

GO GLIDING

What is an Introductory Glider Flight???

Welcome – you may have in your hand a Voucher from a friend or a family member who believes you would like to experience and learn about gliding, or maybe you wish to contact our club to explore this opportunity for yourself.

So welcome to the Tauranga Gliding Club. We are a voluntary club whose passion is flying gliders. We aim to provide an opportunity for enthusiastic people to learn to fly, explore the local district in one of our 7 gliders, or to test themselves in contests or extreme distance flying.



A flight is the best option to evaluate whether gliding is for you. Not only will you get a “feel” for our aircraft but also a chance to see Tauranga from the air. You will also get to see our voluntary team in action from your own instructor, tow pilot and wing runner as well as some of our other club members who will be busy learning, teaching, or flying their own or a club glider.

How do I contact the club?? Refer to the main page on the website
-<http://www.glidingtauranga.co.nz/contact/>

Directions to our club are on this page as well.

The latest flight options and prices are also on the website under “introductory flights and packages”.

What should I wear?

In the summer light weight clothes are best, probably a sun hat, sun block, running shoes or the like. Sunglasses are a good idea at any time of the year.

In the winter it can be quite cool so maybe a warmer shirt, longs and a sweatshirt.

Please feel free to carry a camera.

Gliding is weather dependent. Flights before 1 pm on light wind days are very gentle. Thermal conditions are best between noon and 4 pm. On a strong south-westerly day, from Tauranga it is possible to go for a wave flight.

What happens on the day?

Firstly there is a small amount of paperwork to complete. A temporary club membership for three months from the day you first fly.

Your instructor will brief you on the weather conditions of the day and how they will affect you coming flight.



Then your instructor will give you a briefing about the glider you and your instructor will be flying in.



Now it's time to get in and get ready.



The Tow-plane will then taxi into position and the rope will be attached to your glider;



The tow plane requests clearance from the tower, then off you go.....



And after about 10 minutes the glider will release from the tow-plane and you will get a chance to gain an appreciation of gliding. Why we don't need a motor to stay airborne, what the flight characteristics of a glider are or how far or high gliders can go. You will be given hands on control of the glider and shown how the glider turns and changes speed. But after a while its back onto the airfield;



And lastly your instructor answers any questions you might have.



And now you have a decision...do I want to learn more???

Your flight package entitles you (only the named person on the voucher) two further flights which you will be charged for at club members rates (Cash or Eftpos only). Payment is due immediately after the flight. Your instructor will tell you the current charges. Both the tow plane and glider are charged out separately per minute. Rates can be found on the website under information/fleet and rates. The Tauranga Gliding Club is well established financially and members privileges offer you the cheapest flying rates in New Zealand.