

# Paragliding School Ikarus since 1989

## Come Paragliding in Interlaken

Interlaken is easily accessible from northern Europe, yet sits in a sheltered position within easy reach of the Main Alpine Ridge, overlooked by the Jungfrau. This unique situation in the Berner Oberland between Lakes Thun and Brienz, on the border between the green Voralps and the snow-covered giants to the south means that a great variety of flying areas are available via a comprehensive road and cablecar network. Because of its modest 560m altitude and protected lakeside position Interlaken itself frequently provides sheltered flying from several local sites on those days when the weather makes this difficult elsewhere - the perfect place to learn, or get a taste of Alpine flying.

The word Swiss is a byword for quality, and taking care of things (you included). The Swiss Hangleiter Verband SHV has a long tradition of administering the standards of paraglider training, and it is no coincidence that many of the world's best paraglider pilots come from the Berner Oberland - the quality of the flying conditions and the enthusiasm of the paragliding community together result in excellence all round.

Happy and Claudia Michel's successful Ikarus school has been in operation in Interlaken since 1989. Operating the year round they provide training for the Swiss paraglider licence, or, if you already have a foreign licence, can offer local familiarisation and advice to any level. In particular, pilots who have not flown in big mountains before would be most welcome to arrange a day or two's introduction to Alpine flying techniques - forward takeoffs without wind, thermals, landing circuit procedure, and weather (and wind) assessment.

Interlaken has a huge range of accomodation, eating and drinking available, as well as train and motorway access. The internet gives information from camping sites up to the best hotel in Switzerland (Victoria Jungfrau), but if you run out of ideas or don't know where to start don't hesitate to get in touch: Ikarus tel: +41 (0)33 822 0428 or [info@fly-ikarus.ch](mailto:info@fly-ikarus.ch)

The following English pages give extracts from the Ikarus website and describe the planned courses and prices. For licenced pilots who wish to join us for an introduction to Alpine flying or a look at the local area we charge Sfr 150 for the first day. Prices thereafter are by arrangement. A day at the training hill (forward takeoff refresher) costs Sfr 100.

You can download pdf pages in English from the Swiss Hangglider Association (SHV) about the rules for foreign pilots who wish to fly in Switzerland. Basically if you haven't got a Swiss licence you need the IPPI card level IV. The web page is:  
<https://www.shv-fsvl.ch/>

# The Route to a paraglider pilot Licence

## **Basic course - Licence course - Theory test - Practical test**

Training begins with the basic course at the training slope where the student learns to take off, steer the glider in the air, and land. This leads naturally into the licence course which consists of at least 50 high flights in various flying areas during which the necessary flying techniques are learned. Together with this the theoretical syllabus is covered, and both theoretical and practical tests complete the training. It takes approximately 25 days to cover the syllabus up to the practical test.

If you would rather think about committing yourself to the basic course you can come on a trial training day at the beginner hill, or make a tandem flight with a qualified instructor.

## **SHV requirements**

Ikarus training for a paraglider licence complies with the requirements of the Swiss Hanglider Association (SHV).

Minimum age to start the training is 14 years.

A licence is required if you wish to fly by yourself in Switzerland.

## **Requirements for a licence:**

- Completion of the basic and licence course syllabus
- (at least 50 high flights in 5 different areas over at least 20 attendance days)
- Valid theory test
- Valid practical test

## Trial lesson at the training slope

To fly is one of man's oldest dreams. A trial lesson will give you the means of leaving terra firma; and for little outlay and no obligation you can easily feel what it's like to fly.

After a short introduction to the principles of paraglider handling at the shallow training slope you will be making short flights just above the ground; all under the careful supervision of your instructor.

Trial lessons are also suitable for club and corporate events - great fun for all!

**Price:** 150 CHF (Students 10% discount)

### **Price includes:**

- Instructor
- Use of all equipment
- Theory briefing
- 3rd party insurance
- Transport to and from the hill

**Dates:** Trial lessons are available on any of the first three days of a Basic Course (see Basic Course dates on Basic Course page below, or see **U** symbols on our calendar (*click on DATEN on the Ikarus homepage and download the Jahresplanner*). A trial lesson can also be arranged on another day by contacting Ikarus:

Tel +41 (0)33 822 0428  
Mob +41 (0)79 656 2323  
[info@fly-ikarus.ch](mailto:info@fly-ikarus.ch)

## Passenger flights

Ikarus flying school offers anyone the opportunity to enjoy a passenger flight with an experienced and specially licenced tandem pilot.

A passenger flight can also make a useful introduction to the Basic course, and a tandem flight **voucher** makes an excellent present. No previous experience is necessary (for the passenger!).

### **We take off from a choice of sites in the picturesque Jungfrau region:**

**Luegibrüggli - Lehn** takeoff 1050m

**Price:** 160 CHF including transport

**Amisbühl - Lehn** takeoff 1300m

**Price:** 170 CHF including transport

**Niederhorn - Lehn** takeoff 1960m

**Price:** 250 CHF excluding transport

**(Breitlauenen - Interlaken** takeoff 1800m

**Price:** 240 CHF excluding transport (only possible June to October)

**Bookings:** To make a booking please call us:

Tel +41 (0)33 822 0428

Mob +41 (0)79 656 2323

[info@fly-ikarus.ch](mailto:info@fly-ikarus.ch)

## Basic Course

Paraglider training begins with the Basic Course at the training slope. Over the 3 days you will learn how to take off, steer and land. With each short flight you will gain confidence and a feeling of safety in this new element - the air. Modern training aids assist this process and greatly contribute to safety. Radio contact with the instructor is maintained at all times, and video analysis in the classroom afterwards helps all students to learn as a group. Finally, a comprehensive briefing session prepares you for your first high flight.

The Ikarus flying school has two training slopes at its disposal in the Berner Oberland. This gives us flexibility depending on weather conditions.

**Habkern/** Ideal in Summer/Autumn. **Sigriswil/** ideal in Winter/Spring

**Indoor tennis hall** Alternative for day 1 in wet weather.

**Price:** 890 CHF (10% discount for students)

### **Price includes:**

- Instructor
- Use of all equipment
- Theory briefing
- 3rd party insurance
- Transport to and from the hill

**Meeting place:** 9am at the Lehn rifle range, Interlaken

**Insurance:** Personal insurance is the course member's own responsibility.

### **Basic Course 2023**

Course 01:	20. - 23. January
Course 02:	17. - 20. February
Course 03:	17. - 20. March
Course 04:	07. - 10. April
Course 05:	28. April - 01. May
Course 06:	18. - 21. May
Course 07:	27. - 30. May
Course 08:	22. - 25. June
Course 09:	17. - 20. July
Course 10:	19. - 22. August
Course 11:	09. - 12. September
Course 12:	07. – 10. Oktober
Course 13:	09. – 12. November
Course 14:	26. – 29. December

It is also possible to arrange a course to suit your own schedule.

## Licence Course (High Flights)

After completing the Basic Course you gain flying experience in the Licence Course. The objective is that you acquire an independent mastery of safe takeoffs, landings and general glider handling, which includes various flight manoeuvres. Your safety is important to us. To make best use of the time available all flying is supervised by a takeoff coach, as well as by your qualified instructor. It goes without saying that helmet, harness with back protector, reserve parachute and radio are essential components of Ikarus training.

Before taking the practical test you have to complete at least 50 flights using at least 5 different flying areas. This process usually takes about 20 days - in fact 3 or so high flights can be made in a day. The theoretical and practical tests complete the Licence Course.

### High Flight days:

Planned high flight days are shown as 'H' in the calendar. Click on Kursdaten on the Ikarus homepage and download the [JAHRESPLANER](#) so that you can choose when to come.

The dates are also shown online on [DOODLE](#) where we kindly ask you to sign in for registration.

In [EXTRANET](#) you find the final decision available no later than 10pm the evening before, to see if flying will be on and details about meeting point.

### Flying areas:

We operate in the Berner Oberland all the year round. Our main area is the Interlaken region with its various take off places from Beatenberg. Our minibus gives us access to neighbouring places such as Grindelwald, Meiringen, Niesen, Axalp, Lenk, Mürren.

**Price:** 2390 CHF

### Price includes:

- Instructor
- Training until a licence is gained (up to 1 year or 80 flights)
- Theory training

**Personal insurance** is the responsibility of the course member.

Licence requirements for flying in Switzerland

<https://www.shv-fsvl.ch/ausbildung/auslaendische-lizenz/>

**List of courses and prices:**

- Trial Lesson            150 CHF   One day of basic instruction at the training slope. The cost will be set against the price of a subsequent course.
- Passenger flight    from 160 CHF   A flight as passenger with an instructor. 100 francs will be reimbursed against a licence course.
- Basic Course            890 CHF   Basic training for beginners, including theory work and rental of equipment.
- Licence Course        2390 CHF   Training up to gaining a licence, extending up to 1 year or 80 flights.
- Training high flights 15 CHF per flight. For unlicensed flying students who have exceeded the 1 year/80 flight limit.
- Basic + Licence        3180 CHF   Package, when you book and pay both courses at the beginning of the basic course
- One day at the        100 CHF   Refresher practice for licenced pilots.  
training slope
- Theory books            50 CHF   Logbook, Progress card and Theory textbook.
- Glider rental            20 CHF   per flight; for Ikarus students.
- Equipment rental    30 CHF   per flight; for Ikarus students.
- Glider rental            50 CHF   per flight; for licenced pilots.
- Equipment rental    70 CHF   per flight; for licenced pilots.
- Passenger flight    from 160 CHF   The price depends on the takeoff place
  
- Tandem training      400 CHF   10 flight package (excluding equipment).
- Tandem A training    400 CHF   20 flight package (excluding equipment).
- Additional tandem    20 CHF   per flight.  
training
- Reserve packing      80 CHF / 100 CHF   Packing by a SHV certified packer.

All prices in Swiss francs including tax. We reserve the right to alter prices. costs for courses are due on the first day.

**School children, college students, delta pilots and parachute jumpers are eligible for a 10% discount off the Basic Courses.**