

# 9 DAY HANG GLIDING COURSE OUTLINE

## **Welcome to the SE Queensland Hang gliding - 9 day course .**

Following is a brief outline that describes a typical 9 days training. This is a guide only but it will give you an understanding as to what expect each day and additional information to make your experience the most enjoyable.

Your training will be split into 3 different phases,

1. The training hill (ab initio)
2. High glides
3. Soaring Flights

Hang gliding is a very dynamic sport and weather conditions can affect the training schedule. Our number one priority is student safety and if weather conditions are not suitable training will be postponed or rescheduled.

We hope that you get the most out of this flying experience and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to talk to your instructor.

## **A typical day on the Training Hills**

This will be approx. 6 days out of a 9 day course and involves 1 or 2 instructors.

*(Please note the number of days training varies for each student due to individual learning capabilities and levels of fitness.)*

- Day starts at 9.30am (Day 1 will include half an hour for introduction, paperwork and payment)
- Theory session 2hrs per day working through all phases from pre high glide to soaring phase.
- Lunch 11.30am – 12.15pm (bring your own or can be purchased from Canungra or Beaudesert.)
- 12.15pm load gear and head to training hills (this takes approximately 1 hr 15 mins). We will also stop in Beaudesert for toilets or a food stop for 15mins if required.
- Upon arriving at the training hills we will pick a suitable location and set up the hang gliding equipment.
- Practical training will commence at approx. 2pm depending upon weather conditions. ie. Thermal activity at a minimum (smooth air is most suitable at this stage of your training.)
- Practical training includes glider handling, flat ground flights to small training slope flights assisted by your instructor(s), and as the days progress you will be flying unassisted but with radio assistance from the top of the training slopes.
- During this time you will be gaining all of the necessary launch, landing and control techniques to achieve the solo standard required before moving onto high glides. This is a competency based stage and you must reach the required level of skill needed to safely control a hang glider.
- The way in which you will use the gliders will be 1 glider to a maximum of 3 students; this ensures that the glider is used continuously as you have a rest in between training flights.
- Typically early stages require a large quantity of short flights near the bottom of the hill while later training requires a smaller quantity of longer flights, as you will be higher up the training hill.
- Your day will end at approx. 5.00pm, sunset or student fatigue which ever comes first. We will pack up the gliders and head back to Canungra.



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## Your First High Glides

Your first high glides will be approx. 1-2 days out of a 9 day course.

This involves 2 instructors, one at the top and one at the bottom of the hill with radio assistance.

- Day starts at 6.00am, load gliders and equipment.
- Travel to landing field to inspect landing area, talk about approach pattern and discuss flight plan.
- 7.00am, travel to the top of the mountain and set up hang gliders.
- Your first high glide will commence at approx 8.15am. The glide time will be about 6 – 8 minutes.
- During these days you will conduct up to 2 high glides depending upon weather conditions.
- Competencies to achieve during these days are correct launch technique, correct flying speeds, stalls, 180 and 360 degree turns, approach and landing technique. (Focusing mainly on the aircraft approach and landing technique)
- We will finish doing High glides at around 11.30am due to increase in thermal activity. However, if conditions allow we may continue and do a maximum of 3 high glides per day.
- We will have a 45 minute lunch at the end of your high glide flights.
- The day will finish at approx. 3.00pm after a debrief and the completion of theory subjects.

## Soaring Flights and Certificate Completion

This will be approx. 1-2 days and involves 2 instructors initially and 1 instructor during final stages

- Day will start early or late depending upon weather conditions. The weather required is a wind strength of approx 15kts or light to moderate thermal conditions.
- Days will be approx. 6 hours starting at 7am – 1pm for morning flights or 11pm – 5pm
- Soaring will consist of flights up to a minimum of 20 minutes.
- Competencies to achieve during these days include: Assess weather, plan flight, launch safely, fly safely and land safely using your own judgement. Initially you will be doing these with radio assistance and upon certificate completion you will need to demonstrate to the instructor that you can conduct the above competencies to a solo standard without instructor assistance.
- At this stage all theory shall be completed along with a theory exam. Upon completion of all theory and practical phases you will gain a HGFA Restricted Training Certificate. This will allow you to fly your hang glider in accordance with the rules and regulations set out in the HGFA operations manual (note – restricted means you will need to do your first 25hrs with other experienced hang gliders pilots, your instructor will advise you on how to best join the local flying community / club to ensure your safety and longevity in the exciting sport of hang gliding.



## Equipment and Responsibilities

All equipment will be supplied for the duration of the course and any further training, if needed. You may supply your own equipment under certain conditions which we will be happy to discuss with you before or during the course.

Responsibilities for use of the equipment during your training are as follows:

- We will take responsibility of the equipment during the initial flying stage at the training hills up to the point that you are competent in launching, landing and flying the hang glider with minimal assistance.  
*Eg. If you are under instructor assistance and the instructor asks you to turn left into the wind and you turn right into a tailwind, which results in glider damage, you will be responsible for payment of the repairs.*
- During the pre high glide and soaring phases – it will be your responsibility to look after the glider you fly and any damages caused will be an additional expense.  
*Eg. If you break an upright you will be required to pay for it*

## Other Responsibilities

- Smoking is prohibited whilst at the training hills and in close proximity to the hang gliders.
- During lunchtime it is your responsibility to have lunch within the allocated period. If we purchase lunch from Canungra or Beaudesert we ask that you please leave enough time so that we can depart for the training hills on schedule. We want to ensure maximum time on the training hills.
- If you are late or have to leave early for any of the theory or practical lessons you will have to make up this lost time at your own expense. This time will be organised to suit both yourself and the instructor.

## Conditions of Payment

- A deposit of \$550 is required in advance prior to you starting the course. This will be non-refundable if you withdraw from the course within 14 days prior to the course commencement date. We may refund the deposit in the event of exceptional circumstances.
- Full course payment is required before the commencement of the 3rd days training. This payment is also non-refundable except in the event of exceptional circumstances.
- Payment for damages to equipment that you are responsible for shall be made before starting the next days training.
- If more than nine days training are required outside the time frame stated throughout this document, additional training days will incur a fee calculated on a daily basis subject to your progress. Maximum daily rate will be \$250 (incl. gst). Minimum daily rate will be \$165 (incl. gst). This shall be paid daily before the start of each days training.



### Additional Costs

Extras for the course include:

- Theory Book – By Peter Cheeney or Denis Pagen \$70 approx. *(optional)*
- 4 months HGFA membership \$150 *(this is mandatory for the 9 day course)* or 12 months \$270. The first 3 days are included in course price.
- Pilot Ops manual - HGFA \$45 *(optional)*

### Purchasing Equipment

At the end of your course you will be required to purchase your own equipment as we do not formally hire out hang gliders or hang gliding equipment. But as part of your training we will guide you through it all and discuss a variety of options to suit your ability, skill level and budget.

Altitude Windsports and SE Queensland Hang Gliding are both dealers for various hang gliding and hang gliding equipment manufacturers. We also have a stock of second hand equipment.

We encourage you to purchase your equipment from us as it will be correctly checked and test flown to ensure your safety in the sport. If you decide to buy equipment elsewhere we will be more than happy to do an appraisal and check flight for a fee and if parts are required we will advise you of the cost involved.

If you decide to purchase equipment through us we may be able to loan you our equipment until yours arrives, subject to availability and conditions.

We currently have a number of deals on offer which we will discuss with you.

### Enjoy your Journey

Our experienced instructors aim to make your experience most enjoyable. We pride ourselves in providing a safe and easy introduction to flying. We will offer you a professional and innovative approach to hang gliding and are dedicated to making your flying experience one of a lifetime.

All feedback , stories, photo or comments you have in regards to your training are welcome.

Thank you for choosing Altitude Windsports and SE Queensland Hang Gliding. We trust that you will have a great week and will enjoy the excitement, adventure and purity of flying a hang glider.

