

Info on your Paragliding Course

Thank you for booking a Paragliding experience with us! We will make sure you will have a great day.

Here is some information to make sure you come well prepared and make the most out of your day.

Bookings

Please call us on 09-446 0020 or 021-727 013 or email to info@wingsandwaves.co.nz to make a booking. We are available most days from September to May. During the winter we mainly operate on the weekend - unless it looks really good...

We appreciate bookings a week in advance as that helps us plan, but you can always try for short notice bookings.

The best time of the day to call us is 9-10am; even if we all go out teaching, we are usually available that time of the day. Often, one of us is available on the phone most of the day.

To make a booking, we will need a contact phone number, your approximate weight and your voucher number if you have a gift voucher.

Cancellations need to be done 48 hrs in advance, please. Note that vouchers can expire if you fail to do so. Please understand that we organise trips and staff according to the bookings - call us asap with any changes.

On the day of your booking, please ring 9am. This is essential as we need to pack equipment according to who is coming out. Once we have left our premises, which is typically by 10am, we cannot go back should we need gear for you. Still, we often have some extra and we nearly always take the tandems.

Once at the flying site, we may not have any cell phone connection, depending on where we go flying. If you are running late, makes sure to ring before 11am.

NZHGPA membership

Civil Aviation law requires you to be at least

a student member of the NZHGPA prior to commencing your course. Please join up on <http://member.nzhgpa.org.nz>, noting Wings & Waves as instructors.

Sites and places to meet

We use a variety of flying sites around Auckland. Except one, they are all within an hour of Auckland city. Some are in town. Every morning, we choose the site which suits the weather conditions best and gives you the best flights or training possible on the day.

Many days, we split up into beginner and advanced groups, something only Wings & Waves offers. That way, the learners use the conditions to suit their level of training and progress best.

To meet up with us, you can either come to our premises in Bayswater or meet us at the site.

Maps of the most common sites are on our webpage at www.wingsandwaves.co.nz/PGsites

Meeting at Wings & Waves in Bayswater:

Please check the day before at what time we are planning to leave. Most typically, that is 10am. Make sure to be here by 9.45am the latest so that we can organise car pooling or fill out forms.

How to get to Wings & Waves by car:

Exit the motorway at Esmond Road on the North Shore and follow the signs to Devonport.

When you get to the shops at Belmont - you will notice an obvious McDonald shop on the corner - turn right at the traffic lights, following the signs to the "Bayswater Marina and Bayswater Ferry".

This is Bayswater Avenue, formerly King Edward Ave (if you have an old map). Follow this street to the roundabout, turn right into Beresford Street.

Due to asbestos issues at our usual premises, we are operating out of Eva's place at no 26 Beresford Street.

To get to Wings & Waves by Ferry:

From the Downtown Ferry Terminal at the bottom of Queen Street, take the ferry to Bayswater. It takes 7 minutes across the harbour. Here is a timetable for the ferry. Note: The Fullers staff is not good at announcing or signposting, so take care to end up on the ferry to Bayswater!

When you get off the ferry on the Bayswater side, walk up the road to the roundabout, stay left, walking into Beresford Street. Find no 26.

More info and a map are on our web site on www.wingsandwaves.co.nz/address

Car pooling

Thinking about our carbon footprint, carpooling seems a good idea. Meet at our place if that works. With today's fuel costs, please give every the driver \$10 at least, including Reuben and Eva. They will probably be too polite to ask for it. You will save a lot more than that and that way, you will get a ride next time.

What to wear

Expect an active day outdoors. Good footwear is essential to avoid slipping or twisting an ankle. Ideally, wear hiking boots. Failing that, wear well-traded sports shoes or something in which you can walk up a hill.

For clothing, wear comfortable clothing in which you can move well. Even in summer, bring a wind breaking jacket as you spend some time exposed to wind.

What to bring

Bring your own helmet if you have one: Bicycle helmets, snowboard or skiing helmets are suitable or dedicated paragliding and hang gliding helmets. Motorbike helmets etc are no good for paragliding as your vision and your hearing are restricted.

Sun protection, both a hat and sunscreen lotion are essential.

Some of our flying sites are in remote areas which is part of the beauty of paragliding. The downside can be that there are no facilities such as cafes, opportunities to buy any drink or food. Hence, please bring plenty of food and more drink than you expect to need, at least 2L.

How the day goes

We typically meet at the flying site at 11am. On many days, we finish flying at about 4.30pm or 5pm, mainly because this tends to me as much flying and concentrating everyone can do in one day. Sometimes we stay longer. We have been known to celebrate the day with a drink at the pub after.

If you need to leave earlier, you may want to take your own car to the site, best a 4WD right to the take off site. Muriwai does not need 4WD.

In case of weather cancellation

If the weather ends up not as expected, we may cancel the course or flight at any stage. We do that for safety reasons. After many years of running such courses, we predict the weather very well. Still, it doesn't always work out which is simply part of the sport.

Should we cancel, we will re-book your flight for you at a convenient time.

Check List

- » **made a booking**
- » **joined the NZHGPA**
- » **called 9 am to confirm time and place**
- » **bring your voucher or cash if you haven't paid in advance**
- » **helmet, bike helmet or snowboarding / skiing**
- » **sturdy footwear**
- » **comfy clothing + warm top**
- » **sun hat + sun screen lotion**
- » **big packed lunch**
- » **lots of drinking water**