

WHAT IS DUNE SOARING?

Soaring like a bird

The dunes on the west coast of The Netherlands are perfectly suited for soaring with a paraglider.

Westerly winds push up against the dunes. This creates an upward flow on which pilots can fly like a bird.

On a good day you will see dozens of colorful gliders in the air, for example around Wijk aan Zee or Langevelderslag.



Photo: Leonard Bik

LEARNING TO SOAR THE DUNES?

No experience in paragliding? Learn from the experts, that's faster, safer and more fun than trying to invent the wheel yourself. Many Dutch paragliding schools offer dune soaring courses.

A licenced paraglider pilot? Bring your own soar kit and come and groundhandle on the beach. Get the best tips & tricks from experienced local pilots and go fly!



MORE INFORMATION

Visit our website

knvv.nl/paragliding/vlieglocaties/soaren-in-nederland



Find us on the beach

Just ask around

Send us an email

soaren.paragliding@knvv.nl

Facebook: Soarfreaks

facebook.com/groups/769357189800673

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SOARING THE DUTCH COAST



Includes
tips&tricks
and the Soar
Code

— The Soar Code —



Respect the dunes Do not launch from the dunes and do not walk on the dunes. In many places, the dunes have been designated a nature reserve. It is not allowed to enter the dunes. That also applies to us.

Respect other people's belongings It is disrespectful to land on or touch other people's belongings or objects, such as vehicles, machines, beach bars or restaurants and holiday houses.

Keep a wide margin Do you want to groundhandle? Do so on the beach, away from the dune. Give those who are flying some space.

Be considerate of others Don't scare a hiker, a horse or a fellow pilot, it's not funny.

Looks like someone has forgotten the Soar Code? Talk to each other about it, for example over an after-soar drink. Help each other to follow this Soar Code and to preserve our flying spots.



— Tips & Tricks — From the pros

Learn how to kite Kiting means walking with your wing to your side on one tip. It is the best way to walk from the beach to the dune. Bring your glider back overhead and launch with just one or two steps.

Stay off the brakes Many pilots tend to brake too much. Learn to ground handle without touching your brakes.

Kill the wing An emergency procedure to put down your wing in high winds is to turn it upside down using only one brake, and then - importantly! - release the brakes.

Ask the locals They can explain these and many more tricks for high wind soaring to you in detail.

Don't underestimate dune soaring!

— Watch out for each other — Rules for safe dune soaring



Prevent incidents Every pilot has a duty to avoid problems and prevent incidents, even if the law or the rules are on your side.

Dune on the left? Give way by keeping right! This general rule - like all other air traffic rules - also applies at the dunes.

Show what you are doing Hold out your hand to indicate your direction. Pay attention to each other, maintain eye contact and give way in time.

Give others some space A pilot who wants to take off has to wait for a clear airspace. Give them space by not flying above them. When you see another pilot struggle, give them space. You were once a beginner too.