

Why choose Oxford Gliding Club?

OGC is a friendly and affordable club located at Weston on the Green in Oxfordshire, just off J9 of the M40, in D129. Our central location combined with one of the largest grass fields in the UK, makes OGC perfect for members looking to enjoy longer flights and versatile cross-country flying. Our Dyneema equipped winch is capable of launches over 2,000 feet, even in light winds, and the large airfield allows for a set-up in any direction with easy un-restricted circuit planning.

We are primarily a weekends club as we share the airfield with RAF parachute training who operate mid-week. We can however operate whenever there is no RAF activity. There can be occasions when due to increased RAF parachuting activity, our operation can be restricted during the weekends, however these occasions are rare and forecast in advance. We have a good relationship with the RAF and even on those occasions can often work around the drop schedule to launch gliders on task.

Our purpose-built hangar is adjoined to the clubhouse with excellent facilities for social events and flight planning. We have a very well-equipped glider workshop available to private owners. The surrounding grounds are utilised for trailer and caravan parking, so members can keep their aircraft on site. There is a caravan parking area with allocated spaces for sixteen caravans and a camping ground for tents and camper vans.

We are a social club. Summer evenings are normally spent with a tasty barbeque around a bonfire. There is a provision for non-flying membership so weekends at OGC are family friendly occasions.

We usually have at least one expedition a year. Ridge and wave sites are popular in the spring and autumn, with regular trips to Talgarth, Denbigh and further afield to Scotland and the Alps. OGC has something for everyone from the social local soarer to the keen cross-country explorer.



Q: When do you operate?

A: Weekends and bank holidays.

Q: What does it cost?

A: All our prices are at oxfordgliding.com/prices, with a lockdown special discount of £50.

Q: What is the club fleet?

A: Refinished K21, owned from new K13, DG505 20M cross country trainer with aerobatic plate configuration, 2 x Astirs and a K8 all well-equipped including Flarm for badge claims, for fun we also have a vintage open cockpit T21.

Q: Do you have space for new members?

A: We have sole use of the airfield and capacity to increase our membership.

Q: When does membership run?

A: 12 months from when you join the club and pay the membership fee, no set cycle.

Q: Can I book lessons?

A: Flying is on a first come first served basis using a flying list at the launch point.

Q: Can I bring my glider?

A: Subject to CFI approval we have plenty of parking spaces.

Q: Can I hire a glider to fly in competitions or for expeditions?

A: Club gliders are available to hire per day/week when not supporting the weekend operation and subject to the committee approval.

Q: Can I instruct?

A: Given the right qualifications and checkout by the CFI there are plenty of instructing opportunities.

Q: How many launches are taken by air experience flights with the public?

A: We try to encourage public groups to fly Friday evenings to kick-start the weekend. We have strict limits for air experience flights on Saturdays and Sundays.

Q: Can I fly motor aircraft?

A: Crown indemnity requirements and limited storage usually preclude this. However, it is possible to launch engine-equipped gliders from our winch.

Q: Can I get aerotow?

A: We are winch only, but with 2000+ft launches who needs aerotow?

Q: What cross-country possibilities are there?

A: With a great location we see pilots flying cross-country all over southern England and Wales. Most of our cross-country pilots have flown diamond distances from Weston in club-class ships. We have a great ship for cross-country training. We like unusual destinations with several of our pilots making it to St Catherine's Point (and back).

Q: Is there any accommodation?

A: There are no bunk rooms, but you can camp, motorhome or apply to bring a caravan on site, spaces are available.

Q: Is water ballast available?

A: We have filling available at the hangar. Our winch is easily able to launch fully ballasted gliders.

Q: How often does RAF parachuting run into the weekend?

A: This can happen on 3-4 weekends days each year on average. It is often possible to work around the drop schedule on those days and still operate.

Q: How safe is OGC's tenure at Weston on the Green?

A: We have a long lease, great relationship with the RAF and local community. We own all our assets including our buildings. Unlike risks associated with purely commercial landlords we feel better positioning than some.

Q: Who handles maintenance?

A: We are all volunteers which keeps costs low, whether a trained inspector or grass cutter.

Q: What's the social scene like?

A: We have several parties a year, BBQs every Friday in the summer and pub dinners most flying days.

Q: What is the culture of OGC?

A: We are a friendly inclusive club where everyone is encouraged to actively participate. We have a good age range and mix of nationalities. Like most clubs we would like more female members to experience the joy of gliding.

Q: What's the best thing you do?

A: Make great friendships and celebrate everyone's flying ambitions.