



To book a flight and then prepare for your flight please review the following

The following information is specifically for our passengers who purchased or received a Flight Voucher before December 2017 for one of our regular (non-exclusive) flights

With the close of the 2018 ballooning season we have now withdrawn our large passenger balloon from service. We will continue to fly any remaining non exclusive passengers who hold *valid* flight vouchers in our smaller balloon during the 2019 season.

All remaining vouchers have been upgraded to “Anytime” free of charge and the majority of flights will take place mainly at weekends, and from our Aylesbury launch sites, we ask that you are as flexible as possible to help us to accommodate you.

In 2019 our online flight reservation system will no longer be operational and we would ask passengers to contact us at enquiries@champagne-flights.co.uk to explore your availability and possible flight dates.

We will also be using the main office number 01296 641153 as our “Weatherline” for the remaining flights. The previous weatherline number 01296 640084 will no longer be in service.

Our main flying season is April to October inclusive, when flights are scheduled on weekends for early morning and early evening.

In the event of a cancellation due to unsuitable weather, please contact us by email and we can explore alternative dates with you.

IMPORTANT: You must contact us prior to your flight to check that the flight is likely to take place. You will be asked to leave a confirmation message with your name and a (mobile) contact number.

IN SUMMER

April to September inclusive - Tel : 01296 641153

Morning Flights - Call the evening before between 9.00 p.m. and 9.30 p.m

Evening Flights - Call between 3.30 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. on the day of the flight

IN WINTER

October to March inclusive - Tel : 01296 641153

Morning Flights - Call the evening before between 9.00 p.m. and 9.30 p.m

Afternoon Flights - Call between 11.30 a.m and 12.00 noon on the day of the flight

We regret that failure to check in prior to your flight, at the correct time, could result in forfeiture of your flight.

Please do not call before these times, as flight planning will not be completed. If the weather is uncertain you may be asked to call back at a later time, or for early morning flights, we may arrange to give you an early morning call, (only if it is flyable). Please ensure that you arrive at the launch site on time, flying "slots" can sometimes be brief and we may not be able to delay.

We **DO NOT ENCOURAGE** large numbers of people and vehicles to follow the balloon in flight, large convoys are not only a motoring hazard, but are not well received in quiet rural locations. We will provide transport back to the launch site after the flight for balloon passengers only. Small family groups or friends are welcome to attend the inflation and launch of the Balloon and we may allow the occasional vehicle to follow the Balloon by prior arrangement and under the supervision of our ground crew. We would be glad to suggest some local pubs or other venues for family and friends to wait. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to call.

Important Information About Your Voucher

The terms & conditions as shown on the reverse of your voucher have been implemented following extensive consultations between The British Association of Balloon Operators (B.A.B.O) and the Office of fair trading.

Voucher validity - your flight voucher is valid for twelve months and the expiry date is shown on your voucher. This period of validity is intended to allow, in the event of unsuitable weather, up to five attempts to fly during the main flying season, which is 1st April to late October.

Ballooning can only take place in safe meteorological conditions (see weather Information). It is not uncommon for flights to be cancelled on the day, which is why it is essential that you phone in at the correct time to check if the flight is likely to take place. Occasionally conditions on the launch site can be unsuitable despite forecasts received beforehand, and the flight cancelled at the pilot's discretion for your safety.

Voucher Extension - if we have to postpone your flight on more than five occasions, provided you continue to book a date each month we will extend your voucher free of charge on expiry, to include the next three months of the flying season which is April to October inclusive.

The above clauses form part of the terms and conditions as detailed on your voucher.

Action - Please read all the information included and the terms and conditions on the reverse of your voucher, Check the expiry date of your voucher (*It may have been purchased sometime before you received it*). Plan your flight well in advance allowing for four repeat attempts April to October inclusive.

Flight date
 Flight date
 Flight date
 Flight date
 Flight date

Keep a note of the date of each booking and postponement in case you require a free extension as detailed above. In the event that you have not been able to make the five attempts required and wish to pay for a voucher extension, please contact us at

enquiries@champagneflights.co.uk

before your voucher expiry date to qualify.

Ballooning Weather Conditions

For a safe and successful flight we require light winds, dry conditions and good visibility.

Wind speeds - more flights are cancelled due to wind speeds than any other weather factor. Ideally surface winds should be 6 to 8 miles per hour and stable, i.e. no turbulence or convection.

Despite these parameters, some flights can still take place at higher wind speeds, depending on visibility and also the wind direction, which will ultimately dictate the type of terrain the landing will be made in. So on the day of your flight keep your weather eye on the wind it may be a beautiful sunny day with clear blue skies but if the trees are thrashing about in the breeze be prepared for a cancellation!

Sunrise & Sunset - Balloon flights typically take place 1 to 2 hours before sunset or after sunrise. This period is when the winds are most likely to drop in the evenings or remain calm in the mornings; even on a fairly windy day this is not uncommon. Passengers may be surprised that we have put the evening flight on, but hopefully the wind will be dropping as you make your way to the launch site.

Therefore, arrival times at the launch site during summer are typically 6.00 am for morning flights and 6.30 pm for evening flights, however, **these times are only approximations** and will differ depending on sunrise and sunset times throughout the year.

Forecasting - please remember that our decision to put the flight on or cancel it, is based on the weather forecasts and other information we receive prior to your check in call, on the day of your flight. Usually a number of independent forecasts are analysed which will often vary in their predictions. Taking all the information together, it is often possible to see a trend in the weather for a given day and then a decision can be reached. On the basis that if we don't go to the launch site, we cannot fly, we will meet if we think there is a reasonable chance of flying. A lot can change in the few hours between your phone call and your arrival on site.

Occasionally the forecasters do get it wrong, and we cancel after receiving a poor forecast when we could have flown.

Of course this is frustrating for all concerned - but please remember our flight planning decisions are always based on expert advice, and many years of safe operations.

Clothing

Balloonists tend to adopt clothing made of natural fibre, which is more comfortable to wear in the vicinity of a powerful burner. We would suggest that you do not wear nylon or other similar man made fabrics. For Ballooning, wear the type of clothing that would be suitable for a walk in the country on the day of your flight. It is seldom cooler in the air than on the ground, so unless your flight takes place on a frosty winter's day, you need not dress for the arctic !

Please Note - balloon burners can sometimes drip small amounts of water into the basket during a flight. For this reason it is advisable not to wear clothing which is of a very light colour as these water droplets may cause a stain **for which we cannot be responsible.**

In Summer - on a hot summer's day it can still be very warm during an evening flight. Often a shirt is all that is needed, but bring a light jacket or sweatshirt in case it cools down after landing. Jeans are ideal and trousers more practical than skirts. No shorts please. If in doubt bring extra clothing, which can be left in your car if not required.

Water - on warm summer evenings, it is a good idea to bring bottled water. Please do not bring food other types of drink, as spillages can be hard to clean off the basket !

In Winter - the same rule applies whatever you would wear for a country walk on the same day. Again you will be surprised at how warm it can be in the basket even on a winter's day with the burners running. Hands and feet can get cold. Double or thick wool socks and gloves should be worn, if in doubt dress in layers that can be adjusted prior to take off as required.

Footwear - for your safety on landing no heels please flat shoes only. Walking boots or strong shoes are ideal, trainers only if the ground is dry. In winter or on early morning flights, there may be long wet grass at the launch or landing site, so wellingtons may be appropriate, wet feet soon become cold feet!

Hats - strongly recommended on all Balloon flights. Some passengers may be sensitive to burner heat on the scalp. Please bring a suitable hat, flat cap, baseball hat; head scarf, hood etc., for use if required.

Personal Effects - balloon landings can vary depending on weather conditions on the day of your flight. They can sometimes be bumpy, and your pilot will instruct you on the best position to adopt for the landing. You are welcome to bring video cameras, cameras, spectacles and other personal effects on the flight with you, but any personal belongings must be stowed away sensibly in the basket to avoid damage or loss during the landing. Please note that **Champagne Flights cannot be held responsible for loss or damage to any personal belongings you choose to bring on the flight.**

FINDING LAUNCH SITES

Aylesbury - Watermead

To find afternoon / evening take off site – Watermead - HP19 0FU - Watermead is just to the north of Aylesbury and to the east of the A413.

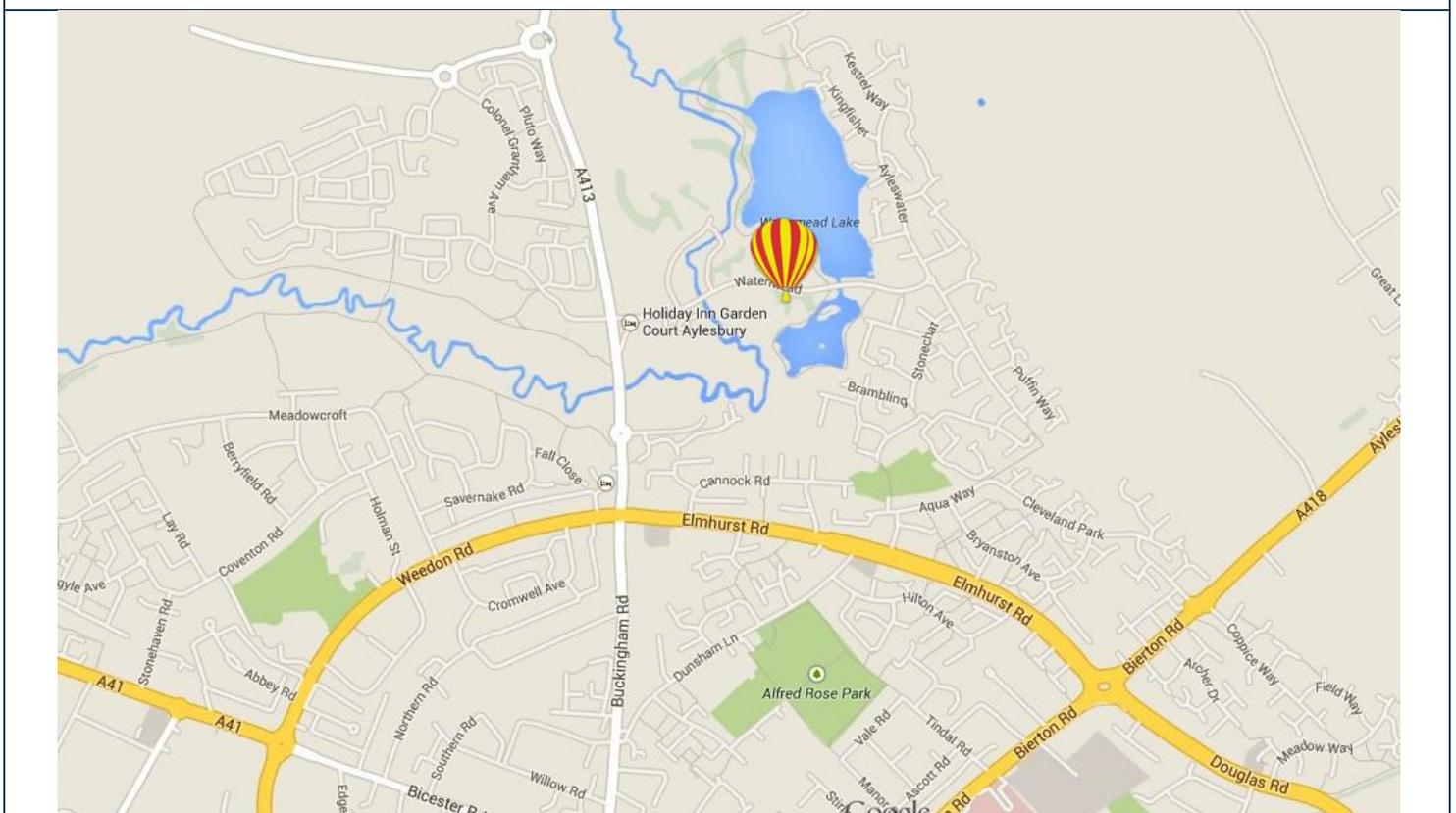
From Aylesbury - Find your way to, and through Aylesbury following the signs for the A413 to Buckingham. Leave the Aylesbury ring road at the traffic lights, with the Horse & Jockey pub on your left. Travel approximately 500 meters toward Buckingham on the A413 and turn right to Watermead at the traffic lights as sign posted.

After approximately 250 metres you will see the launch site on your left with the lake behind it, but drive past and go to the car park which is a left turn at the roundabout. After parking walk the short distance back to the launch site. Please announce your arrival as soon as possible to a Champagne Flights staff member, the site can often be very busy with many spectators at weekends. Please note there are no toilet facilities at the launch site.

From Buckingham - To find Watermead travelling south from Buckingham on the A413. Before reaching Aylesbury ring road, turn left at the traffic lights for Watermead Follow instructions in part B: above.

Please Note: We aim to arrive 15 minutes before the stated meet up time. If you arrive early, we may not have arrived but do not try to contact us, we will arrive by the arranged time.

On arrival at Watermead the site can be very busy with many spectators at weekends, so it is essential that you come and introduce yourself immediately on arrival.



Mobile No. 07831 773999 - (Available approx 1 hour before meet up time – no message facility – text only)

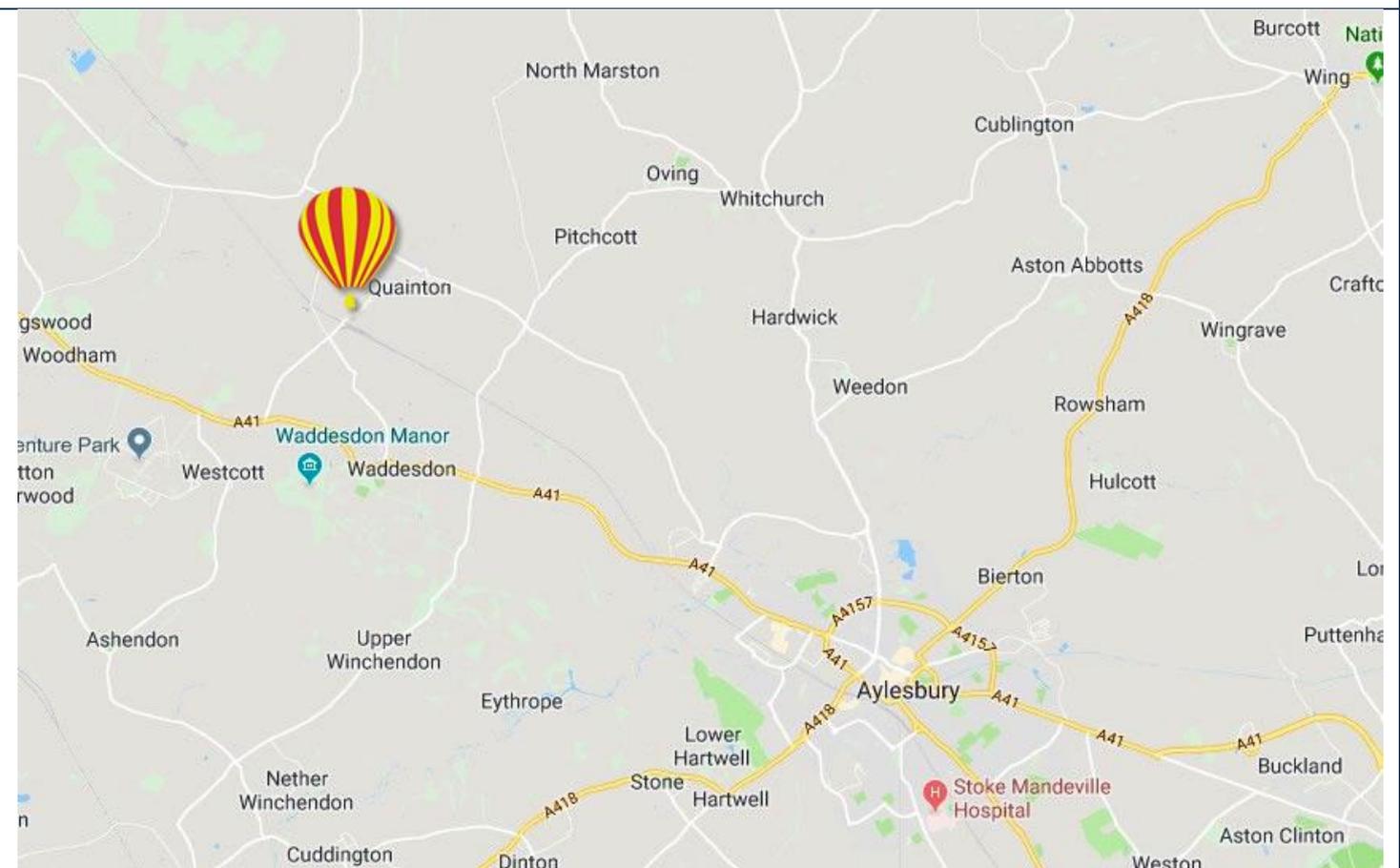
Aylesbury - Quainton

To find morning take off site Quainton Railway Centre – HP22 4BY -This launch site is a field which is used as the overflow car park for the Quainton Railway Centre approximately 1 mile south west of Quainton village.

From Aylesbury - Go out of town on the A41 (Bicester Road) to Waddesdon village. Leave Waddesdon still on the A41, continue 1 mile and turn right toward Quainton, the turn off has a brown tourist sign for the Railway Centre. After 1 mile you will arrive at a cross roads, continue straight ahead for 50 metres and you will see the entrance to the site on your left flanked by 2 identical signs reading “Way in to Railway Centre over bridge” turn into the field and park. If you arrive too early the gate maybe locked so please wait with your vehicle safely on the other side of the road until our arrival – do not block the field’s access.

From A413 Whitchurch - Take the Oving road from Whitchurch heading west. Pass Oving, drive through Pitchcott and continue down the hill. Turn right at the cross roads, sign posted for Quainton. Drive into the village, passing the village green to your right, and shortly Turn left sign posted to Waddesdon. Continue 1 mile and drive past the Railway Centre on your left, go over the bridge and you will see the entrance to the site on your right flanked by 2 identical signs reading “Way in to Railway Centre over bridge” turn into the field and park.

PLEASE NOTE : If you arrive too early the gate maybe locked so please wait with your vehicle safely on the other side of the road until our arrival – do not block the field’s access.



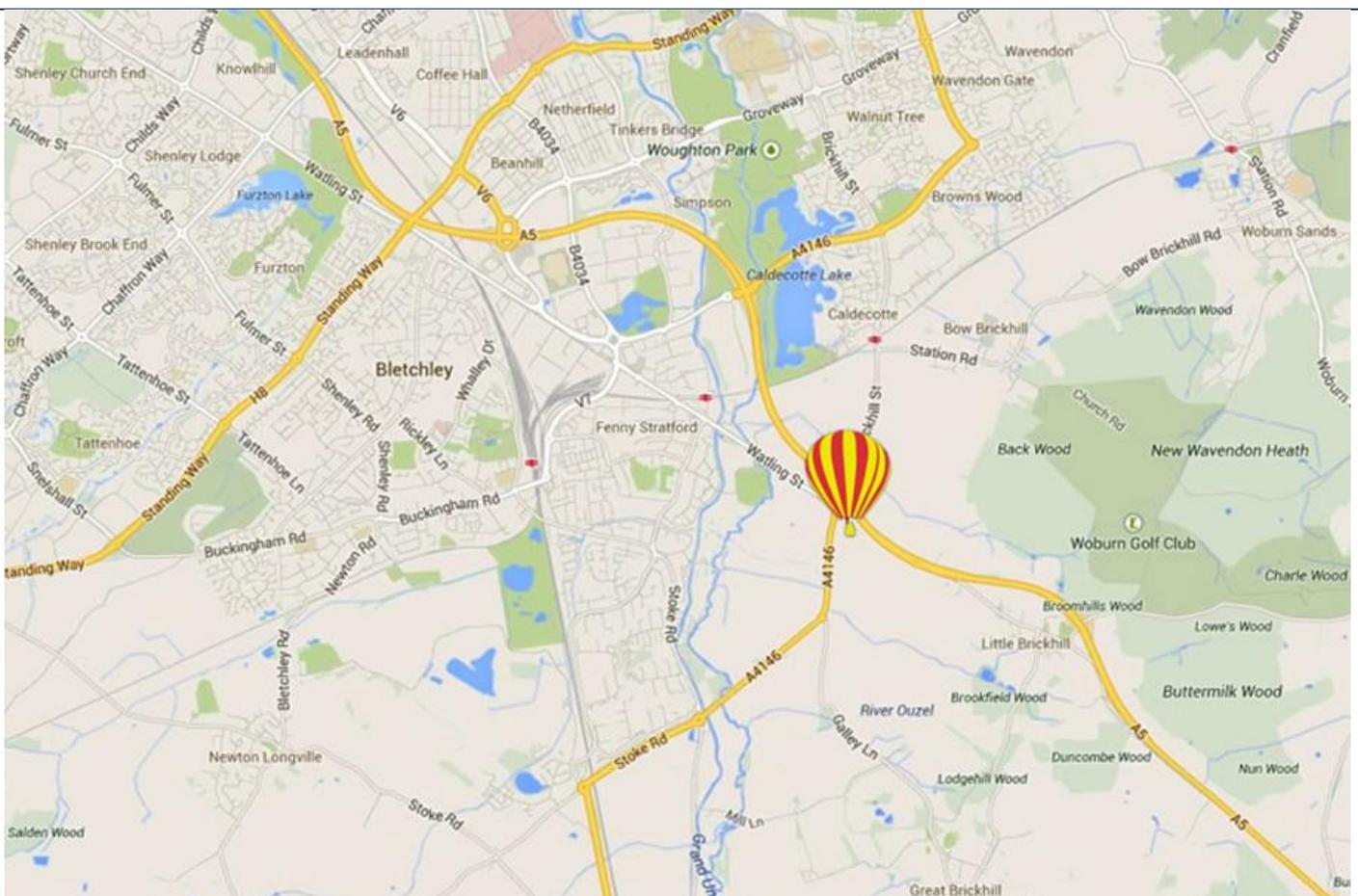
Milton Keynes – Hunters Farm Shop

To find morning / evening take off site Hunters Farm Shop, Nr Little Brickhill, Milton Keynes MK17 9DN - Hunters Farm Shop lies on the A5 - 2 kilometers North West of Little Brickhill

A5 from Milton Keynes- Follow the A5 south. At the roundabout forming the junction with the A4146, take the third exit onto the A4146, and turn immediately left. Hunters Farm Shop is on your right opposite the Total garage and McDonalds.

A5 from Dunstable - Follow the dual carriage way north west toward Milton Keynes, and go past the exit for Woburn & The Brickhills. Continue 1 Kilometer, and when you have the Little Chef in sight, slow down and turn left immediately before the roundabout. Hunters Farm Shop is on your left opposite the Total garage and McDonalds.

A4146 from Leighton Buzzard / Wing - Follow the A4146 North toward Milton Keynes. You will eventually come down the dual carriage way to the roundabout which forms the junction with the A5 you will see Hunters Farm Shop on your right hand side. To get to Hunters you will need to go right around the roundabout, and take the fifth exit (back the way you have come), and turn immediately left. Hunters Farm Shop is on your right opposite the Total garage and McDonalds.



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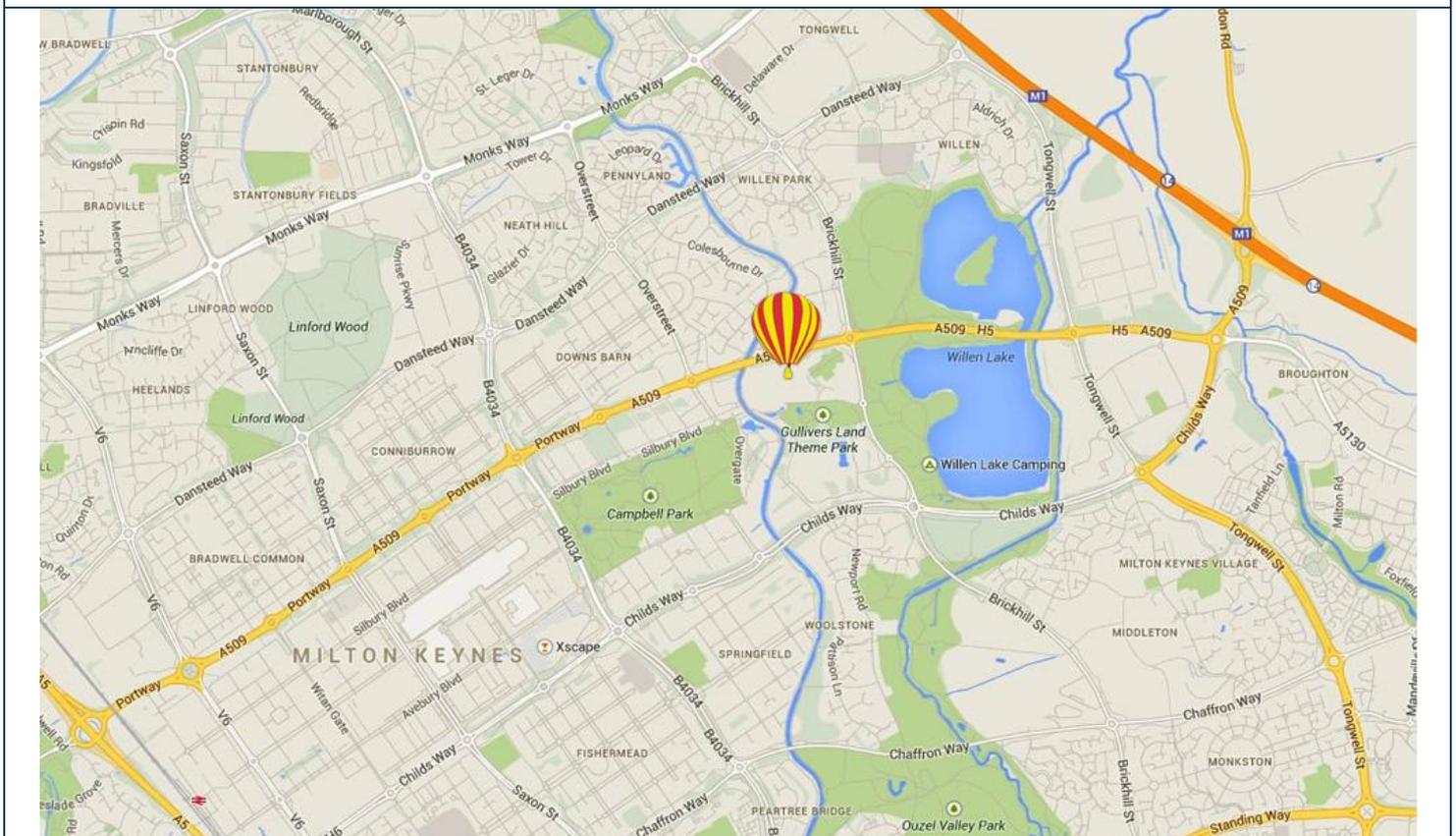
Milton Keynes – David Lloyd Leisure

To find morning / evening take off site - David Lloyd Leisure Livingstone Drive, Newlands, Milton Keynes - MK15 0DL

David Lloyd lies to the South of the A509, opposite Gulliver's land

A509 heading East from Central Milton Keynes - Follow the A509 dual carriage way (Portway) to the East. At the roundabout turn right onto Brickhill Street heading south, and then turn right again at the next roundabout onto Livingstone Drive, Gulliver's Land will be on your left and David Lloyd a bit further on your right. Drive through the barrier and bear right to the sloping grass area on your left and park there.

A509 heading West from the M1 junction 14 - Follow the A509 dual carriage way (Portway) to the West. At the roundabout turn left onto Brickhill Street heading south, and then turn right again at the next roundabout onto Livingstone Drive, Gulliver's Land will be on your left and David Lloyd a bit further on your right. Drive through the barrier and bear right to the sloping grass area on your left and park there.



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