

Summits on the Air



Summits on the Air (SOTA) is an award scheme for radio amateurs and shortwave listeners that encourages portable operation in mountainous areas. SOTA has been carefully designed to make participation possible for everyone - this is not just for mountaineers! There are awards for **Activators** (those who ascend to the summits) and **Chasers** (who remain in the warmth of their radio shacks!).

How to start participating

All the information you need is on the SOTA web site. The rules contain a list of qualifying summits, together with their locations. Each summit earns the activators

and chasers a score which is related to the height of the summit. Certificates are available for various scores, leading to the prestigious "**Mountain Goat**" and "**Shack Sloth**" trophies.

An Honour Roll for Activators and Chasers is maintained on the SOTA database (<http://www.sotadata.org.uk>) Internet access is an essential requirement for SOTA

What equipment do you need?

Activators will need a radio station that is portable - operation from cars is not allowed! All bands and modes can be used - a 2m



FM handy is ideal for a start! Chasers will simply need a normal home station. Currently, most activity is on 2m FM and SSB, 60m, 40m and 20m CW and SSB.

Activity alerts

Part of the fun is contacting other SOTA participants. To make this easier, we have an internet reflector on which you can post activity alerts and accounts of trips. (<http://www.sotawatch.org>)

Is it popular?

SOTA was launched on 2nd March 2002. There are now more than 50 Associations around the World (and growing), over 3000 registered users, over 1500 activators and more than 42000 qualifying summits

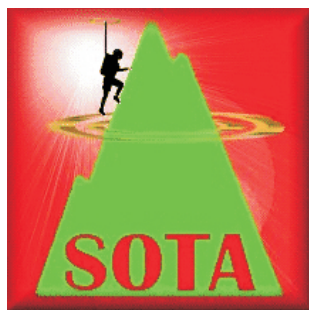
**For more details, visit
the SOTA website:**

<http://www.sota.org.uk>

Hillwalking + Radio = SOTA

Summits on the Air is an award scheme for radio amateurs. It encourages portable operation from mountain and hilltops around the World. All bands and modes can be used making it an ideal objective for the newly licensed and old-hands.

The award ethos is that ascents should always be “human powered”. Operation from, or in the vicinity of, cars is not allowed for SOTA.



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the SOTA website:
<http://www.sota.org.uk>**

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*An exciting award
scheme for radio
amateurs*



<http://www.sota.org.uk>