



Training for a Private Pilot's Licence

- The minimum number of hours is forty for a PPL. Most people take a bit more than forty but it is theoretically possible to gain a licence in this time. The UK average is about fifty-five.
- You will probably be able to manage one flight a day. If you learn quickly and can assimilate what you're taught you may be able to manage two, but we do not recommend any more than this.
- We have instructors available almost every day, and there are two aircraft to choose from. We normally start students on the Piper PA-28-160 Cherokee, and then later in the course you'll be moved onto the PA-28-181, which has a different cockpit layout. Once comfortable on both aircraft you'll be swapped back and forth.
- Thruxton currently has no landing fees for resident aircraft, and we do not charge a membership fee for students.
- Our current cost per hour is £270 including VAT. If you want groundschool lessons they're charged at £48 per hour including VAT.
- On top of the cost for flying there are a few other costs you need to bear in mind:
 - You will need equipment such as an aviation chart, flight 'computer', kneeboard etc. This should cost less than £100.
 - You must pass a medical. A Class 2 medical allows you to fly privately; a Class 1 is required for commercial operations, so if you're thinking about going commercial later it's a good idea to get a Class 1 done so that at least you know you can get one. A Class 2 initial medical is about £300 and a Class 1 initial is about £400.
 - There are nine ground exams to take. We recommend studying online for these, and have a very high pass rate so far. The cost is about £20 per subject for the studying, the CAA fee is about £14 per subject, and the exams take between half an hour and an hour, for which we charge instructor time at £40 per hour + VAT.
 - After the training you will hire an aircraft for the Skill Test. We charge the 'self-fly hire' rate for this, which is about £250 per hour, depending on the aircraft. Budget on two hours for this flight, plus the examiner's fee of about £250.
- All told you're thus looking at a minimum total cost of roughly £12,500.
- If you want to continue to get a commercial licence we can do your night rating and IMC rating training after the PPL, and as a Club member you can hire our aircraft to build hours. Club members pay £20 per month, which covers admin, gives you access to the aircraft, and allows free entry into our normally-monthly social events, which normally feature a guest speaker and some refreshments afterwards.
- If you'd like to join us just let us know and we'll add your details to our database. This will generate an email welcoming you to Kurusha, inviting you to log in. Please read the Club rules on the 'Club/Std's' page, then go to the Diary page to view and book flights and groundschool. When you log in you'll be directed initially to the 'News+' page; please read this regularly to ensure that you keep up to date with what's going on.

We look forward to seeing you at Kurusha.

Nick and the team



G-BNRP and G-ARVW at Llanbedr, June 2025



Club barbecue, August 2025