

Thermalling Clinic

Skill-Building Programme

The foundation of all altitude and cross-country flying

ParaglidingBawas · Bir Billing, Himachal Pradesh · October

www.paraglidingbawas.com · +91 98209 11994

PREREQUISITE P3 certified pilot	DURATION 7 days	LOCATION Bir Billing, HP	SEASON October	LEADS TOWARD P4 exam skills
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ABOUT THIS CLINIC

Thermalling — the foundation of everything

You cannot fly cross-country until you can thermal consistently. This clinic is entirely focused on finding lift, staying in it, and flying efficiently within thermals — the single skill that separates recreational pilots from free-flyers who can go wherever the sky allows. This is a skill-building programme, not an examination. No rating is awarded at the end. Instead, you leave with the airmanship and flying hours to approach your P4 exam confidently when you are ready.

CURRICULUM

What you will practise and learn

01 Ground School & Theory

Daily briefings · Evening classroom sessions

- Thermal formation, cycles, triggers, and structure
- Lee side, windward side, and thermic tilt
- Skew-T log-P diagram reading and weather forecasting
- Polar curve, angle of attack, and speed-to-fly theory
- Cloud types and what they mean for a pilot
- When NOT to fly — decision-making frameworks
- Equipment knowledge and pre-flight checks

02 Practical Flying Skills

Daily flights · Instructor-led airwork

- 360° turns — entry, coring, and centring technique
- Active piloting in turbulent and thermic conditions
- Symmetric and asymmetric collapse management
- Descent techniques — big ears, B-line stall, spiral
- Safe AGL management while thermalling
- Speed-bar and trim-speed management in lift
- Kiting and canopy control at high-altitude launch sites

03 Out-Landings & Field Skills

Real-world scenarios every day

- Taking off in varied and challenging wind conditions
- Identifying and committing to a safe landing field
- Crosswind and tailwind landing approaches
- Valley and slope landings in confined areas

- Top landings on thermic and turbulent sites
- Tree-landing awareness and precautionary procedure
- Solo retrieve protocols and ground communication

WHAT COMES NEXT

Your path from here

After this clinic →	XC Clinic	Build on your thermal skills to fly cross-country distances, plan routes, and manage retrieves.
When ready →	P4 Exam	Sit the P4 examination separately — the clinics prepare you, they do not award ratings.
Ongoing →	Students for Life	Return to training with free instruction from ParaglidingBawas — for as long as you fly.

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