



AeroSuperBatics Wingwalking Experience

Looking to fulfil a lifelong dream? Want to wingwalk for charity? Seeking the ultimate gift for someone special? With our passion and expertise in wingwalking, we provide one of the most amazing, exhilarating experiences of a lifetime.

We are AeroSuperBatics. We have been in the display flying business for over 30 years, have specialised in wingwalking since 1987 and have a 100% safety record. We operate one of the best known and loved civilian air display acts, most recently known as the *Breitling Wingwalkers* - a regular at airshows throughout Europe, China and the Middle East as well as displaying at events in Japan, India and even as far away as Australia.

We offer wingwalking experiences at our private airfield RFC Rendcomb in Gloucestershire, a World War 1 grass airfield set in the heart of the beautiful Cotswold countryside. Providing you or the person you are buying the experience for meets the requirements listed below, you can book a date to be trained by one of our professional wingwalkers and take part in a wingwalk. Flown by one of our wingwalking display pilots, you will take to the skies on the top wing of one of our 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.

Requirements:

- ✈ Be at least 18 years old
- ✈ If over the age of 65 years old provide a doctor's note, clearly stating the person in question is fit and able to take part in a wingwalking experience
- ✈ Be no taller than 6ft 1inch
- ✈ Be no heavier than 13 ½ stone
- ✈ Have a waist measurement including layers of warm clothing and a jacket of no more than 40 inches
- ✈ 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, 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

- ✚ Be able to withstand the strong wind pressures experienced while flying at speeds of up to 120mph
- ✚ Meet all listed health requirements stated in the application form. If the wingwalker suffers from any of the following conditions please contact Aerosuperbatics to discuss and they will need to obtain written medical approval from their GP: 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

AeroSuperBatics Wingwalkers provide training and safety briefings for our wingwalking experiences. This is someone who wingwalks professionally as part of our airshow display team. Having had intensive training in the art of wingwalking, including climbing around the aircraft and strapping themselves in to the wingwalking harness during flight, they are ideal to train and brief you for your experience and to answer any queries you have. Don't worry, you will not be climbing around the aircraft in flight! An AeroSuperBatics Wingwalker will secure you in to the safety harness on the top wing before take-off and after landing they will climb up to unstrap you.

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. As well as flying customers at our base airfield at RFC Rendcomb, they also fly as part of our airshow display team. 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. They are based at RFC Rendcomb Airfield under the supervision of our chief engineer.

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 prevents the harness from being accidentally knocked open. The wingwalking rig

itself has also been approved by the Civil Aviation Authority for the purpose of carrying a passenger on the top wing.

The Wingwalking Experience

As mentioned you will receive training and a safety brief from one of our professional wingwalkers. You will also receive a pre-flight briefing from your pilot. After being secured in to the safety harness on the top wing by the 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 zoom climbs, dives and banks for the more adventurous. The wingwalking experience lasts approximately 10 minutes. You would be at our airfield for about an hour and a half in total.

We do not do aerobatic manoeuvres (loop the loop etc) for first time 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 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 tight 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 coat without a hood. Please wear trainers or soft grippy soled secure shoes that fully cover the whole foot. The wind force is incredibly strong so no loose articles or clothing is allowed. For those with long hair we recommend tying it back or plaiting it securely as loose hair can result in horrendous knots! You will also be asked to remove all jewellery. We provide goggles, ear plugs and if 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 it is not an option to fly without wearing the goggles. During the Spring and Autumn months we would recommend bringing a warm pair of secure gloves.

Weather

The weather is an important factor for a safe flight, so all wingwalking flights are subject to suitable weather conditions. We will contact the wingwalker the day before the flight if we need to postpone it due to the weather. This will normally be between 3pm – 5pm the day before the flight. The pilots will also assess the weather conditions before each individual flight. We reserve the right to postpone any flight if the pilot feels the weather has deteriorated resulting in unsafe flying conditions for wingwalking. 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, unfortunately the cold winter months are not suitable for flying on the top wing of an aircraft! Our mainline of business is displaying at airshows and events, so we offer week day dates that fit around the team's airshow schedule. Each available date has various time slots to choose from. Please note the school summer holiday months are particularly popular for wingwalking.

Charity

You may use your wingwalking experience to raise money for charity if you wish. All bookings are charged at the advertised rate in our paperwork. Any fundraising for charity is completely independent from AeroSuperBatics and the sole responsibility of the fundraiser. If your charity can get a group of people together who want to do a sponsored wingwalk then you can have private use of the airfield for the day. Please email biplane@aerosuperbatics.com for more information.

Camera / Filming

We have a camera mounted to the top wing that captures great footage of the wingwalker and the sky and ground passing beneath. This is an optional extra available on the day. Unfortunately, due to the strong wind you will not be allowed to take up a hand held and head mounted camera with you. We have found the chest mounted GoPro and harness to be excellent, do bring this along if you have one. Any camera equipment worn will be subject to the pilot on the day being happy it is safe and secure – this is for your own safety as well as the aircraft, pilot and those on the ground.

RFC Rendcomb Airfield, The Whiteway, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 7DF

Royal Flying Corps Rendcomb is our own private, fully restored First World War airfield set in the heart of the Cotswold countryside. RFC Rendcomb was first opened in 1916 as part of the First World War British Aerial Campaign - its dual purpose was to take delivery of Bristol Fighters and train up young pilots. When the war ended the need for training pilots decreased. In 1921 RFC Rendcomb was closed and returned to the family who had used it for farming crops for 6 generations.

The rediscovery and subsequent renovation of the airfield is the result of a long held passion for aviation history by Vic Norman, the founder of AeroSuperBatics. Vic always dreamt of owning a grass airfield of 'yesteryear' where vintage aircraft could feel at home. In 1988 he discovered an ex-Royal Flying Corps airfield was situated only 2 miles from his house in the Cotswolds. Through sheer love of the glorious days, when those magnificent men in their flying machines took to the skies, Vic and fellow enthusiast Torquil Norman set about recapturing the atmosphere of those pioneering days of aviation. The result is a beautifully tranquil airfield with period hangers and an original Officer's Mess containing First World War flying memorabilia. This is where the wingwalking is held from.

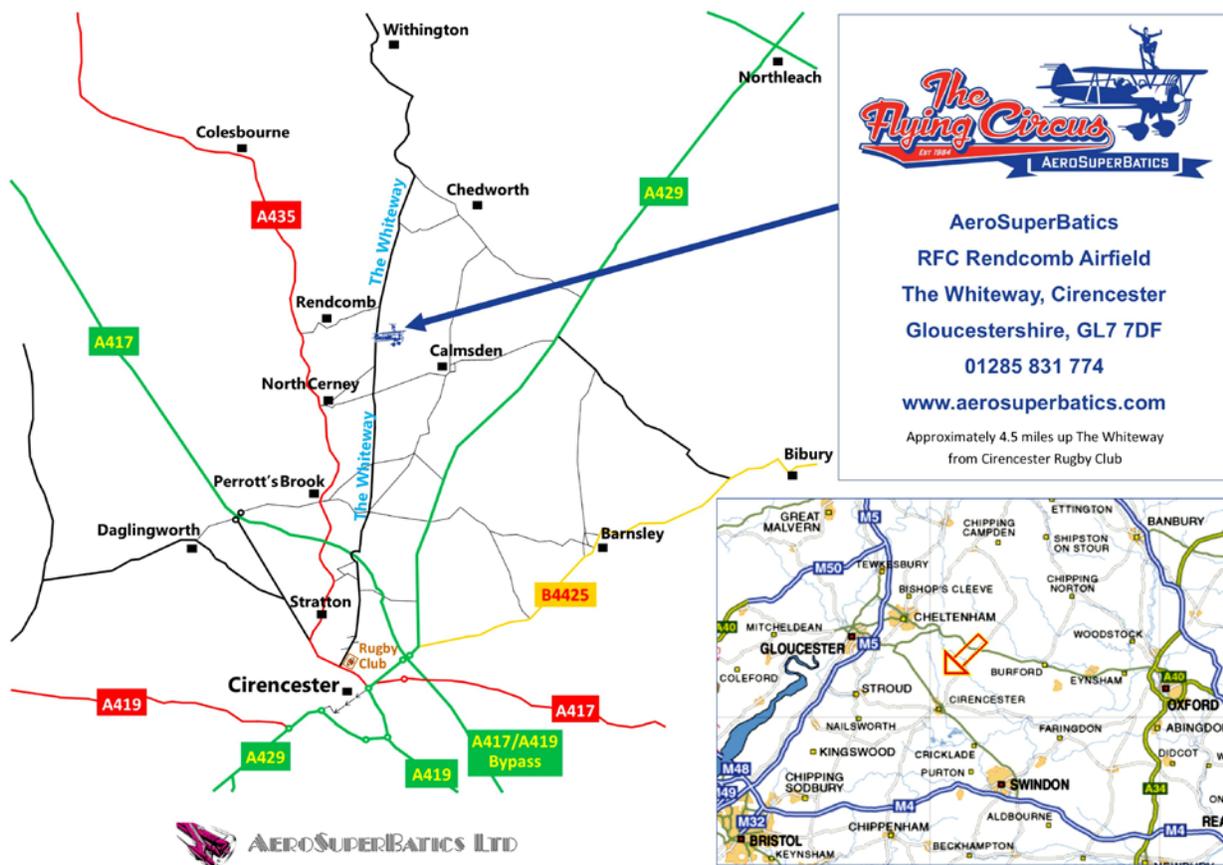
AeroSuperBatics' head office is based at RFC Rendcomb's Engine Shed. In 1916 the building housed the huge generators needed to provide electricity for the airfield. After the war the building slowly deteriorated until all that remained were two walls and a roof. On rediscovery of the airfield, a year was spent sympathetically restoring the building and transforming it into a unique venue with upstairs offices.

When you arrive at RFC Rendcomb Airfield please be aware you are entering a live airfield. Please stay on the tarmac track and follow the wingwalking signs to the Officer's Mess by the green hangars. Please park behind the building in the designated area. You will be welcomed by a member of the AeroSuperBatics team. You and your guests must remain behind the safety fence in the enclosed area at all times.

Guests

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. Your guests must remain behind the safety fence in the enclosed area at all times. Please ask your guests to bear in mind that RFC Rendcomb is an active airfield, therefore young children must be under constant supervision by an adult in your party. Dogs are welcome but must remain on a lead at all times and we ask that you please remove any mess.

Location of RFC Rendcomb Airfield



FAQs

- **What's the cost of a wingwalk?** The wingwalking experience costs £399. The total cost of the wingwalk is to be paid at time of booking.
- **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.
- **How do I book?** Once you have purchased the voucher on our website you will be emailed an e-voucher confirming your booking. You can either choose a date and time for the wingwalk at the point of purchase or if you are buying as a gift for someone you can purchase an open ended voucher which is valid for 12 months. The gift recipient can contact us to book their wingwalk once they have received their voucher.
- **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. Body harness mounted Go Pros are allowed if you have one. Head cameras and wrist mounted cameras are not allowed. We do not have a professional photographer on site.
- **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.
- **Can I wingwalk for charity?** This is a great idea! Any fundraising for charity is completely independent from AeroSuperBatics and the sole responsibility of the fundraiser. If your charity can get a group of people together who want to do a sponsored wingwalk then you can have private use of the airfield for the day. Please email biplane@aerosuperbatics.com for more information.
- **What is the height and weight limit?** Height limit is 6ft 1inch and weight limit 13 ½ stone.
- **What should I wear?** Comfortable, warm clothes that you can climb around in are good. 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 but if you are 65 or over we do need a note from your doctor.

- **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 please contact Aerosuperbatics beforehand to discuss and you will need to obtain written medical approval from your GP: 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. Normally we have 2 days a week you can choose from. 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.
- **What happens if the weather is bad?** We check the weather the day before the flight and contact every wingwalker to confirm if it will be going ahead. This will normally be between 3pm – 5pm the day before the flight. If we have to cancel your flight we will contact you to arrange a new date that suits you.
- **How long does the experience last?** The flight lasts approximately 10 minutes, please allow about 1.5 hours at the airfield for the whole experience. When you book your flight you will be given a selection of times to choose from.
- **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 purchase this as a surprise gift?** Yes absolutely, what a great gift! Please make sure the wingwalker meets all the requirements and that if they need a doctor's note due to their age or health that they are made aware of this.
- **Can I get a refund?** If you are unable to participate in the wingwalk we are able to refund the cost of a voucher minus a 10% administration fee. Alternatively the voucher is transferrable to another person at no charge.
- **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, wing overs and banked turns. If you love it you can come back for second go at a discounted price and do aerobatic manoeuvres, subject to the weather.
- **I need to get a doctor's note; what should it include?** It needs to be a signed letter from your doctor on headed paper. Below is the suggested text it could include:

I deem (insert name) to be fit and well and physically capable to participate in a wingwalk. This involves being able to climb up onto the plane's wing requiring decent mobility in legs and arms and grip strength (if they are able to can climb a stile or small ladder this would be adequate) and having the physical strength to withstand wind pressures experienced when flying up to speeds of 120mph.

(Insert name) does not and has not suffered from any of the following conditions which could lead to a dangerous situation whilst participating in a wingwalking experience:

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.

Alternatively – (insert name) suffers from XXXX (one of the conditions above) but I deem this condition to be under control and well managed and should not lead to a dangerous situation or untoward impact on XXX whilst participating in a wingwalking experience.