

Pal'cielo Exclusive XC Coaching

This is not just another Colombian flying trip! Besides having fun and enjoying this breathtaking country, our mission is to help you become a better pilot by improving your safety, technique, and decision-making. No matter if you are new to distance flying or if you are already flying competitions, we will make sure that you get the most out of flying with us! Let's extend your horizon together!



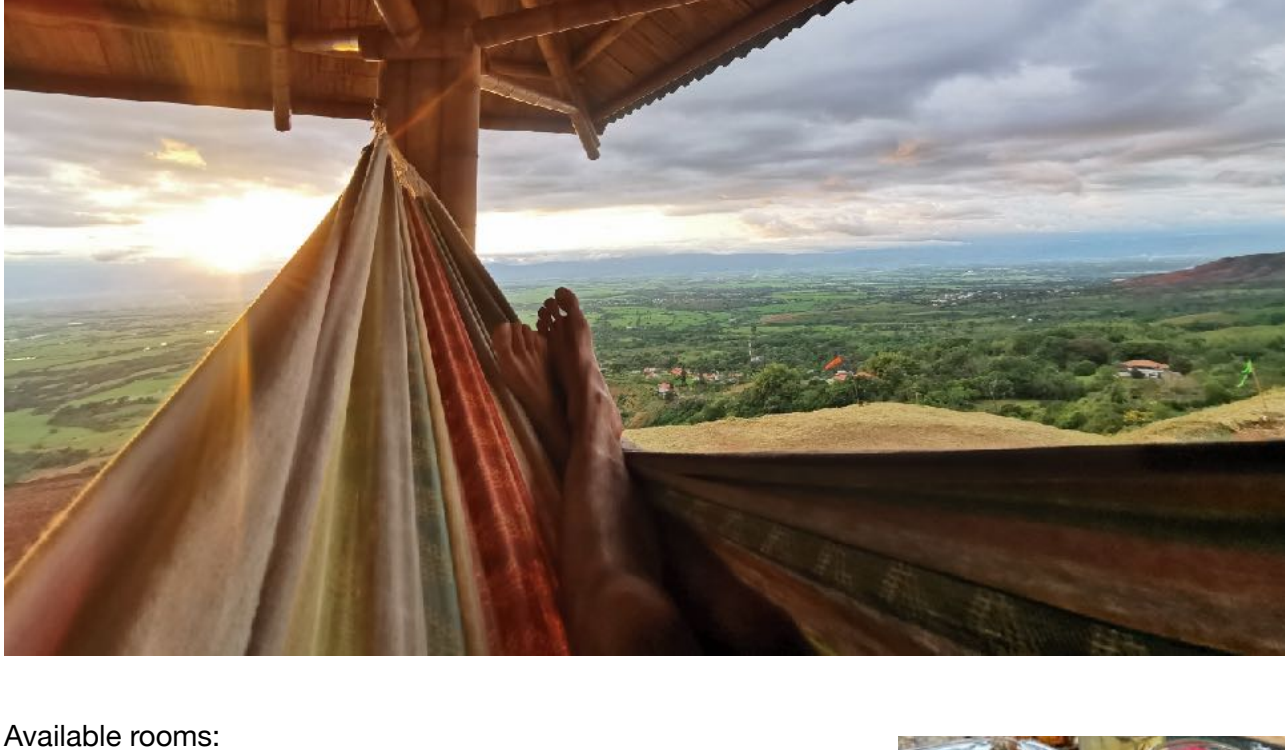
Why Piedechinche?

We strongly believes that Piedechinche is the overall best flying site for such a course in Colombia, if not in South America or even the entire world!

Pál has competed in the most prestigious cross-country competitions held in Colombia in recent years. Historically, these events mostly take place in Roldanillo, which turned the Cauca Valley into the most popular paragliding destination of the southern hemisphere. We all agree that Roldanillo is the best place for competition flying and big triangles, but it is not without a catch. Two sets of high-voltage power lines are teasing the nerves along the entire mountain range. There is no official landing field and the east-facing slopes do not only produce early thermals but also powerful turbulences and lee-sides, making the flying there significantly more risky and demanding. And last but not least, the incoming sea-breeze from the Pacific Ocean makes launching impossible by noon or early afternoon and turns the ridge into a massive lee-side later on (föhn). If you land out early, there is no chance for a second try and your flying day is over. Piedechinche is not affected by the pacific wind, has excellent take-off and landing sites and we can fly all day long into the sunset.

Accomodation

At our own private property, Pal'cielo (means "to the skies" in Spanish slang).



Available rooms:

Get -20% off the room price if you come with your partner or want to share a room with your friend,

1. Free spirit (ca. 40m2) - 99 EUR / night / person
Spacious room on the upper floor with a 2x2m bed, ideal for a couple.

2. Open horizon (ca. 34 m2) - 94 EUR / night / person
Spacious room downstairs with a 1.8x2m bed and one expandable couch if you wish to share it with your friend.

3. Bamboo dream (ca. 20m2) - 79 EUR / night / person
Somewhat smaller but high and charming room with a large gallery as secondary sleeping space. A double bed or two single beds can be accommodated downstairs with another mattress on top so in total it can host 1-3 people comfortably.



The accomodtion includes:

- Full-board catering:

Vegetarian menu prepared with love and the best available ingredients (if you'd like to eat meat or have special preferences, let us know in advance!):

- Breakfast
- Lunch pack to go
- Dinner

At chosen nights (approximately 2-3 times during the week) we will visit the best restaurants in the nearby town of Santa Elena, where we cover your main dish and you only pay your drinks and other extras.

- Transport:

- Airport shuttles (Cali airport - Pal'cielo) on dedicated travel days.
- During free-flying days: First shuttle of the day to the main Piedechinche take-off 'Siete'.
- During free flying days: Ride home from the official Piedechinche landing zone.
- During XC coaching: Unlimited rides to the take-off.
- During XC coaching: Retrieve from anywhere in the Cauca Valley.

- Breathtaking panorama.

- Space for yoga and meditation on one of two big common terraces (60m2 and 80m2).

- Yoga mats and meditation cushions.

- Slackline.

- Fully equipped kitchen.

- Panoramic dining room / common area.

- Briefing area with projector and whiteboard

- Bonfire place and grill

- Hot-showers in all bathrooms

- WIFI Internet

- Drinking water from a filter

- Take-off spot in the garden (technical!)

- Top-landing spot in the garden (technical!)

- Access to 8000 m2 garden.



Exclusive XC coaching week:

Price: 2400 EUR for 6 coaching days
(+ accommodation at Pal'cielo)

Deposit: 1000 EUR

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE:

Get your deposit back if you are not happy with your progression!

What will you learn?

- Fly in a group and work together as a team.
- Competition strategy.
- Pro tips & tricks.
- Thermal techniques, coring.
- Cross-country strategy and mindset.
- Fly faster and more efficiently.
- Advanced glider control (rear-riser steering, speed bar, etc).
- Decision-making.
- Choosing your line.
- How to get the most out of the day.
- Reading the sky.
- Meteo.



How we will do it?

- Exclusive and personalised coaching, thanks to the outstanding participants/guide ratio.
- Best preparation with in-depth briefings.
- Setting daily tasks & goals.
- We will be flying and learning together as a group to ensure the best result.
- Accompanied and coached by Pál Takáts, assisted by Monika Takáts.

What is included in the price?

- In-flight radio coaching throughout every flight.
- "Low-save assistance".
- Theory classes.
- Gear compatibility check and optimisation.
- Pre-flight briefings.
- Post-flight analysis, debriefing.
- Transportation to take-off & retrieve from anywhere in the valley.
- Local SIM cards (activated and ready to use).
- Airport shuttles.
- Take-off and landing fees.
- Local guidance.
- In-flight pictures.
- Good vibes.

Not included in the price?

- Plane tickets



Minimum requirements to participate:

- Valid paragliding license.
- Valid liability insurance.
- Accident insurance covering paragliding.
- Level of experience to safely take-off and land by yourself.
- Basic thermal flying skills.
- Be fluent in one of these languages: English / German / Spanish / Hungarian.
- Complete flying kit suitable for your skill level.
- Reserve parachute re-packed within the last 6 months prior to the course.
- A quality 2-meter band radio (this is crucial for us to be able to work together. If you don't hear us, we can't help you. It is recommended to invest in a high-quality radio: ICOM, Yaesu, etc.). If you don't have one, you can borrow from us.

Safety / Health care:

We always do our best to prevent any incident and so far all our courses were 100% accident-free. However, in case of an injury, we will take you to the **Valle de Lili clinic** which is "Accredited with international standards, for fourth year in a row as the third best hospital in Latin America by the AméricaEconomía magazine".

Your hosts:



Pál Takáts

Coming from Hungary and began to fly in 2001, Pál won the Aerobatic World Cup Tour three times, was a Red Bull athlete for 10 years, participated in the Red Bull X-Alps three times, is a Guinness record holder, invented various new manoeuvres, created the Master Acro educational series, flew 528 km in Brazil, Top 10 finisher on Paragliding World Cups, etc. Today he's seasonally living between Austria, Hungary and Colombia. Together with his wife, he became a landowner in Piedechinche, a place they quickly fell in love with. He knows the Cauca Valley like his palm, which made him be the Meet Director of the prestigious Paragliding World Cup Superfinal in 2017. Pál is a cross-country, hike & fly and acro specialist, fluently speaking English, German, Spanish, and Hungarian. A man on a mission to leave a footprint in paragliding education.



Monika Takáts

Moni started to fly in 2016 and she is quickly exploring the beauty of her new passion. In 2022 she finished second in the EN-B class and won the female class in her very first competition, the Ozone Open in Piedechinche, the flying arena she knows the best. In 2023 she won the Sports Racing Series in Macedonia in the female and Reynolds category. She is fluent in German, English, and Spanish and will be happy to introduce you to the Colombian lifestyle. Her longest distance flight is currently 173 km and 6:30h. She will be helping us everywhere, from the logistics to in-flight coaching.



Walter Gomez

Our friend Walter is helping us with the shuttles and retrieve (and more) on his Toyota Land Cruiser. Being local he knows our flying arena very well. He is not only an experienced tandem pilot but while working with us in the past years he has also improved his cross-country skills significantly. We are proud of him for winning his first competition, a small recreational contest in Piedechinche in July 2022.

Excursion package for non-flying companions during the week: (minimum 2 participants required)

Price: 680 EUR / person

Including:

Guiding.
Transportation.
Accomodation with breakfast in Salento (nights already paid for Pal'cielo will be discounted).
Entry fees and guided excursions.

- 1 day trip to **Cali**
One way travel time: approx. 1 hour.

Activities:
Sightseeing.
Eating out.
Shopping in the market (handcrafted products, local food, etc).
Visiting the colonial center of San Antonio (more shopping and good food :))

and

- 3 days, 2 nights trip to **Salento** and **Cocora Valley**, part of Los Nevados National Park.
One way travel time: approx. 4 hours.

Activities:
Sightseeing and shopping in Salento.
Choose one of several different hiking-, horseback riding-, or biking trips in the Cocora Valley and surrounding mountains. For highly fit and motivated hikers 2-day trekking tours available (up to over 4000 meters), see picture below.

Guided tour through an authentic coffee plantation.

