



Introductory Flights at Southdown Gliding Club

Welcome to SGC! Please carefully read the notes below which describe what will happen when you come to our lovely club in the South Downs, and also check out the Frequently Asked Questions page on our website at <https://www.southdowngliding.co.uk/faqs/>

Bookings and vouchers

At the moment we can only accept visitors who have purchased an SGC Introductory Flight or Trial Lesson Voucher in advance **and** have booked a specific flight slot, either on our website or by phone with the staff in the office. We cannot take payment on the day. You can bring a guest with you to share the experience if you wish. They can come to the launch point with you to see you fly and maybe take some photos!

Arrival

Please arrive in good time for your flight. We have ample parking. It's important that you remember to **bring your Flight Voucher with you**; if you do not have it, or you haven't booked a slot, you will not be able to fly that day.

If you are unable to come to the club for any reason, please let us know as soon as possible.

We do have limited refreshments available, but you may prefer to bring a flask of coffee and a bottle of water, and perhaps a snack. Our clubroom is open, but we often use the chairs and tables on the grass in front of the clubhouse. Toilet and handwashing facilities are available in the Clubhouse.

On arrival, please go to the clubhouse and ask a member to help you. Alternatively, if no one is there, please go to the Launch Point. You will find this either at the southern end of the field (closest to the road), or at the northern end, depending on the wind direction.



For your own safety you must walk along the edge of the field, as aircraft may be taking off or landing anywhere on the field. Do not let children run ahead, and please keep dogs on a lead.



We will check that you have watched the self-briefing video and ask you to complete some paperwork. The Temporary Membership Application Form allows you to fly in a club glider.

Once the paperwork is done, it's time to fly! You'll be taken to meet your instructor.

IMPORTANT NOTE: To fly you will need to be able to walk to and from the launch point; and you **must also be able to get in and out of the glider without needing physical assistance** – a bit like getting into and out of a bath unaided. Please remember also we can only fly with those whose weight is **under about 105kg**.

At the Launch Point

When you arrive at the launch point, you'll meet the instructional team. We'll invite you to sit down whilst we're waiting for a glider to become available. This helps us maintain visitor safety at the launch point. Please make sure any children are safe at the launch point, and don't let them wander!

Getting into the glider

Before you get in, we will help you put on your parachute, brief you as necessary, and then help you strap in. We will then close the canopy and invite the instructor to get in and carry out the pre-flight checks – then you're ready to fly!!

After the flight

After landing, the glider will be met by the ground team, who will assist you in leaving the glider and removing your parachute. We will then walk back to the launch point with the glider and answer any questions. You will be given your temporary membership certificate – which means you can come back for another flight at club flying rates anytime in the next month. All members need to book times to fly at the club, so if you would like to fly again, call the office to arrange a time. Finally, we'll direct you safely back to the car park.

Enjoy the flight, and we hope to see you again soon!