



Lesson and Tandem flight information

Paragliding Tandem Flights \$220

Tandem flights are a great way to experience the thrill of paragliding without having to undergo a full license course.

Tandem trial instructional flights have an average duration of 20 minutes (depending on prevailing weather conditions). Flights are conducted from a number of different locations around the Mount Tamborine area, again depending on the prevailing weather conditions. Tandem passengers must be over 14 years of age and weigh less than 95kg. All tandem flights must be pre booked and pre paid. We only take a limited number of passengers per day so the earlier you book, the better your chance of getting a flight on the day of your choosing. On the day of the flight, you will be asked to phone your tandem pilot at a predetermined time (usually 9am) to confirm the time of the flight and the location for the days flying. If the weather conditions are not suitable for flying on the day of the booking, we will reschedule the flight to another day of your choosing. (We need to be flexible as our sport is governed by the weather.) *Please note the refund clause outlined at the end of this information.*

Paragliding Queensland Lesson Course Information

Two Day Introductory Lesson \$550

Our two day introductory lesson gives the student a good overview of what is involved in learning how to paraglide, as well as giving the student the opportunity to assess their suitability to the sport without committing to a full license course. Day one involves getting familiar with all the equipment used during training including canopy, harness and communications equipment. Your first task is learning how to "inflate" and launch your glider. This is done on either flat ground or a very gentle slope where you may leave the ground for maybe a second at a time. Expect this process to take most of the first day.

Success in that challenging but rewarding exercise will allow you to move on to the next phase of making very short flights (maximum altitude 2m) down our training slope. Once you have proven your ability to control the direction of the glider while airborne, you will (depending on the weather conditions), be allowed to make higher flights. These flights can either be from our higher hills or from our fully approved and tested towing system. Towing enables the student to be taken to as high as 200m in altitude whereby they release with a simple movement of the foot before a gliding flight under radio control and landing in close proximity to the instructor.

By the end of the two-day introductory lesson, most students decide to continue on with the full solo license course. The cost of (and experience gained) during your two-day introductory lesson, can be credited towards your Full Solo license course if you continue with your course within two months of completing your two-day introductory lesson.

Full Solo License Course \$1800

This course aims to complete your training and have you competent to fly from most sites without an instructor present.

We do not cut corners in your training, and use all methods available to ensure competence including hill launching, tow launching, slope soaring, thermal soaring as well as a complete theory component. Most students of average ability will achieve a license in about 10 days of flying. Some may learn faster. The practical flying lessons take place at locations within 15km of Canungra, while theory lessons take place at our theory room in our shop in Canungra.

The tasks you will need to master before being issued with a HGFA paragliding license are as follows:

1. Layout and pack up of all equipment.
2. Preflight checking of all equipment and an understanding of the reason for the checks.
3. Take off skills in all wind conditions ranging from nil to moderate and in straight to cross winds.
4. Airspeed control and smooth changes in control.
5. Landing approach and landings in all wind conditions.
6. Assessing conditions suitable for flight and selecting a suitable launch point and launch technique.
7. Smooth turns from 90 to 360 degrees with smooth return to straight and level flight.
8. Smooth pitch control
9. Accumulate 30 flights minimum.

Our courses run all year, as do our tandem flights. Prior booking is a must as available dates fill up quickly.

**If you decide to purchase a new kit including canopy, harness, reserve parachute, helmet, radio and flight instrument at the start of your full course, the cost of your course will be reduced by \$1000. You are then able to do your training on your own equipment thus gaining maximum familiarity and comfort.*

If you decide to purchase your equipment at the completion of a two day introductory lesson, and prior to the commencement of the remainder of your course, the full course cost will be reduced by \$800.

To be eligible for the above discounts, you will need to spend a minimum of \$7000 on your equipment. This is approximately the cost of a full kit of gear.

Please note: It is a requirement that all persons, who participate in paragliding, whether as a tandem passenger or a student, must be a financial member of the HGFA. (Hang Gliding Federation of Australia). The cost of your tandem flight or two day introductory lesson includes a "training instructional membership". However if you continue beyond the two-day introductory lesson, you will be required to join the HGFA as a "student pilot" or "full member". The cost of student pilot membership is \$99 while the full membership is \$253. HGFA regulations state that this membership needs to be paid before any further instruction can take place. Your HGFA membership covers you for third party liability and your HGFA magazine "Australian Soaring" subscription.

Equipment and Training

All equipment supplied for your lesson courses is “state of the art” equipment. Gin Gliders and Sup'Air harnesses are used exclusively within the school, and are brand new or of very low hours.

Paragliding Queensland has been teaching the sport of paragliding longer than any school in Queensland, and longer than most schools in Australia. We have seen the sport develop and know our equipment inside out. We only supply the best equipment available.

Equipment for when you have finished your license: (For full details, please refer to the attached “Suggested equipment” document.

The minimum gear that you will need to safely carve up your piece of the sky is canopy, harness, emergency parachute, UHF 2way radio, and helmet and flight instrument. Other gear can be purchased later on but is not necessary.

An equipment package including canopy, harness and emergency parachute and can be purchased for as little as \$3000 for "pre-owned" or up to \$5600 for new "state of the art" equipment. "Pre-owned" will be of lower performance than new gear and lower than that of the equipment you do your training on. Helmet and radios are not common on the second hand market, so you should be prepared to purchase these items new.

Canopy - A brand new "state of the art" entry-level paragliding canopy like the *Gin Bolero Plus* will cost \$3850. Higher performance models are available ranging in price from \$4200 up to \$5000, however it is advised that new pilots purchase an "entry level" canopy as their first wing.

Rather than purchasing a brand new canopy, many of our students take advantage of our "fly and buy" offer. Students begin using a brand new glider at the start of their lesson course and then purchase that glider at the end of the course for a substantial discount on new cost (around \$500 less). The advantage of this is that the student will know the history of the glider, where the glider has been flown and how it has been treated. They also get acquainted with their wing, which will speed up the transition to the "Intermediate" license.

Harnesses - Our training harnesses are all "state of the art" but are designed specifically for the training environment and as such are kept in the school and not sold to students. Most students choose to purchase a good "Cross Country" harness as their first harness due to the added comfort for long periods in the air, and better storage on the harness in the way of side pockets and such.

A new top of the line harness will cost between \$800-\$1100 depending on the style and features you want.

License recognition

Your HGFA paragliding license is recognised world wide, but to make it easy when you travel you would be advised to firstly obtain an intermediate license and an International Pilot Proficiency Identification card (IPPI).

The intermediate license will take a minimum of three months and 25hrs of flying here in Australia, and passing another theory exam. There is no cost for this license, however if you don't have equipment to use there will be a cost for the rental of that gear. The IPPI will cost \$11. If you do travel with a restricted license, you will probably have to do a check flight with an instructor prior to flying in any country you visit.

One of the greatest assets of paragliding is that you can easily take your gear with you. No need to rent gear of which you don't know the history. Take and fly your own wing and be totally comfortable. It's only the size of a large backpack.

We trust this information has been of assistance in your decision to learn to fly with Paragliding Queensland www.paraglidingcentre.com.au

As a final note, please remember that when it comes to choosing who will teach you to fly, price should be at the bottom of the list. The experience of the instructor and quality of your instruction as well as the types of launch techniques, flying sites and flying conditions covered in your training will be much more important in the long run.

Note: All information included here may be subject to change without notice.

Paragliding Queensland

Paragliding tandem flight booking refund clause.

1. No refund available for "no shows" or cancellations on the day of the flight.
2. 50% refund is available for cancellations between 1-3 days prior to the booked flight day
3. 75% refund is available for cancellations between 4 days and one week prior to the booked flight day.
4. No rescheduling permitted on the flight day.
5. Late rescheduling (1-3 days) prior to the flight day accepted only if space available on the day requested.

6. All refund requests must be made in writing to: "Paragliding Qld" and must be accompanied by a copy of the original invoice/receipt.
7. No refunds will be paid by cheque or cash. Credit card or direct "online" transfer only.
8. All vouchers are fully transferable but the weight and age limit applies to all transferees. New passengers name, weight and date of birth must be supplied to Paragliding Queensland no later than 3 days prior to the flight.
9. The "valid to" date shown on gift certificates is a "first contact" validity date. The validity date can be extended by up to 12 months if weather conditions prohibit flight on the day of your booking.