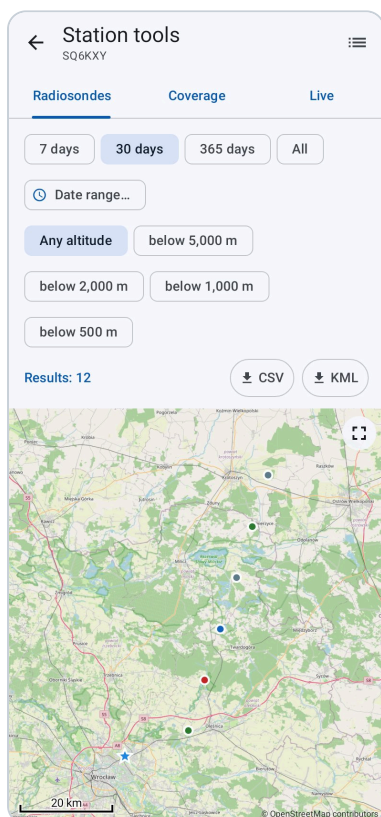


Fig. 33. Station tools

Station tools

- **Radiosondes** – sondes received in the chosen period (7, 30, 365 days, all or a date range), an altitude filter, a map and CSV/KML export.
- **Coverage** – the station range map: the farthest reception in every direction.
- **Live** – sondes the station hears right now.

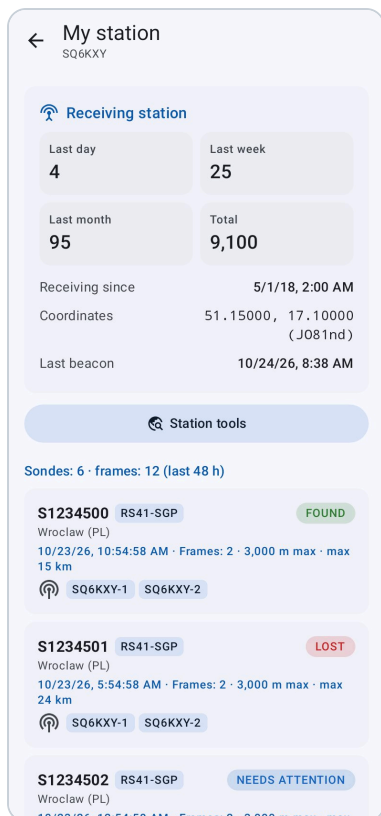


Fig. 34. My station

My station

A shortcut to your receiving station – the station callsign is the alias of your account on the website, so you need to be signed in. The screen shows the same as the station page plus a list of sondes received in the last 48 hours.

14. Hunter ranking

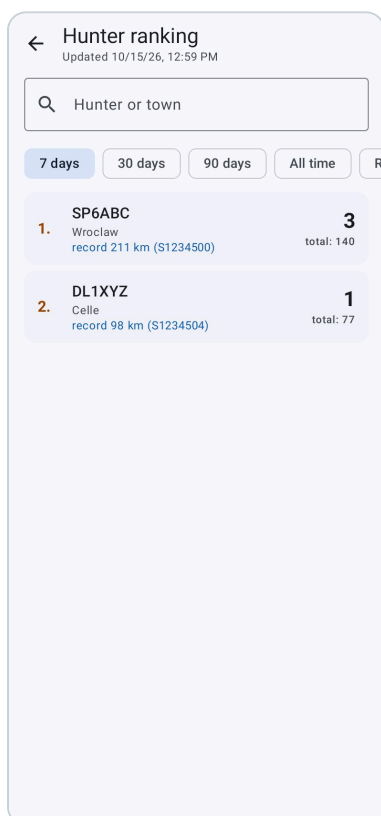


Fig. 35. Ranking

Ranking

Who found the most radiosondes: periods of 7, 30, 90 days, **All time** and **Record distance**. Search by callsign or town. Each hunter shows the town, the distance record (with the sonde number) and the total number of finds.

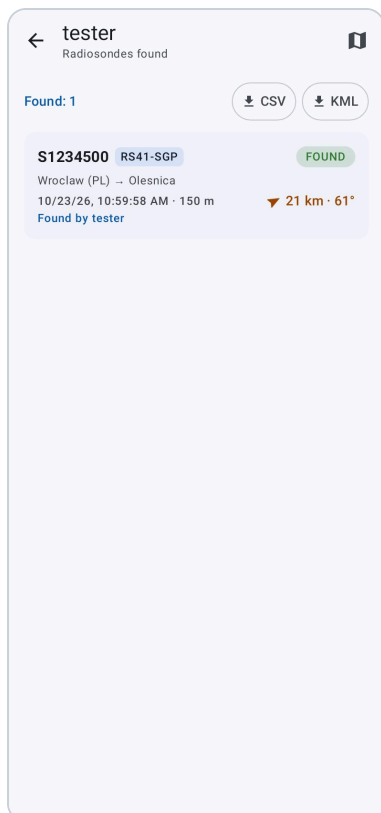


Fig. 36. Finds of a hunter

Finds of a hunter

Tapping a hunter in the ranking shows the sondes they found – as a list or on a map – with CSV/KML export.

15. System status

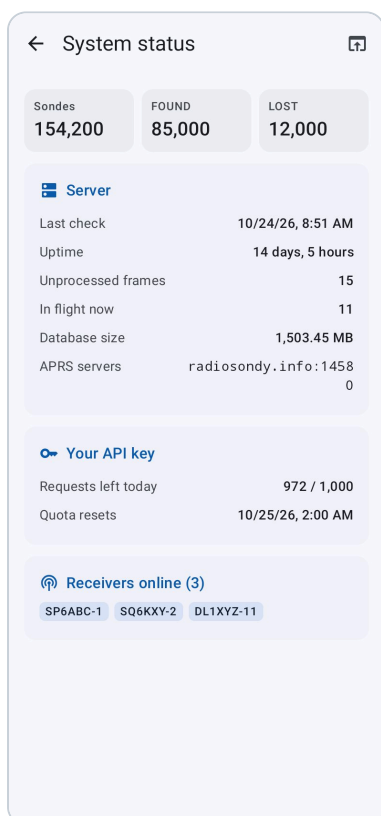


Fig. 37. System status

System status

Number of radiosondes in the database, found and lost; server state (last check, uptime, unprocessed frames, sondes in flight, database size, APRS servers); **your API key** – requests left today and when the quota resets; list of receivers online.

16. Settings

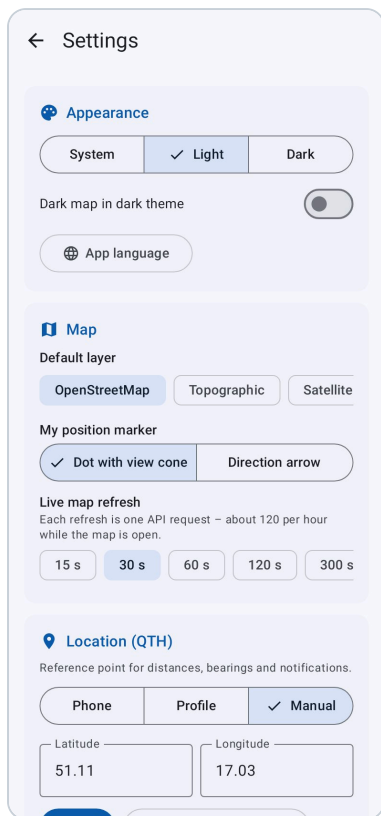


Fig. 38. Settings

Settings

- **API key** is set automatically after signing in; account keys are generated and revoked on the *Account* screen. Every key has a daily request limit.
- **Appearance**: system, light or dark theme, dark map in dark theme, **app language**.
- **Map**: default layer, **my position marker** (blue dot with a view cone or a direction arrow) and live map refresh (15, 30, 60, 120 or 300 s – each refresh is one API request).
- **Location (QTH)** – the point from which distances, bearings and notifications are calculated. Three sources: **Phone**, **Profile** (the coordinates saved in your account profile; requires signing in) or **Manual** – typed coordinates or a point chosen with **Choose on the map**.

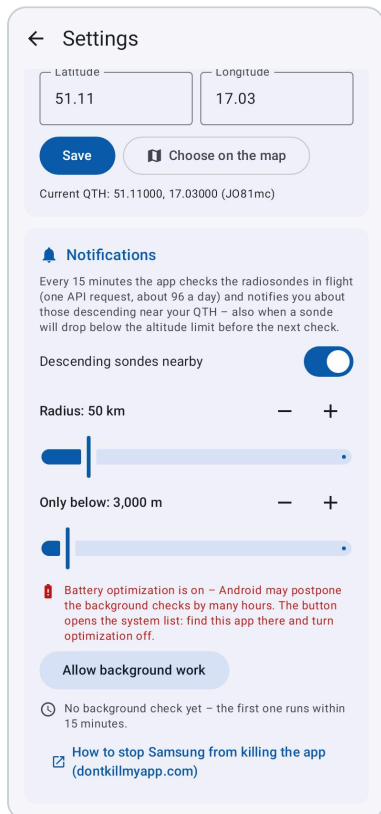


Fig. 39. Notifications on the phone

Notifications on the phone

Descending sondes nearby: every 15 minutes the app checks the sondes in flight and notifies you about those descending within the chosen radius of your QTH and below the chosen altitude – also in advance, when they will drop below the limit before the next check. The notification shows the values of the last received frame and its time (*data from ...*); the distance is measured to the current position of the sonde, not to the predicted landing.

Under the switch there is a background-work panel: battery optimization status (the **Allow background work** button opens the system list – find the app there and turn optimization off), background restriction, a warning when notifications are turned off (**Notification settings** button), time of the **last check** with its result (e.g. no QTH, network error, invalid API key, daily request limit used up, app update required) and a link to instructions for your phone maker. If there has been no check for an hour, the phone is most likely putting the app to sleep.

Independently, the server can send e-mail and Signal notifications – see *Account*.

17. User account

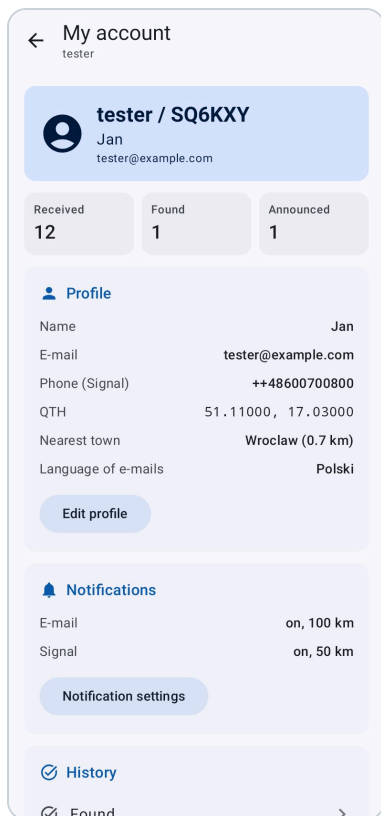


Fig. 40. Account panel

Account panel

Profile (username, alias, name, e-mail, Signal phone, QTH, nearest town, e-mail language), counters: received, found, announcements; notification summary; **History**; your receivers; **API keys of the account** (described below).

Security: change password, sign out (removes the API key and QTH from the app and turns notifications off), sign out everywhere (also on the website).

Export my data sends the selected data as a ZIP with CSV files to the account e-mail. Deleting the account is done on the website.

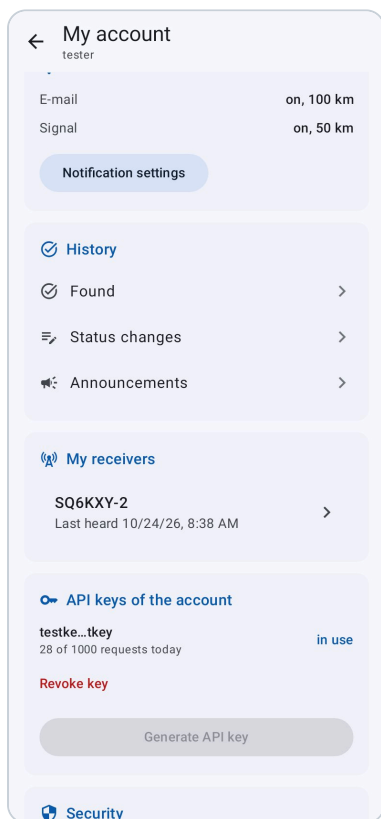


Fig. 41. API keys of the account

API keys of the account

At the bottom of the account panel is the **API keys of the account** section: the shortened key, today's usage and the daily request limit. An account can have one key.

- **Generate API key** – creates a key and the app starts using it at once. The button is greyed out when the account already has a key.
- **Revoke key** – removes the key after confirmation. Every program that used it stops working, including this app until you generate a new key; notifications about nearby sondes have to be turned on again afterwards.
- Replacing the key does not renew the limit – the new key takes over the limit and today's usage of the previous one.
- Once 90% of the daily limit is used, the app shows a one-time warning.

← Edit profile

Alias (station call sign)
SQ6KXY
 The alias is assigned to the account and cannot be changed.

Profile
 Name (optional)
 Jan
 Used only to greet you in e-mails.
 E-mail
 tester@example.com
 A change is confirmed by a link sent to the new address.
 Phone (Signal)
 ++48600700800
 International format, e.g. +48 600 700 800. Needed for Signal notifications.

QTH
 Your location in the account: notifications are counted from it and it is the reference point of the website and the API.
 Latitude
 51.110000
 Longitude
 17.030000
 My position Clear

Language of e-mails

Fig. 42. Editing the profile

Editing the profile

Name (optional, used only to greet you in e-mails), e-mail (a change is confirmed by a link sent to the new address), phone for Signal in international format, QTH (manually or with **My position**) and the language of e-mails.

An account without an alias (station call sign) gets a list of free aliases at the top – the choice is confirmed once and the alias cannot be changed later. *My station* uses the alias.

← Notification settings

The server sends notifications about radiosondes landing within the given distance of your QTH - also when the app is closed.

E-mail
 Enabled
 Radius: 100 km
 Also predicted landings

Signal
 Enabled
 Radius: 50 km
 Also predicted landings
 Signal messages only between (UTC)
 From 06:00 To 22:00
 The same time in both fields means: all day.

Save

Fig. 43. Server notifications

Server notifications

The server sends notifications about sondes landing within the given distance of the QTH in your account – also when the app is closed.

- **E-mail**: on/off, radius, also predicted landings.
- **Signal** (needs a phone number in the profile): on/off, radius, predictions and the hours (UTC) when messages may arrive.

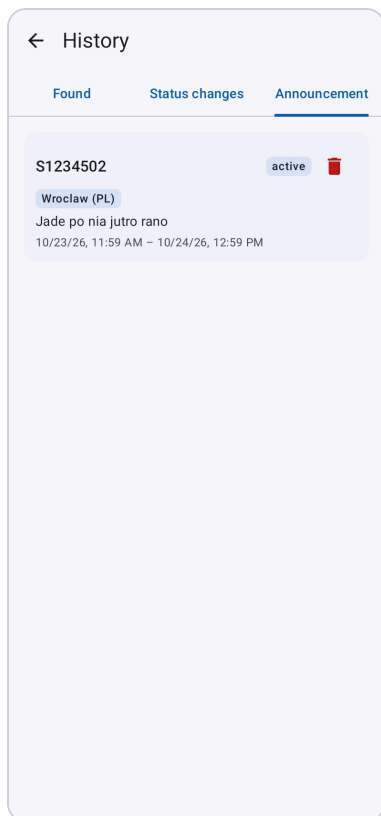


Fig. 44. History

History

Tabs **Found** (with a map view), status **Changes** you made and **Announcements** – every announcement you sent can be deleted here with the bin icon (after confirmation); an active one also disappears from the sonde screen.

18. About and licences

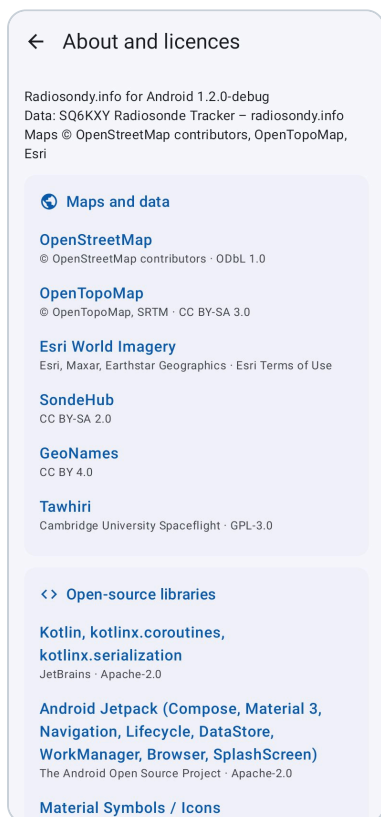


Fig. 45. About and licences

About and licences

App version, map and data sources (OpenStreetMap, OpenTopoMap, Esri, SondeHub, GeoNames, Tawhiri) and open-source libraries with their licences. The full list of credits is on radiosondy.info.

19. Tips

- **Links from the website:** links to sondes on radiosondy.info (*sonde.php*) can open in the app – Android asks which app to use.
- **Sharing:** the share button on the sonde screen sends a link to its page.
- **Request quota:** every API key has a daily request limit, shared by every program using the key. The open live map uses the most – a slower refresh in settings saves the quota. The quota is shown in *System status*, and once 90% is used the app shows a one-time warning.
- **No notifications?** Check battery optimization and the time of the last check in *Settings* → *Notifications*.
- **Rotating the screen:** in landscape the tab bar is on the side and sonde details show the map next to the list.
- **Update the app:** when the server stops supporting the installed version, the app shows a message with a button that opens Google Play instead of its screens.
- **Privacy:** the app keeps the API key and the session only on the phone, encrypted, and never puts them in a backup (the sign-in expires after 30 days); your location is used to compute distances; it reaches the server only when you save it in your account profile or search "nearby" (the centre of the area, accurate to about 11 m).