

Media Information

What is Bodyflight?

Based in North Bedfordshire, Bodyflight is the world's largest indoor skydiving facility. Anyone can learn the fun and exciting sport of Bodyflying in the safety of a vertical wind tunnel. No heights or jumping involved.

What is indoor skydiving?

Indoor skydiving is when wind speeds of up to 180mph are generated in a vertical wind tunnel. These wind speeds support your body in mid air – allowing you to really fly. Many professional skydivers and skydiving teams use Bodyflight to train and every year the wind tunnel hosts the innovative Bodyflight World Challenge.



Who takes part?

Skydiving teams from all over the world travel to the UK to take part in this prestigious competition. In the 2009 competition over 17 different countries were represented. Many of these teams are professional skydivers, some are military teams but many of them are also enthusiasts who enter the competition for fun.



What is the Bodyflight World Challenge?

The Bodyflight World Challenge is the world's largest indoor skydiving competition. Held every April this competition marks the start of the international skydiving calendar.

Left: A 4-way FS team completing a formation

What is involved in the competition?

There are two disciplines' within the Bodyflight World Challenge. Competitors will usually only enter one or the other, however some people are so enthusiastic they enter both! Formation Skydiving and Free Fly.

Left: Both winning teams from the 2008 and 2009 competitions.

Formation skydiving is when teams of four people have to complete as many set formations as they can in order in just 35 seconds. This discipline is all about speed, agility and accuracy. It is referred to as 4-way or FS for short.

Free Fly is the artistic discipline within skydiving. This is when teams of two perform choreographed routines and can score points for originality, presentation and difficulty of the moves in the routine.

General information



What is Bodyflight?

Bodyflight Bedford is the world's largest indoor skydiving facility. Anyone can learn the fun and exciting sport of Bodyflying in the safety of a vertical wind tunnel. No heights or jumping involved.

Facts and figures

With a diameter of 16.5ft the flight chamber is the largest in the world. A 4000hp motor powers the 5m propeller which in turn creates wind speeds of up to 170mph.

Who uses Bodyflight?

Roughly 80% of our customers are skydivers and skydiving teams who use the facility to train. It is much faster and efficient to train in a wind tunnel as you don't have to re-pack your parachute, get in a plane and get to altitude every time.



Corporate groups also hire our meeting room and facilities as a work days out, or staff incentive schemes. We can accommodate large groups, and in fact last summer flew 120 guides and scouts in one day.

Absolutely anyone can fly. We have flown children as young as four years and at the other end of the spectrum a 98 year old!

Leisure centre

The bodyflight leisure centre opened very recently and features a gymnasium and solarium, swimming and hydrotherapy pool and spa. This has a sauna, steam room, plunge pool, swimming area, Jacuzzi and hydrotherapy seats.

Uniquely, there is no annual fee for gym membership at Bodyflight, everyone will be welcome to use the facilities either on a pay as you go basis or by paying monthly.

The price to pay monthly is only £35!

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bodyflight

VERTIGO



What is Vertigo?

Vertigo is the new experience on offer at Bodyflight Bedford: A simulated BASE jump. Diving from 120ft you experience free-fall for nearly a hundred feet before your descent is slowed allowing you to land safely on the ground.

Providing spectacular views of Bedfordshire's sweeping countryside, the jump is just one part of the experience: Participants will climb a ladder onto the roof of the tunnel where they can enjoy the views before making their way to the jump platform and preparing for the thrill of a lifetime.

How does it work?

A state-of-the-art Powerfan descender is attached to a full body harness. As you step off the platform you rapidly descend more than 30 metres before the cable attaching your harness to the fan at the top of the platform slows you down. As you reach the bottom you are slowed almost to a standstill allowing you to gently touchdown. The experience is completely safe and doesn't require the use of a parachute or bungee cord.



'We have become so busy here at Bodyflight since we opened in 2005 that it made sense to find new attractions to offer; and we hope this will attract a wide range of people, as nowhere else can you fly and jump in the same day'

Bryony Doughty
Bodyflight Bedford Company Manager

Other plans for the site

Planned for early 2010 are two exciting new attractions:

Bodyflight Swoop: A 200m long zip wire from the roof of the tunnel to the edge of the business park

Flow House Bedford: A Flow Rider, the first of its kind in the UK. A Flow Rider is a surfing simulator which creates an endless artificial wave that people can actually surf on. This is a very exciting attraction which will double the visitor footfall on the Bodyflight site.