



www.leinsterglidingcentre.ie

LEINSTER
GLIDING CENTRE

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WELCOME INFORMATION

This leaflet contains answers to some of the questions you might have before visiting the Leinster Gliding Centre to take your first flight.

FIRST BOOK YOUR INTRODUCTORY FLIGHT

Air experience flights are arranged for Saturday or Sunday mornings throughout the year, weather permitting.

Call **087 2355807** to book.

The best time to call is during the evening after 7:30pm and not later than 10pm.

YES - WE DO HAVE A WEIGHT LIMIT!

Because of weight and balance regulations on aircraft we regret we cannot fly passengers who weigh more than 100KG.

100KG = 220lb = 15 ¾ Stone

Inclusive of your clothes, footwear, mobile phone, camera, keys and coins! Should there be any uncertainty we reserve the right to weigh passengers before flight.

ON THE DAY OF YOUR FLIGHT

You should arrive on the airfield by 09:30am.

You should bring the attached membership form and your boarding pass. (These were included as attachments with your email receipt).

To save time please complete your membership form *before* arrival at the airfield. Print all your details clearly and legibly. Sign and date the form and remember to complete and sign the medical declaration on the second page.

HOW TO FIND THE AIRFIELD

The address of the airfield is:

GOWRAN GRANGE AIRFIELD

SWORDLESTOWN NORTH

NAAS

CO. KILDARE

W91 VN52

If you have Google Maps in your phone, put our Eircode **W91 VN52** in the search box and the app will navigate you to our gate.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

ask for the **Duty Pilot, Duty Instructor** or an **Air Experience Pilot**.

You will be given a tour of the hangar and receive a short briefing on what to expect during your flight, airfield safety, theory of flight in gliders, understanding the basic instruments etc.

Once the gliders have been moved from the hangar to the launch point flights will take place according to the flying list for that day. Please note there may be other air experience candidates listed to fly before you.

WHAT WILL MY FLIGHT ENTAIL?

You will fly, in the front or sometimes in the rear seat of the glider with an experienced pilot at the controls. The aircraft will be towed to two thousand feet by our tow plane and. Once the glider is flying free of the tow your pilot will demonstrate how the controls work and manoeuvre the aircraft for you. You can ask lots of questions or just sit back and enjoy the panoramic view. Your flight may be expected to last from twelve to twenty minutes.

WHAT ABOUT THE WEATHER?

Even though it might be raining where you live, at the same time there may be good flying conditions at our airfield. Of course, the opposite may also be true. The only way to find out is to travel to the airfield and see for yourself.

Flying is very weather dependent and it is not unusual to turn up on the airfield to find the cloud base is too low or gusty conditions are likely to render flying uncomfortable. Your flight may have to be re-scheduled to take place at a later date when conditions are more suitable.

WHAT TO WEAR

In wintertime wear a number of layers of warm comfortable clothing and flat waterproof footwear.

In summertime apply plenty of 50 SPF sunscreen, wear sunglasses for glare and a hat with a narrow brim for shade.

WHAT TO BRING

Expect to be at the club for a number of hours so bring a bottle of water and suitable snacks.

MAY I BRING FAMILY OR FRIENDS?

Yes, they will be very welcome. However, children must be supervised at all times.

PETS MUST REMAIN IN YOUR CAR.

WHAT ABOUT MY TRIAL MEMBERSHIP?

Beginning from your first flight you are a member of the Dublin Gliding Club for a temporary period during which you may continue to visit and begin to learn to fly with our experienced gliding instructors. You have the option to join the club when your trial membership expires if you wish.

If you put your name on the flying list again once you land you might get another flight on the same day. Only your first flight can be booked in advance. After that just turn up on any flying day and make sure to get your name on the flying list as soon as you arrive.

You may buy more flights and pay the glider rental fee at member's rates using our online payment portal. (Ask the Duty Pilot to help).

WHAT IS THE CLUB ETHOS?

Unlike many other aviation sporting organisations in Ireland the Leinster Gliding Centre operates as a club, not a commercial business. We aim to fly our members as economically as possible while still covering our costs and depreciation on our aircraft and equipment. Members are expected to muck in and help with all the tasks needed to run and maintain the operation. This includes turning up early in the morning to help unpack the hangar, inspect the aircraft, tow them out to the launch point and so on. Members who turn up later in the day are expected to remain until the end of flying to help with cleaning and putting everything away again.

IS GLIDING SAFE?

Gliding is an adventure sport and as such could not be considered as safe as travelling on a commercial airliner for example. If you're looking for a totally risk-free activity, gliding may not be the right fit for you. But on the same basis neither would horse riding, skiing, playing amateur rugby, kite surfing and many other exciting activities!

When you fly with us you do so at your own risk but if you are concerned about this you can add gliding to your insurance cover for a nominal extra charge.

Gliders are regulated by EASA (the European Air Safety Agency) just like any other aircraft. They are serviced, inspected and issued with airworthiness certificates annually. Mandatory daily inspections of the aircraft are conducted before they are signed out for flight.

When you visit the club, you will find that our pilots are generally level headed, modest and cautious people. Certainly not extreme sport or thrill-seeker types.

The whole organisation of gliding from the Irish Gliding & Soaring Association (IGSA) down to club member level is safety driven. The pilot you fly with is licensed by the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) under EASA PART SFCL rules to carry passengers or instruct. Our instructors contribute their skills for the good of the sport, without charge.