



Wingwalking Experience Information Pack







With our passion and expertise, AeroSuperBatics can offer you one of the most amazing and exhilarating flying experiences of a lifetime!

Having been in the wingwalking business for over 30 years and with our 100% safety record, we are considered the world's most established and experienced wingwalking team.

Flown by one of our wingwalking display pilots, you will take to the skies on the top wing of one of our Boeing Stearman biplanes and experience an exciting series of flypasts, zoom climbs, steep dives and banks in front of the family and friends you bring along on the day.

Please take a moment to read through the following information.

The voucher holder must meet the requirements listed below:

-  You must be at least 18 years old
-  You must be no taller than 6ft 2" (1.88m)
-  You must be no heavier than 14 stone (89kg) *(with clothing)*
-  Your waist measurement, whilst wearing warm clothing and a jacket must be less than 40 inches
-  You must be able to climb completely unassisted up to and down from the top wing of one of our Boeing Stearman biplanes. This is a steep climb of approximately 10ft / 3m, but you will be given full guidance by our professional wingwalker
-  You have not suffered from any of the following conditions: *Epilepsy, fits, severe head injury, recurrent blackouts, fainting fits or giddiness, disease of the brain or nervous system, high blood pressure, heart or lung disease, recurrent weakness or dislocation of any limb, diabetes, mental illness, drug or alcohol addiction.*

[Professional Wingwalkers](#)

Our AeroSuperBatics Wingwalkers provide full training and safety briefings for our wingwalking experiences. They will answer any questions and, when you are ready, guide you onto the top wing and secure you in to the safety harness before take-off.

[Professional Wingwalking Pilots](#)

All our AeroSuperBatics Wingwalking Display Pilots are highly experienced with many flying hours as pilot in command. Each has a Civil Aviation Authority Pilot's License, an Air Display Authorisation and undergoes regular mandatory medical checks.

Your pilot will brief you before the flight and discuss the manoeuvres that will be performed with you on the wing. Your pilot will also reiterate the hand signals that will be covered in your training. These are used to communicate with him during the flight if necessary, including if you want him to land.

[Aircraft](#)

Our Boeing Stearman biplanes have 450hp Pratt and Whitney radial engines and have been specially adapted for wingwalking under Civil Aviation Authority regulations. They are maintained to Civil Aviation Authority requirements and have a current Certificate of Airworthiness.

[Wingwalking Rig & Harness](#)

You will be secured in to the wingwalking rig on the top wing by a Civil Aviation Authority approved safety harness. The harness is fastened and then secured by a second locking system called a locking pin. This locking pin protects the harness from accidental opening.

[The Wingwalking Experience](#)

After being secured onto the top wing by our professional wingwalker, the pilot will start the engine and taxi across the airfield. You will then take to the skies on the wing for an exciting series of fly- pasts in front of your family and friends, including climbs, dives and banks for the more adventurous. The wingwalking experience lasts approximately 8-10 minutes, but allow 3 hours for your visit.

We do not do aerobatic manoeuvres (loop the loop etc) for first-time guest wingwalkers as we do not know how the wingwalker will react on their first go. If you want a high adrenaline ride the pilot can tailor the flight and can include steep dips and dives, wing-overs and banked turns for the more adventurous. Alternatively if you would prefer a more sedate flight that is possible too! Returning guest wingwalkers can request aerobatics – please mention this at time of booking and provide the booking reference of your first flight.

[Clothing](#)

It is important that wingwalkers arrive wearing close-fitting clothing, as anything loose will whip against you in the wind and be uncomfortable. The wind chill can be quite cold, so warm layers are ideal - plus a hoodless coat. Footwear that cover the whole foot is essential with trainers being ideal. The wind force is strong, so no loose articles are allowed including all jewellery. For those with long hair, we recommend tying it back or plaiting it securely, as loose hair can result in horrendous knots! We provide goggles, ear-plugs, gloves and optional flying overalls. Small-framed glasses can be worn underneath our wingwalking goggles, although if they do not fit comfortably then you will have to fly without your glasses as flying goggles are mandatory.

[Weather](#)

Suitable weather is an important factor for a safe flight. We will contact you the day before the flight between 3pm – 5pm if we need to postpone due to the weather. The pilot will also assess the weather conditions before each individual flight and reserves the right to postpone any flight if the weather is deemed unsuitable. If you are booking accommodation in the area, consider that the wingwalk could be postponed. Therefore, we would urge you to choose somewhere with a flexible cancellation policy.

[Availability](#)

We offer wingwalking experiences on selected weekdays from April until October. Each available date has various time slots to choose from. Please note the school summer holiday months are particularly popular for wingwalking. Flights must be taken before the voucher expiry date (note our flight season being April – October).

[Camera / Filming](#)

We have a GoPro mounted to the top wing that captures great footage of the guest wingwalker, the sky and ground passing beneath. This is an optional extra available to purchase on the day. Hand held and head mounted cameras are not permitted but chest-mounted GoPro and harness are suitable. Any camera equipment worn will be subject to pilot approval on the day, so we cannot guarantee the use – this is for your own safety as well as the aircraft, pilot and those on the ground.

[Spectators](#)

You are welcome to bring guests with you to the airfield to watch your wingwalking experience. We recommend they arrive at the same time as you as we are unable to wait for spectators to arrive. Your guests must remain behind the safety fence in the enclosed area at all times. RFC Rendcomb is an active airfield, so young children must be under constant supervision by an adult and, whilst dogs are welcome, they must remain on a lead and please remove any mess. No footballs please.

[RFC Rendcomb Airfield, The Whiteway, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 7DF](#)

When you arrive at RFC Rendcomb Aerodrome, please be aware that you are on a live airfield. Please stay on the tarmac track and follow the 'AeroSuperBatics Wingwalking' signs to the Officers' Mess by the green hangars. Please park behind the building in the designated area and follow the sign around the corner to the front of the Officers' Mess where you will be welcomed by a member of the AeroSuperBatics team.

[Travel Directions](#)

The entrance to the airfield is shown below. Look out for double wooden gates and a sign saying Royal Flying Corps (RFC) Rendcomb. Don't be put off by the 'Private strictly no entry' sign!



[By Road](#)

We are located close to the M4 and M5 motorways. Please see map and use postcode GL7 7DF for your satnav.

[By Rail](#)

The nearest rail station is Kemble station. There are regular train services from London Paddington. You will need to get a taxi to the airfield from the station. This is a 20 minute/10 mile journey. We advise that you pre-book the taxi.

[By Bus](#)

There are no public buses that go past the airfield. There are National Express and Mega Bus services from London Victoria that stop in Cirencester our nearest town. You will need to get a taxi to the airfield from the station. This is a 10 minute/5 mile journey. We advise that you pre-book the taxi.

[By Air](#)

The nearest international airports are London Heathrow, Birmingham and Bristol, all about 1.5 hours drive away.

[Risk Awareness Information](#)

[Wingwalking Risk Introduction](#)

Wingwalking on a biplane is an amazing and exhilarating experience, often rightly placed high up on the bucket list of 'must do's'. However, as with all flying activities and high adrenaline experiences, there is an element of risk. Anyone who wishes to take part in a wingwalking experience should understand the particular risks involved and also how these risks have been assessed and mitigated by AeroSuperBatics.

In order to gain approval for our wingwalking flight experiences, The Civil Aviation Authority requires us to explain the risks associated with the activity. This document covers those particular risks associated with wingwalking, but is not an exhaustive list.

All flying entails a degree of risk, however we have gone to great lengths to minimise these risks and to maintain our 100% safety record.

The particular elements that make wingwalking more risky than flying on a commercial airliner are as follows:

- ✈ The Stearman is a single engined aircraft. If the engine should fail, a glide to a forced landing will ensue.
- ✈ The Stearman has a tailwheel configuration. This makes it susceptible to tipping over its nose onto its top wing while taxiing, taking off or landing.

Being on the top wing, the wingwalker is denied the protection that is available when occupying one of the cockpit seats. This has two implications:

- ✈ There is more risk and difficulty associated with mounting and dismounting the aircraft. This applies particularly in the event that an emergency dismount is required.
- ✈ In the event of a forced landing, the aircraft may tip over on its nose, this could result in serious or fatal injury to the wingwalker.

Risk - Engine fire on start-up

With some radial engine aircraft, including our Stearmans, there is a small possibility of a fire developing in the exhaust whilst the engine is started. In this event, normally the air circulated by the propeller puts out the small flame coming from the exhaust underneath the aircraft. In the very rare event of a sustained fire, the team will instruct you come down off the top wing by shouting 'GET DOWN, GET DOWN, GET DOWN', at which point you unstrap from the wingwalking safety harness and climb down unaided and walk away from the aircraft – you will be fully trained on how to do this.

Risk - Engine failure during flight

The Stearman aircraft has a large wing area, meaning it has a good gliding performance. We take particularly good care of our engines during maintenance and the pilot performs a short test flight on the day of your flight to verify that the aircraft and engine are in perfect working order. Furthermore, the display pattern flown is planned such that the aircraft should be able to land back on the airfield in the event of an engine failure.

Risk - Aircraft tipping over

There is also a risk of the aircraft tipping over its nose on to its top wing while manoeuvring on the ground. The risk of serious injury or death to the wingwalker is considerable in this event. AeroSuperBatics mitigate this risk by using highly experienced pilots, and using the Stearman aircraft. The Stearman is tail heavy, and very stable on the ground so, the risk of a nose over is contained to a low level.

Insurance

AeroSuperBatics Ltd purchase aircraft insurance coverage for all passengers that fly with our team in accordance with the latest UK and EU legislation. In addition, we carry premises insurance covering you during your time on the ground with us at our facility.

We take your safety very seriously and in addition to our mandatory insurance obligations, all wingwalkers are covered by the aircraft liability up to £50,000,000 any one accident for bodily injury/death and it automatically includes up to £150,000 Personal Accident Insurance for each passenger that flies with us.



If you are happy to proceed the wingwalker will be asked to sign a Safety Standards Acknowledgement and Consent, Next of Kin and Indemnity form. As with all flying activities and high adrenaline experiences, there is a risk of injury or death. So as detailed in the form, by signing it the person taking part is voluntarily accepting in full all the risks inherent in the experience. If they do not wish to proceed, we will of course be happy to issue a refund with 10% administration charge.

If you have any queries regarding the wingwalking risk information please do not hesitate to get in touch, we are more than happy to help. If you have any queries on the day, please discuss this with the pilot.



Frequently Asked Questions

- **Where does the wingwalking take place?** The wingwalking takes place from our private grass airfield in the heart of the beautiful Cotswold countryside. The address is RFC Rendcomb, The Whiteway, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 7DF. We are unable to offer wingwalks from any other venues.
- **When should I arrive at the airfield?** The time booked is the time you need to arrive at the airfield, this is not the time of your flight. However, you are welcome to arrive earlier to watch any wingwalkers before your scheduled briefing.
- **Do you offer a video of the flight?** Yes we do! You will be asked on the day of the wingwalk if you would like this. A Go Pro camera is on the plane facing the wingwalker. Most body-mounted cameras are not suitable (including helmets and headcams), however participants are welcome to bring along any cameras and mounts/harness for the pilot to assess the suitability. Hand held cameras are not permitted due to the risk of them falling and causing damage.
- **What happens on the day?** After training and a full safety briefing, one of our professional wingwalkers will strap you securely to the top wing of our aircraft. You will then be taken to the skies for a series of flypasts in front of your family and friends below.
- **Can I bring my dog?** Dogs welcome as long as they are kept on a lead and any mess cleared up.
- **What is the height and weight limit?** Height limit is 6ft 2inch (1.88m) and weight limit 14 stone (89kg).

- **What should I wear?** Comfortable, warm clothes that you can climb around in. No hoods or toggles. Flat-soled shoes (e.g. trainers) are suitable. We provide flying overalls to go over your own clothes.
- **Can I wear my glasses?** You must wear the goggles we provide, if you wear glasses and they fit under the goggles comfortably you can keep them on. If they are a larger type of frame you will need to remove them. Contact lenses are good, but occasionally they can become dislodged so do bring a spare pair or your glasses.
- **Is there an age limit?** The minimum age is 18, there is no maximum limit.
- **How difficult is it to climb onto the aircraft?** You need to be able to climb completely unassisted up to and down from the top wing of one of our biplanes. This is a steep climb of approximately 10ft / 3m, involving a high leg lift up on to the bottom wing and another high leg lift to get over the side of the cockpit, kneeling and pulling yourself up using the various struts and wires to get on to the top wing. This requires decent mobility in legs and arms and grip strength. If can climb a stile or small ladder this should be adequate. Do give us a call if you are concerned and want to discuss this further.
- **Will I be climbing around the aircraft in flight?** No definitely not, this is for the professionals only! You will be secured into the safety harness on the top wing for take-off and landing.
- **I have an ongoing health condition, can I still wingwalk?** You will be asked to sign a health declaration form on the day of the wingwalk. If you suffer from any of the following conditions you will be unable to fly: Epilepsy, fits, severe head injury, recurrent blackouts, fainting fits or giddiness, disease of the brain or nervous system, high blood pressure, heart or lung disease, recurrent weakness or dislocation of any limb, diabetes, mental illness, drug or alcohol addiction.
- **Do you have a café at the airfield?** We do not have a café or shop at the airfield so we recommend that you bring any refreshments with you.
- **When can I wingwalk?** We fly from April through to October on selected weekdays planned around the team airshow schedule. Please note that school holidays and Fridays are our most popular times – please don't leave it too late to book to avoid disappointment.
- **Can I bring my friends/family?** You are welcome to bring guests with you. We have a lovely spectator area with picnic benches right in front of the action. No footballs please.
- **What happens if the weather is bad?** We check the weather the day before the flight and contact every wingwalker if the flight is not going ahead. This will normally be between 3pm – 5pm the day before the flight. If we have to cancel your flight we will arrange a new date that suits you and the team.
- **How long does the experience last?** The flight lasts approximately 8-10 minutes, please allow about 3 hours at the airfield for the whole experience.
- **What type of plane will I be flying on?** We have a fleet of six 1940's Boeing Stearman biplanes. They are painted in various colour schemes but other than that they are all exactly the same. Unfortunately you cannot specify at time of booking which plane you would like to fly on.
- **How experienced are the pilots?** All our pilots are highly experienced with many flying hours as pilot in command. Each has a Civil Aviation Authority Pilot's License, an Air Display Authorisation and undergoes regular mandatory medical checks. As well as flying customers at our base airfield at RFC Rendcomb, they also fly as part of our airshow display team
- **Can I communicate with the pilot during the flight?** The only communication between the wingwalker and the pilot will be via hand signals, you will be shown these in the safety briefing before your flight.
- **Can I get a refund?** The vouchers are non-refundable. However, options are available to extend your voucher's validity and vouchers are transferrable to another person. See our terms and conditions for full details.
- **Is it scary?!!** Clearly the thought of standing on top of a flying plane is going to be a bit daunting to most people, but we promise you it will be the most thrilling thing you have ever done! Once you get over the nerves and are strapped in, the excitement will overtake the fear and you will love every second! If you want to have a chat with us about it or have any worries, please do give us a call.
- **Is it cold?** It depends what the weather is like but yes, it can be a bit chilly so layer up. We have flying overalls available for you to wear over your own clothes too.
- **Can the pilot do aerobatic manoeuvres (such as loop the loop)?** First time wingwalkers cannot do aerobatic manoeuvres. This is because wingwalking is already a very extreme experience, we don't know how you will react and once you are up there, there is no communication with the pilot in case you change your mind! But you can let the pilot know if you want a more adventurous flight and they will be able to do steep dips and dives, wingovers and banked turns. If you love it you can come back for second go and do aerobatic manoeuvres, subject to the weather.