

Welcome to

**SWATK**

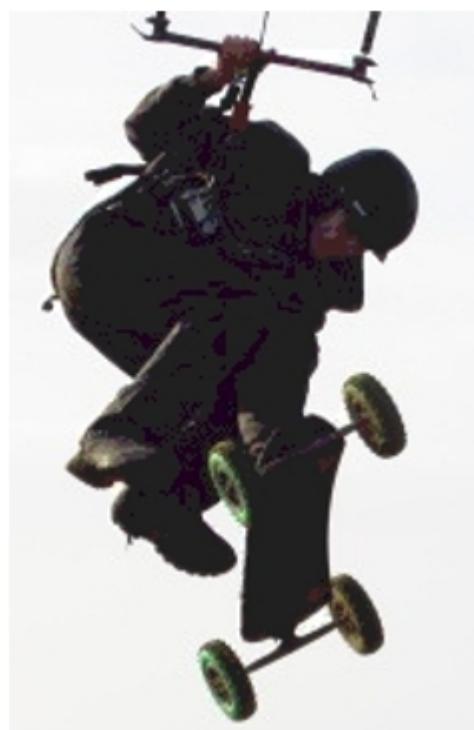


The South and West Association of Traction Kiting (SWATK), established in 2003, was originally formed by a small group of like-minded kiting enthusiasts to promote the sport of Power Kiting. Mostly based around the beaches at Weston Super Mare (Uphill Windzone) and Brean - we have special permission to use these beaches. The focus of the club is to ensure that you get the most out of your power kiting. The club achieves this in four main ways:

- By organising a calendar full of club events – from club fly-ins to the popular SWATK entry-level race series; from days on the beach to weekends in France – all events are open to all club members. (To keep up to date with what's going on log on to the forum)
- By providing entry level and intermediate training free of charge to all members, ensuring club members are safe, responsible fliers and that every member has the chance to develop their potential in the sport.
- By providing a point of contact for discussions regarding power kiting and liaising with representatives at local and national government level – ensuring the views of experienced, dedicated and respected power kiters are heard in any debate affecting the sport.
- By providing third party insurance cover for all members

What is SWATK? We are one of the most active kite clubs in the country with meetings and events just about every weekend of the year. Mostly based around the beaches at Weston Super Mare (Uphill Windzone) and Brean - we have special permission to use these beaches. There is an annual buggy race series along with visits to other beaches in and around the South West and South Wales. As part of membership you get

- Access to these beaches,
- £5 million of public
- Club Races and Events
- Help and advice
- Oh and some very silly times





SWATK Safety Traction kiting is a relatively safe sport but any activity carries a number of inherent risks and it is the responsibility of every member to ensure that those risks are minimised. All members of the club are responsible for taking reasonable precautions to ensure their own safety, that of other members and other site users when engaging in club activities. In addition all adult members have an enhanced responsibility for the safety of junior members.

The Club or its representatives will:

- Carry out an on-site risk assessment at all away trips before members are permitted to fly. Members will only be permitted to embark at the discretion of the trip leader whose decision will be final.
- Ensure that parental control is in place before any junior member is allowed to take part in any away trip or event.

The Club expects all members to:

- Accept the decision of committee members or other suitably experienced members on all safety related issues.
- Wear safety gear when conditions or inexperience make it desirable to do so or, if a junior member, at all times.
- A suitable helmet must be worn at all times when boggling and boarding NO EXCEPTIONS
- Consider the safety of themselves and others at all times.
- Keep flying area clean, tidy and clear of obvious hazards and keep all access ways clear at all times.
- Familiarise themselves with the location of all safety equipment, information and emergency procedures.
- Take responsibility for any accompanying children.
- Seek assistance if experiencing difficulty and take advice from more experienced members



# OUR BEACH INFORMATION

## *Brean Sands North Somerset (best wind direction WNW)*



The Fly zone is situated to the left of the concrete ramp facing the sea, this is one beach that you drive on to get to the fly zone. Turn left off the ramp and drive until you reach the gate and posts, there is a speed limit of 15mph please do not drive over that limit. The flyzone is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile long, there are posts about 20m off the dunes that run the length of the beach, under no circumstances let your kite overfly these posts. Be aware, dog walkers / horse riders and all other uncontrolled activities on this beach and attention must be paid at all times for other beach users.

### **HIGHLIGHTED AREA ON MAP MARKS OUT THE FLYZONE BEACH ACCESS IS RESTRICTED TO WEEKENDS ONLY OCT-APR. There is a speed limit of 15MPH for vehicles.... DO NOT DRIVE OVER THAT LIMIT NO KITE BUGGYING OR KITE LANDBOARDING UNTIL SIGNS ARE OUT AND A COMMITTEE MEMBER IS THERE.**

There maybe days such as school holidays, other events when the beach is booked or due to poor weather conditions when there beach is unavailable to us. Please check the forum every Wednesday evening preceeding that weekend for up to date information on the beach being open to members for that weekend. **MEMBERSHIP CARD:** You must show your membership card if asked for by the beach warden or SWATK committee member, so carry them with you at all times.

## *Uphill Wind Zone, Weston Super Mare, North Somerset (best wind direction NW)*

The fly zone is at the southerly end of Weston beach, in an area 500m long by 150m wide. It is posted off and managed by the Local Authority, and is shared by 3 other clubs. As this is quite a small area we ask that you set up near the car park end inside the wind zone and comply with beach restrictions, No overflying, buggying or boarding past the posts. This can be busy during the summer and weekends, as this area is used for other uncontrolled activities, attention must be paid at all times for other beach users.



### **HIGHLIGHTED AREA ON MAP MARKS OUT THE FLYZONE**

The Windzone is open 7 days a week all year round to its members There maybe days when the Windzone or Weston beach is booked and the Windzone is unavailable to us. Please check the forum on a regular basis to check if there is an event on. **MEMBERSHIP CARD:** You must show your membership card if asked for by the beach warden or SWATK committee member, so carry them with you at all times.

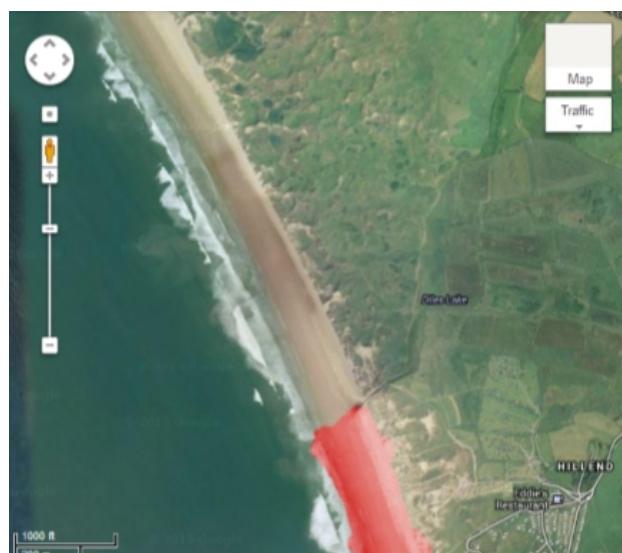
## *Aberavon Beach, South Wales (best wind direction SW)*

The Fly zone is situated west of the promenade in an area about 1.5 miles long and as deep as the lowest tide predicts. Set up should be at least 100m NW of the promenade and 50m from the sand dunes. This area is also used for other uncontrolled activities, and attention must be paid for other beach users especially dog walkers.



### **HIGHLIGHTED AREA ON MAP MARKS OUT THE NO-FLYZONE**

## *Llangennith Beach, Gower, South Wales (best wind direction W)*



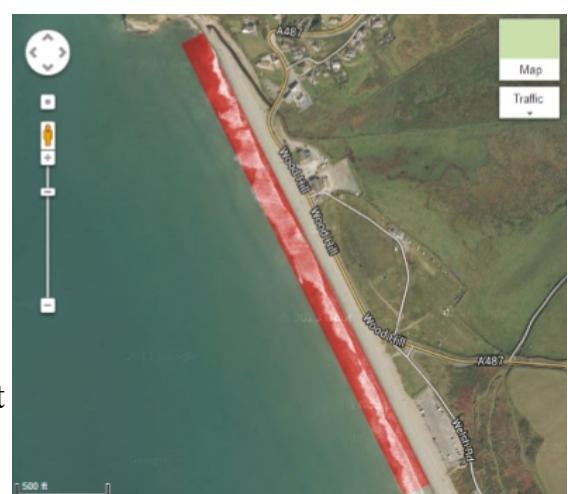
Llangennith is at the north end of Rhossili Beach. It is approximately 1.5 miles long and down to the tide line. The fly zone is to the right of the stream walking from Hillend campsite/carpark. Be aware of kite surfers and their kite kit on the beach. Also surfers. As this area is also used for other uncontrolled activities, particular attention must be paid at all time for other beach users. This beach can get very busy at Holiday times so all pilots need to assess the viability at these times.

### **HIGHLIGHTED AREA ON MAP MARKS OUT THE NO-FLYZONE**

## *Newgale Beach, West Wales (best wind direction W)*

You have to traverse a large, loose pebble ridge to gain access to the beach. There is a wooden walkway by the life guard station in the middle of the beach and a smaller walkway opposite the surf shop. As you step onto the beach the summer fly zone is left of the life guard station. All the beach may be used in the winter. It is advised to check with local flyers/lifeguards about setting up and winter/summer rules. This area is also used for other uncontrolled activities, particular attention must be paid at all times for other beach users.

### **HIGHLIGHTED AREA ON MAP MARKS OUT THE SUMMER FLYZONE**



## Oxwich Beach, Gower, South Wales (best wind direction SE - S)

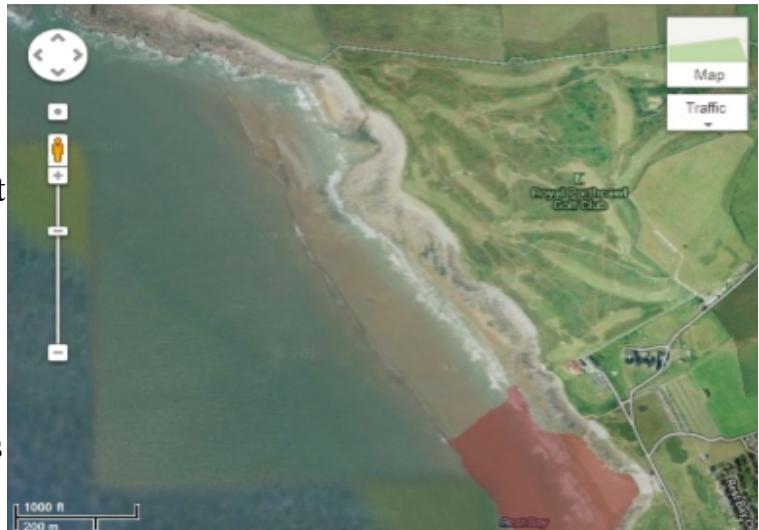


The fly zone is a very small beach – 0.5 mile maximum. It is surrounded on both sides by cliffs. Set up area is 50m south from the car park. You need to be aware of the wind conditions due to the cliffs, this beach can get very busy in the summer and weekends. As this is a small beach it is advised not to use it when busy. As this area is also used for uncontrolled activities, particular attention must be paid at all times for other beach users.

### **NO RESTRICTIONS**

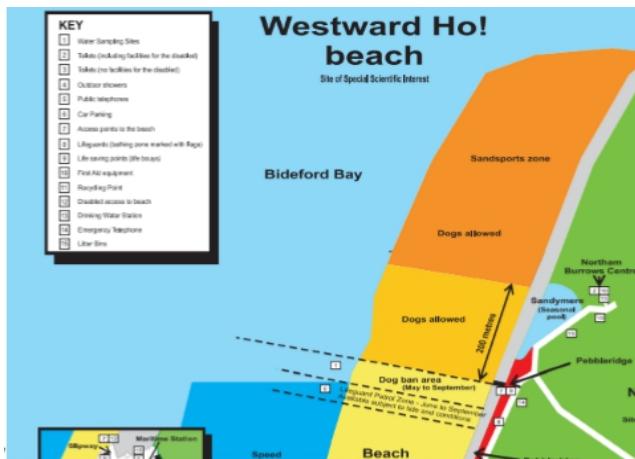
## Rest Bay, Porthcawl, South Wales (best wind direction SE)

The fly zone is situated right of the slip way on the other side of the rocks, it is about 0.5 mile stretch and as deep as the lowest predicted tide. Walk around the outcrop of rocks until clear, and set up should be at least 50m from the rocks. This area is also used for uncontrolled activities, and can get very busy in the summer and weekends, advise when busy do not use this beach, please check tide times and make sure you are off the beach before the tide reaches the rocks as not to get cut off from the main part of the beach.



## HIGHLIGHTED AREA ON MAP MARKS OUT THE NO-FLYZONE

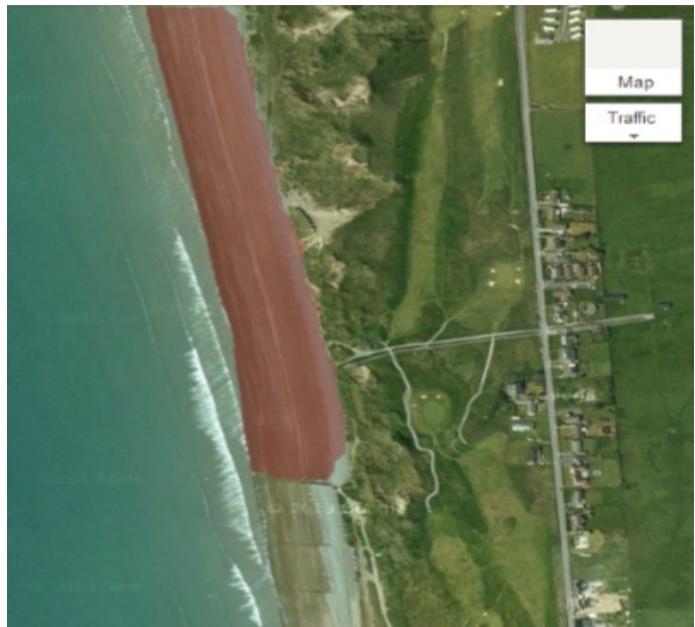
## Westward Ho!, North Devon (best wind direction NW)



The Fly zone is situated to the right of the concrete boardwalk, facing the beach, and is approximately 1.5 miles long, you must be 200m to the right of the walkway and 100m off the pebble ridge before you can set up. Be aware, dog walkers/horse riders/kite surfers/surfers and all other uncontrolled activities on this beach and attention must be paid at all times for other beach users.

**FLYZONE**

### **Borth Mid Wales (best wind direction W)**



Borth can be found a few miles north of Aberystwyth. Access to the beach is through the golf course situated about 200m north of Swn Y Mor holiday park. The Fly zone is situated to the right at the end of the pebble ridge, facing the beach, you can fly from the pebble ridge right up to the estury , please be careful of the extremely high sand dunes for updrafts, do not fly too close on an onshore wind. Be aware, dog walkers/horse riders/kite surfers/surfers and all other uncontrolled activities on this beach and attention must be paid at all times for other beach users.

#### **HIGHLIGHTED AREA ON MAP MARKS OUT THE FLYZONE**

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