

Welcome to



**TOWNSVILLE HELICOPTERS**



# Welcome!

Townsville Helicopters is a Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) authorised pilot training facility located in the sunny dry tropics of North Queensland.

Townsville Helicopters is a highly respected training institution, with a reputation for producing world-class private and commercial helicopter pilots. We have been training pilots for over 13 years, and our team of instructors have over 17,000 hours instructing between them! Owner Dick Arnold has over 30 years experience as a pilot, and our instructors have a wide range of industry experience from charter to mustering to specialised aerial work, and are happy to share their knowledge with our students.

Students at Townsville Helicopters also get a first-hand look at the workings of a commercial helicopter operation every day, providing invaluable industry experience.





We are located at Townsville's international airport - just 10 minutes from the city centre - and operate out of a private hangar with newly renovated facilities and plenty of free parking. Utilising an open area within the airport with a private run-up bay, we can reduce ground time to maximise your flying.

Our fleet of aircraft are of outstanding quality - we only use new or newly rebuilt helicopters - and our machines are kept in great condition for use in both training and commercial work. On-site aircraft engineers keep us flying safely, and ensure that we have high aircraft availability for our operations.

We train students from all over Australia and beyond, and from all different backgrounds, age groups and experience. Our small class numbers allow students to form great relationships with our team and each other and helps us achieve our goal of training students to a level superior to their peers.









## Our Courses

Townsville Helicopters offers full time and part time training for Private and Commercial Pilot Licences, as well as ratings and endorsements to enhance your skill-set as a pilot. Flight testing is also conducted in-house with our CASA accredited Flight Examiners.

Detailed information on the training options for private and commercial licences are available in a separate guide from Townsville Helicopters.

We are also partnered with TAFE Queensland to deliver the AVI50322 Diploma of Aviation (Commercial Pilot Licence - Helicopter).

*Townsville Helicopters provide the training and assessment of this accredited qualification on behalf of TAFE Queensland (RTO 0275) who will award the qualification upon successful completion.*

Through our sister school National Aviation Academy we also offer training for Aeroplane Pilot Licences in Townsville and Cairns.





## Why train in Townsville?

*The simple answer is that Townsville offers the perfect training ground for budding pilots.*

Townsville boasts an average of 320 days of sunshine annually meaning our students spend more time in the air and less time looking at the weather radar.

Our close proximity to a variety of different training environments means less time wasted in transit during lessons and more time spent on developing and practicing the skills you need to succeed.

The Townsville airspace environment is uniquely complex and enables students to regularly practise integral skills such as flying in controlled and non-controlled airspace (Class C and Class G) and radio-communication procedures. The diversity of airspaces around Townsville helps students develop situational awareness, enhance their sense of responsibility as a pilot and define superior flying skills.

This also gives our students the edge in employment over students who do not encounter this environment in their training.



Other key aspects of our training areas include:

- > We have an agreement with the military to use a "training airspace" at the airport. This area is very convenient and is utilised for a lot of training from basic hover training to advanced manoeuvres such as autorotation
- > During navigation exercises, students experience flight through very diverse terrain. Townsville's non-controlled airspace (OCTA) includes fantastic areas such as the Northern Beaches, the Paluma Range, the Burdekin Agricultural region and World Heritage Hinchinbrook Island areas
- > There are several different navigation routes from Townsville airport offering diversity in landmarks and topography i.e. populated areas, bushland, mountainous relief, coastal lanes over water; and in airspaces i.e. Restricted, Danger and Prohibited areas; Controlled airspace which allows students to become proficient at remote area navigation





# Program Features

## Aviation Theory

We know that helping students gain a proper understanding of aviation theory is just as important as flight training, and run full time PPL and CPL theory courses on-site throughout the year as well as offering private tutoring sessions.

## On-site Aircraft Engineering

We are very privileged to have experienced licensed aviation maintenance engineers located on-site who are more than happy to provide valuable insight to our students during their studies. Studying Aircraft General Knowledge in a classroom is one thing, but having this first hand expertise available really takes it to another level!

Having on-site engineering also means quicker turn-around on aircraft maintenance so we can have as little machine downtime as possible.

## Commercial Operations

As a student at Townsville Helicopters, you will have the unique training experience of seeing how a commercial operation works on a day-to-day level through our charter and aerial work operations, giving you valuable experience before entering the workforce.







## Social Activities

It's not all hard work! Townsville Helicopters regularly organise BBQs, 'fishing shirt Fridays', tickets to the footy, and student social events throughout the term.

## Industry Visits

We regularly organise visits from organisations such as Air Traffic Control, 5th Aviation Regiment, Aviation Fire and Rescue, and LifeFlight to speak to our students and provide inspiration and advice.

## Aviatrix Australia

Aviatrix was started right here at Hangar 85, and in partnership with Townsville Helicopters, National Aviation Academy & ZephAir Australia are choosing to challenge the status quo by advocating for the advancement of women in aviation.

Women's participation in the aviation sector is low, with currently just over 7% of certified civilian pilots being females. Aviatrix Australia hopes to inspire, encourage and support more women to join the industry.

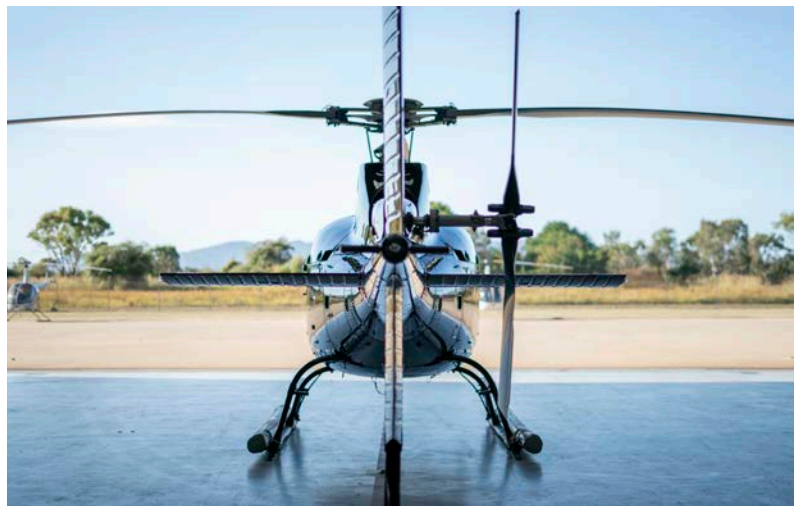




## The Fleet

We pride ourselves on the quality of our training aircraft, with a large fleet of well-maintained, industry-ready aircraft. We have carefully selected aircraft for our fleet that are beneficial both to our students, and our commercial work.

For our commercial students, training in our aircraft greatly increases your chances of finding work with a company with the same aircraft - giving you the edge over other candidates.





## **Robinson R22**

The Robinson R22 is the primary aircraft used for helicopter flight training in Australia. It is a 2 seated lightweight utility aircraft which delivers exceptional performance given its size. The R22's applications range from aerial photography and scenic flights to cargo transfer and most popularly in Australia, cattle mustering. Training in the R22 will provide you with an opportunity to learn the required skills in an industry relevant machine.

## **Robinson R44**

The Robinson R44 is the world's most popular civilian helicopter. This 4 seater aircraft is a great all-rounder due to its efficient running costs and wide range of aerial applications such as scenic flights, training and transfers. Our R44 aircraft feature air-conditioning, leather seats and emergency floats. Most pilots will be required to fly the R44 particularly at the start of their careers

## **AS350 'Squirrel'**

The AS350 SD1, commonly referred to as the "Squirrel" is a versatile Gas Turbine, 5 passenger aircraft. It has a cruise speed of approx. 120 knots and 3 hours endurance. Our AS350 comes equipped with emergency floats for over-water operations, air-conditioning and a 750kg cargo hook. It is an ideal platform for numerous charter and aerial work operations.





# Further Training

## **Type ratings**

Before you can fly a specific helicopter type, you need to be checked off (endorsed). We can conduct type ratings in any of our machines. Under our 105 hour CPL course, you can train in and be endorsed in up to 2 helicopter types. You can then gain a type rating in any other aircraft that you wish to fly with a few hours training.

## **Low Level ratings**

Included in our CPL course as standard, a low level rating allows pilots to fly at a height below the minimum altitudes, a necessary component for pilots conducting aerial and agricultural work

## **Sling (Vertical Reference) endorsements**

Vertical reference flight, or flying a sling load, as it commonly referred to, is a very valuable skill for a pilot. Vertical reference flight is used in numerous operations throughout the world including, fire-fighting, drill movement, construction and exploration, to name but a few.

## **Mustering endorsements**

To muster livestock in a helicopter, you require a low-level rating & a mustering endorsement. Townsville Helicopters can conduct mustering training for experienced commercial or private pilots. With 11 years of mustering experience under his belt, our CFI conducts mustering training across Australia.







## What's the next step?

Ready to get started? Contact Townsville Helicopters on 07 4772 4998 and we'll help you with the next steps to get you in the air!

We understand that choosing your flight training provider is a big decision so if you have any questions please get in touch - we're happy to help. If you're in town you can also arrange to pop out to our hangar to have a tour of the facilities and meet the team.

Would you like to experience flying before joining a course? We recommend joining us for a Trial Introductory Flight (TIF) where you get to undertake your first lesson called 'effects of controls' and actually fly a helicopter.





The whole team at Townsville Helicopters looks forward to assisting you in becoming a Helicopter Pilot. Please get in touch if you have any questions or would like to get started!

07 4772 4998

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