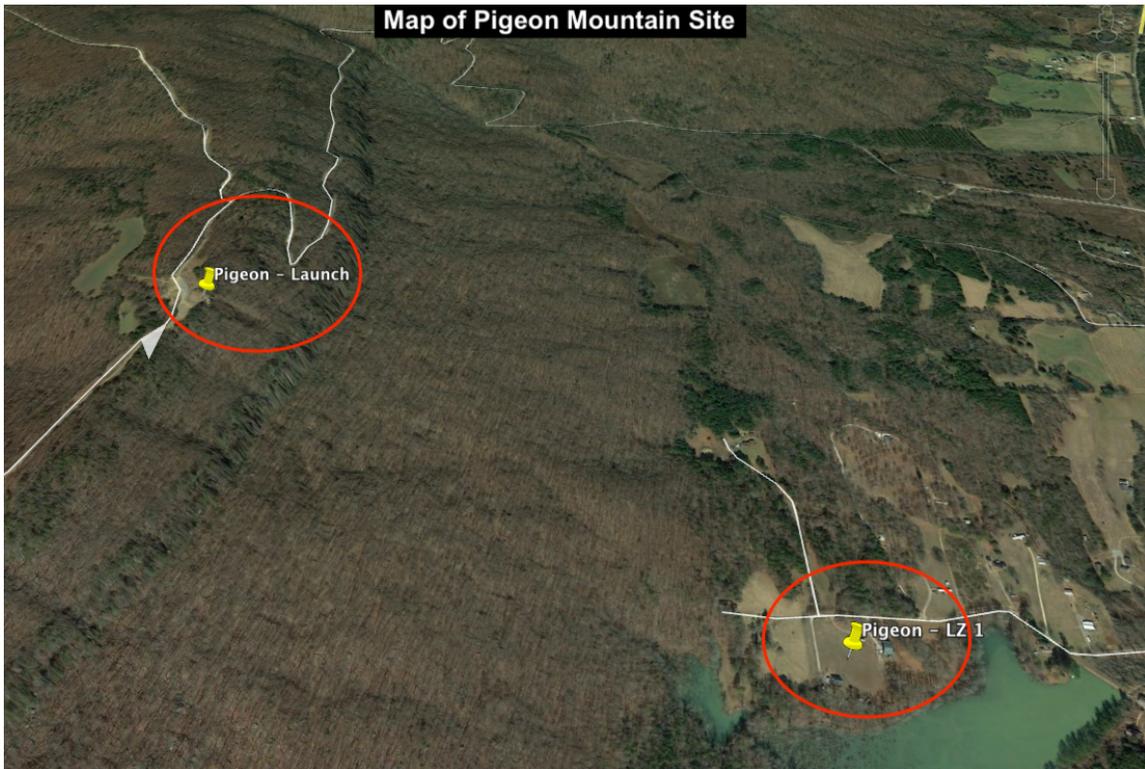
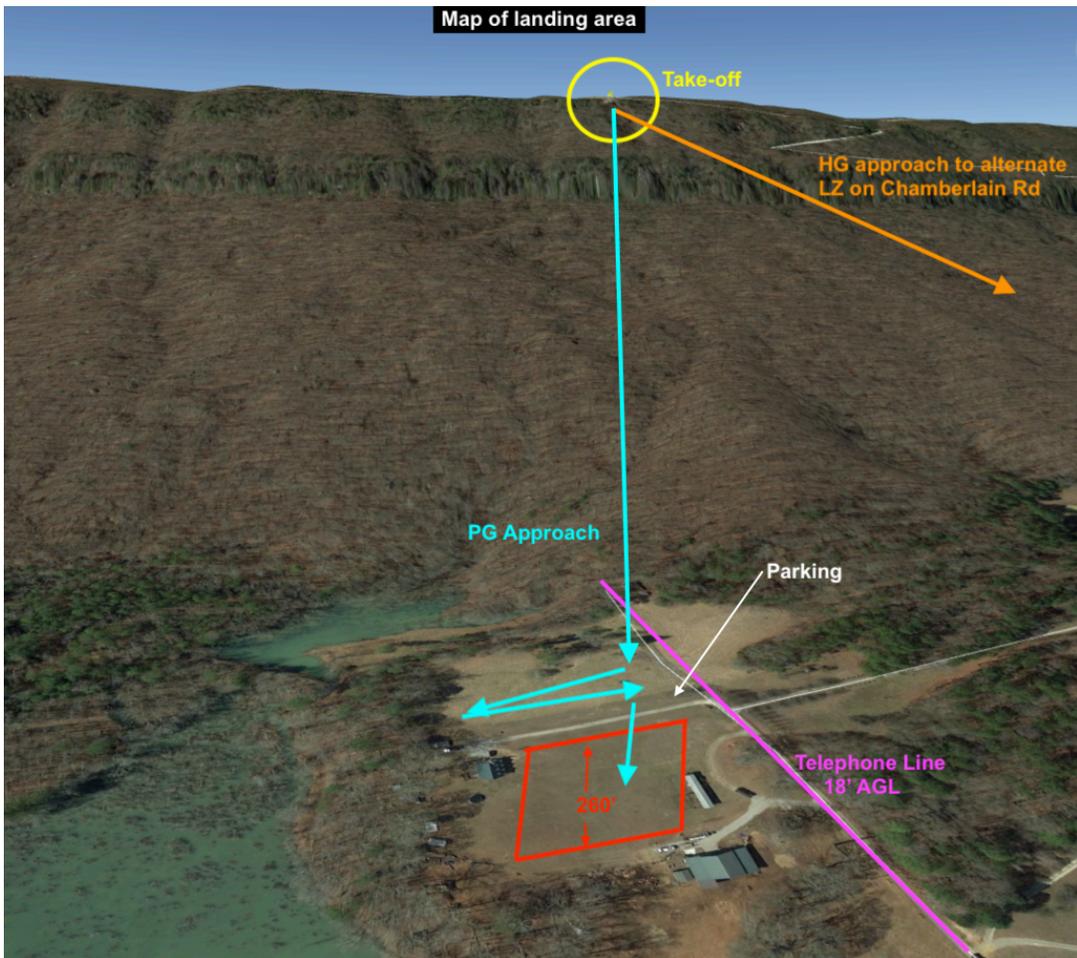
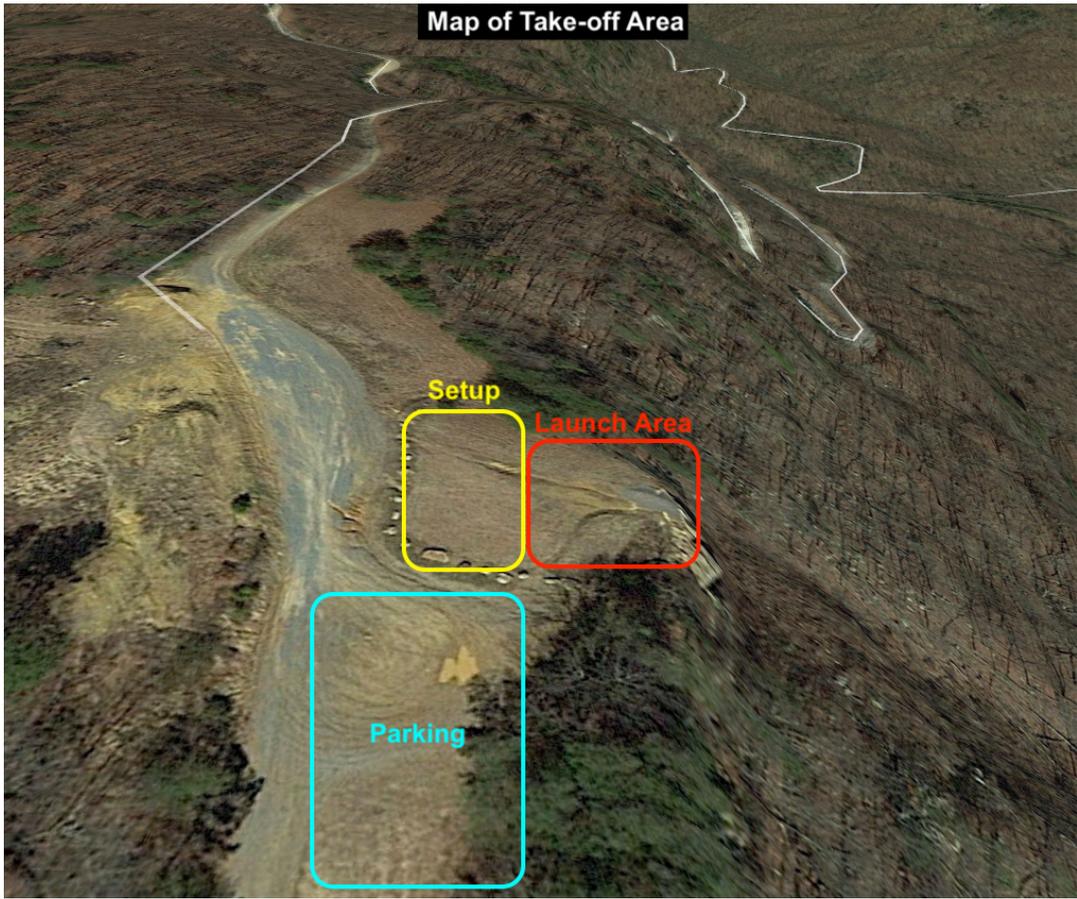


Southern Para Pilots – Pigeon Site Guide – Revised 2021-09-22

Location	La Fayette, GA
Wind Direction	E (flyable 60 to 130 degrees)
Wind Speed PG	Min: 4 Ideal: 10 Max: 12 with gusts < 5 mph
Wind Speed HG	Min: 10 Ideal: 16 Max: 25 with guest < 5 mph
Elevation	1940 ft
AGL	1160 ft
Glide to LZ	3.3 to 1
Ridge	3 mile
Pilot Rating	P3 / H4 (mini wings not currently allowed)
Takeoff Location	34.651967° -85.372517°
Main LZ Location	34.648192° -85.361091°
Notes	Flat cliff launch, small PG landing area





INTRODUCTION

P2's may fly only under the following circumstances; Flights must occur under P2 appropriate conditions as defined by USHPA and under the guidance of a P3 or above mentor who has significant experience at the site. Mentorship being a one on one relationship encompassing all pre-flight and flight decisions.

This site is insured by USHPA, and as such, requires all instruction to be performed only by USHPA certified instructors in good standing and having the proper insurance coverage. This site is not currently certified for tandem flights.

Pigeon Mountain is a flat cliff launch with a 3 mile ridge. The launch is located inside Crockford-Pigeon Mountain Wildlife Management Area, a state managed park. There is a day fee required per person at the park entrance, currently \$5.00, or you can buy an annual "Georgia WRD Lands Pass" for \$30.00. See www.GoOutdoorsGeorgia.com for more information.

SPECIFIC SITE WARNINGS

The width at the cliff edge is narrow and you might even be launching at a slight angle depending on the wind. It is very important to have your wing fully loaded to avoid any deflation, even partial, because you could hit the trees on the sides of the clearing. The importance of keeping your torpedo before, at, and after the cliff edge cannot be stressed enough. Do not jump at the cliff edge, torpedo!

Do not head back over the ridge unless supervised and never alone. It is strongly suggested that you talk with pilots who have successfully done so before attempting your own cross county. There is nowhere to land for a very long time and 1500 over and 10 mph will not get you past the forest behind the ridge.

Horseback riding on the many trails on top of the ridge is quite popular. Do not fly over or near horses. Spooking horses might be the easiest way to loose our ability to fly at this great site.

LAUNCH AREA

The launch area is about 120 feet wide narrowing to 70 feet at the takeoff point with trees lining both sides. The takeoff is a sheer rock cliff with a 30 foot drop off. Good glider control is required. Stay in the middle of the launch to avoid getting your wing tip caught by a tree branch. The entire area is almost flat and almost always requires a forward launch because little wind coming up the ridge reaches the area until 20 feet before the cliff. The good news is that the setup area is mostly completely devoid of wind. Lastly the ground is uneven and sometimes contains ruts from runoff. Watch your step. The setup area has enough room to easily set up 3 gliders.

The cliff has a small HG ramp but much of the cliff has jagged rocks jutting out just below the lip. The clearance above the trees after launch is minimal on no lift days and can be troublesome if your wing is not fully loaded at the edge. Do not jump at the cliff edge and unload your wing, torpedo!

LANDING AREA

The HG landing area is on the east side of Chamberlain Rd 1.2 miles from launch. This LZ is controlled by the [Tennessee Tree Toppers](#). Contact them for permission and more information.

The PG landing area (shown on the maps above) is private property, basically the yard of a homeowner. As such, it is a mowed surface perfect for landing with no surprises. Remember to always be respectful and say thank you, a lot.

The owners have several children, grandchildren, and dogs. Be on the lookout because they tend to come running out at the last minute to see you land.

The field is short. Let me say that word again, short. With a 5 mph headwind it is a cakewalk. But in 0 wind conditions you should make your final turn so that when you cross the driveway you are no more than 25' AGL. At 40' feet AGL you will run out of room. In 0 wind plan ahead. You should already be thinking about how to slow down should you turn too early. Get out of your harness early, gentle brake pumping, slight turns early...

FLYING

Pigeon is a beautiful ridge site that is easy to get to and easy to fly. You should leave the ridge if you get below the height of the secondary ridge which is a line of sheer gray rock about 300 feet in front of launch. If in doubt or lacking experience, leave if 100' below launch.

It takes 8-10 mph for the ridge to work. If conditions are not ideal, and you are struggling to stay up, stay near launch so the LZ is close because the wind just dies sometimes. It is normal to fly the ridge +400 for an hour and all of a sudden you lose everything. The best forecast is Walker. But quite often the wind speed at launch is less than that forecast.

The cycles at launch will be perfect for 5 minutes and then nothing for 30. You just have to wait for the right moment. Sometimes people are present looking at the view from the cliff. Let them know that you will be patiently waiting for the right time, and when you yell "launching", you need them at the tree line.

END OF DOCUMENT