

GLIDING TRIAL LESSONS



Have you ever wondered what it must be like to float on air above one of the most scenic and tranquil parts of the country?

Great Gift Idea!



Cotswold Gliding Club

At Cotswold Gliding Club we can offer you this exhilarating opportunity. Once airborne you can savour this unique perspective on the Cotswolds whilst experiencing the thrill and excitement of soaring through the air.

“I didn’t even know what a glider was before I went on a Trial Lesson – it was an experience like nothing I have done before – absolutely fantastic!”



TRIAL LESSON EXPERIENCE FLIGHTS OFFER:

- A memorable experience for either yourself or as a gift to someone special.
- A flight in one of the most beautiful parts of England
- A chance to experience the thrill and exhilaration of gliding
- One of the best gliding facilities in the country
- Friendly Qualified Instructors – there to make your day as enjoyable as possible

WHAT IS GLIDING?

A glider is the same as a normal aeroplane except that it doesn't use an engine when it is in flight. Instead, a glider does as you would expect – it glides back to earth but far more efficiently than a normal aeroplane would do. To stay in the air for long periods of time, a glider uses rising air currents. This allows flights from tens of minutes to a few hours or more. It is the ability of the pilot to use the air currents that makes gliding such an exciting and rewarding sport. Once an individual has learnt the basics of gliding and has flown solo, incredible distance flights can be achieved covering hundreds of kilometres and heights comparable to those used by airliners.

What is a Trial Lesson?

A trial lesson is the first introduction that anyone wishing to experience the sport of gliding will undertake. You will be flown by a qualified instructor from our airfield at Aston Down in one of our two seat gliders.



A TRIAL LESSON GIVES YOU:

- One of the most cost effective ways of getting into the air
- A comfortable glider cockpit with fantastic uninterrupted views
- The silence and serenity of soaring glider flight
- Beautiful scenery – a never to be missed photographic experience
- The opportunity to learn the basics of flying an aircraft.
- A professional and safe tuition environment

We offer two main types of trial lesson at



STANDARD TRIAL LESSON

The standard trial lesson gets you in the air and lets you experience a gliding flight. When you arrive your instructor will brief you on the flight and glider. Then you will be taken on a trip that will introduce you to the sheer excitement and exhilaration of the sport. A flight typically lasts up to around 10 minutes (can be longer if the weather permits). You have the option on the day for additional flights that you can purchase (Subject to activities on the day).



EXTENDED TRIAL LESSON

Currently not available due to technical difficulties.

For the extended trial lesson you will experience a much longer glider flight than the standard trial lesson and you will enjoy much more of the Cotswold scenery, with the River Severn winding its way to the Bristol Channel. The flight typically lasts around 30 minutes making the experience that little bit more special.

HOW SAFE IS GLIDING?

Safety is the highest priority in all of our gliding operations and we work hard to minimise the risks. All of our instructors are qualified by the British Gliding Association and are subject to regular re-validation checks.



Our aircraft are checked each day before flying and are subject to thorough annual inspections. Like other activities there is a very small element of risk that is comparable with other sports.

Should you have any concerns or want more information, we would be pleased to discuss it with you.

WHO CAN GO ON A TRIAL LESSON?

One of the great assets of gliding is that there are few restrictions on who is permitted to go on a trial flight. The limited restrictions that we have are as follows:

- If you are less than 7 stone (45kg) or more than 15.5 stone (100kg), you may not be able to fly. Also very tall people, more than 6ft 3ins, may have difficulty fitting into the cockpit.
- Alcohol – For legal and safety reasons you must not fly if you have more than 20 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood (a quarter of the amount for the UK drink drive laws). This is effectively a zero limit.
- Health - You must declare before your flight any health condition that may potentially affect your safety whilst in the air - e.g. motion sickness or epilepsy. Check with our office if you believe you may have a condition that will be problematic.
- For insurance purposes, please notify us if you are over 70 years old.

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

The following are a necessity:

sunglasses, sun-cream and water bottle. You should also bring warm/waterproof clothing for cooler days and lighter summer clothing on warmer days. As with most outdoor activities, applying sun-cream and drinking plenty of fluids is critical for your enjoyment of the day.

If you wish to take photographs in the air, your camera must have a strap so you can secure the camera to your person.



HOW TO BOOK

You can book the Trial Lesson through our office – contact details are at the back of this booklet.

Oct 2014 – Oct 2015 Gliding Fees

Standard Trial Lesson	£46
(Additional flights for the above – max two)	£15 each
Extended Trial Lesson	TBA

Other Flights and Courses Available

Introduction to Gliding Course (1 Day)	£175
Week Gliding Course (held from April to Sept)	£410-£525
Fixed Price to Solo Package (great value!)	£860

For more information on the above please refer to our website

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT GLIDING:

An aeroplane without an engine – how does it fly?

A simple example of how gliding works is if you imagine a car that has run out of petrol, it has to keep going down hill in order to keep going. A glider works on the same principle except it is very efficient – modern gliders can travel over fifty meters forwards for every one meter in height they descend (50:1). An aeroplane such as a Cessna with its engine stopped has a glide ratio of less than 10:1. From a height of around 1500 feet (normal launch height) a modern glider can glide some 14 or more miles.

How Does a Glider Take-off and Land?

At Cotswold Gliding Club we use two main methods of launching the glider (Take-off) – Winching and Aerotow.

Winch Launch – the glider is attached to a winch cable which pulls the glider into the air.

AeroTow Launch – the glider is pulled by a powered aircraft high in the air until the pilot releases.



Landing – Gliders land like conventional aeroplanes, an uneventful and smooth experience!

How does a Glider climb in height once it has been launched?

Once in the air, the glider pilot uses rising currents of air (known as thermals) to gain height (typically up to about 6000 feet in the UK). This can allow a glider to stay airborne for many hours at a time. In mountainous areas greater heights can be achieved in stronger air currents known as wave. It is not uncommon for pilots to routinely fly at heights exceeding 20,000 feet over areas of Wales and Scotland.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT GLIDING

- The longest non-stop glider flight in Britain is 1020 kilometres – almost the equivalent of flying from London to Edinburgh and back!
- The highest altitude a glider has been in the UK is 37,000 feet (higher than most airliners tend to fly at)!
- Most modern gliders can fly at speeds of 150MPH and above.

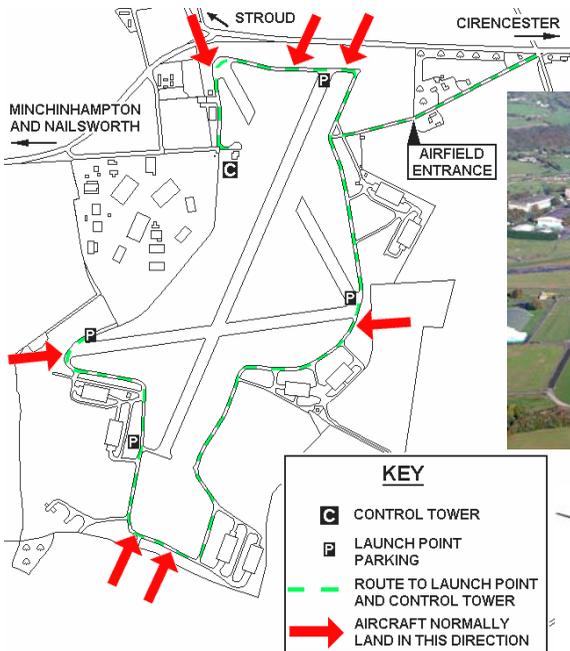
HOW TO FIND US

We are situated off the A419, midway between Stroud and Cirencester. The turning to the club is at a cross roads near to the 'Jolly Nice' cafe and shop.

MAP REFERENCES

Please refer to the website for various links.

THE AIRFIELD



CONTACT INFORMATION

Club Address

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