

Channel Gliding Club

Trial Lesson Terms and Conditions and General Information

Please read these terms and conditions carefully

The validity of the trial lesson voucher is nine months from the date that the paypal transaction was completed or from the confirmation of receipt of the cheque. After this period the voucher will become invalid. Where the flight was not taken within nine months and the circumstances were outside the control of the customer then an extension may be granted. Otherwise an extension for a period of one month can be granted on payment of £15. If you book a flight and fail to turn up without informing us then we will assume that the flight has been forfeit. No cancellations or alterations of bookings will be accepted in the 7 days preceding the agreed booking.

Customers are requested to phone on the morning of their flight as weather conditions or other factors may mean that flying will not take place. This could save a wasted journey. It must be remembered that any flying operation can be cancelled at short notice due to unexpected weather or other factors. Should flying be cancelled after you arrive we apologise but we will not endanger customers by attempting to fly them in unsuitable circumstances. If hotels or other bookings have to be cancelled because of non-flying then the Channel Gliding Club, unfortunately, cannot be held responsible for refunding those expenses. The time you are given for your flight is approximate and may be earlier or later than booked.

Flights will last between 6 and 20 minutes depending on whether there are thermals to prolong the flight. Thermals are more likely in the warmer months.

It is important that you understand that this trial lesson is not classed as a commercial passenger flight. In order for you to undertake this lesson you must be a member of Channel Gliding Club and, as a consequence, will be considered part of the crew as a pilot under training. You will be asked to complete a temporary membership form before you fly.

When you are at Channel Gliding Club the airfield will be active so you will be required to read a safety leaflet and sign to say you have done so. Please take care driving on the airfield and obey the signs. Please also take special care that children are constantly supervised and that dogs are kept on a lead.

Gliders have weight and height limitations so if you are over 15 stones (210 lbs, 95 kilos) or over 6ft 2" ins (1.9 metres) please mention this when you phone to book your flight. It is recommended that children under 14 years of age do not fly as the seating is not designed for small people.

Please dress sensibly and wear sturdy shoes. In the autumn and winter months it can be very cold and the airfield can become quite muddy so waterproof shoes and warm clothing are essential. In the summer you will need to apply sun cream. Ladies, if you are flying, please wear trousers rather than a skirt.

You are welcome to take photographs but it is essential that, when you fly, the camera has a wrist strap as it can be very dangerous to drop articles in the cockpit when flying.

Your trial lesson cost includes 3 months temporary membership to Channel Gliding Club. The membership is valid from the day you have your trial lesson. You may come back any time within that period and fly at club rates. If you take advantage of this exceptional offer we expect you to participate as a club member - that is to spend the day at the club and help to get gliders out, operate the signal lights, assist gliders in taking off, etc. You will receive training on how to do this. If, at the end of this period, you wish to join the club as member you will be made most welcome - please see the website for our current tariff.

Should any of your party wish to fly on the day you are at the club they are welcome provided there are free slots and they pay the current trial lesson fee before the flight. All terms and conditions in this document will apply.

There is no catering on site so please bring food and drink with you.

Information and conditions relating to the Fixed Price to Solo package.

Most people, if they can drive a car, are capable of going solo in a glider. To do this requires commitment from both the club and the student. Certain things will either help or hinder flying training and these must be understood before purchase.

This package will be valid for a year from the date of purchase – this is enough time, in most cases, to achieve solo.

1. Ability – there are a very few people who do not have the ability to fly a glider safely although some people will take longer than others to go solo. If, after a while, you find that you are not making progress then we will discuss this with you and you can decide what to do. You may wish to continue and see if things improve or you may decide to stop flying.

2. Physical disability – While we encourage disabled people to fly in gliders some disabilities make it very difficult to go solo. If you think you may not be able to operate all the controls safely then contact us to discuss this and we will advise you whether or not to purchase this package. All student pilots will need a medical before flying solo.

3. Continuity – it is better to fly often rather than now and again. Consequently we would expect the student to turn up for one day a weekend. We realise that this is not always possible with family commitments, holidays, etc but in general regular attendance is essential.

In exceptional circumstances we can extend the period beyond a year. This could be because of prolonged periods of bad weather, unavailability of aircraft, unavoidable personal circumstances, etc.

You will become a member of Channel Gliding Club so, each time you come down to fly, you would be expected to spend the day with us and muck in!

In return, the club will provide a glider and instruction from a qualified British Gliding Association instructor. You will be trained to use the controls, fly the circuit for landing, approach and land the glider, fly the launch and how to safely land the glider after a launch failure, and finally stall and spin recovery. We will also teach you the ground handling tasks such as signalling, launching gliders, logging flights, etc.

Refunds

Please ensure the experience is suitable for you, or for the recipient if this is a gift, before making your purchase as refunds cannot be made after 14 days of purchase, (distance selling act applies). There may be an admin and postal charge if a refund is required.