

DANSVILLE FESTIVAL OF BALLOONS, LTD.  
New York State Festival of Balloons  
Dansville Municipal Airport  
Dansville, New York

**ALL PASSENGERS**  
**IMPORTANT – MUST READ AND SIGN**

While the sport of hot air ballooning can be exciting, adventurous and beautiful, passengers are exposed to above average risk of injury. While pilots take precautions to provide for a safe flight it is impossible to guarantee absolute safety. You are requested to sign the attached Waiver and to surrender the Ticket to your pilot prior to your flight. Your attention is specifically drawn to the paragraph identified as “All Passengers Must:” on the back of this document. If you feel uneasy or unsuited in a balloon, please do not fly.

**ALL BALLOON RIDES ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:**

- 1.) All passengers must check in at the balloon ride tent at least sixty (60) minutes prior to scheduled flights.
- 2.) All rides are wind and weather permitting.

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (please print your name) understand that my participation in a hot air balloon flight is a potentially hazardous activity. I further understand during my participation in a hot air balloon flight, I will be exposed to above normal risks of injury, that I share the responsibility for safely in flight and accept that responsibility, and that although the pilot precautions to provide equipment and safety preparations for each flight, it is impossible for the pilot to guarantee absolute safety. Therefore I release the DANSVILLE FESTIVAL OF BALLOONS, LTD. (New York State Festival of Balloons), their insurance companies, officers, employees and agents from any and all liability responsibility or damages for any injury or loss or damage to myself or my property including court costs and reasonable attorney fees as to any cause of action available to me arising out of or in connection with my participation in a hot air balloon ride.

I have accepted responsibility to verify with my physician that I have no physical or psychological problems that would pose a threat to the health and safety to myself and all occupants on board and I agree to comply with the instructions and directions of my pilot during the flight and with all rules relating to participation in the hot air balloon flight. I have received, read and understand the Ballooning Procedures and Facts, which appear on the back of this form, prior to my flight.

I further understand and agree that this release is to be binding upon my heirs and assigns. Finally, I hereby agree that I am voluntarily participating in this hot air balloon flight.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

## **Ballooning Procedures and Facts**

Information concerning participation on a hot air balloon flight follows: **Please read the following carefully.** You are encouraged to ask us to clarify anything that may not be clear to you.

### **The flight:**

Balloon flights are spectacular and extremely smooth. The sensation of lift off has been likened to the ground dropping away at your feet. Before leaving the ground, the pilot will give you a briefing. It is important that you listen carefully and follow your pilots' instructions. Prior to landing it is particularly important that you are prepared and know what to expect. Be advised that when the balloon lands it is normal to experience a bump or series of bumps when the basket touches the ground. It is sometimes possible to experience some dragging of the basket while tipped on its side should the winds pick up. If you have a physical or psychological condition that would interfere with the safety of your ride or landing, you are advised not to take a balloon ride. If you have a question regarding a medical concern, please let us know. **You will be asked to sign a waiver.**

### **All Passengers Must:**

- 1.) Be able to get in and out of the balloon basket under his/her own power and be able to stand through out the duration of the flight.
- 2.) Be able to communicate with and receive instructions from the pilot.
- 3.) Be able to hold onto the basket and bend knees to absorb any impact on landing.
- 4.) Be able to withstand the basket tipping over and dragging along the ground and the likelihood of other passengers bumping into or landing on top of them during landing.
- 5.) Be able to walk back to the retrieval vehicle after landing.
- 6.) Be a minimum of ten (10) years of age and tall enough to see out of basket.
- 7.) Be in good physical condition and general deportment (i.e. no recent surgeries – not pregnant – no known communicable diseases – no skeletal injuries or fractures – no physical impairments of any kind which would place him/herself and the other occupants of the balloon in danger of injury). The Dansville Festival of Balloons, Ltd. parent organization of the New York State Festival of Balloons and its pilots reserve the right to decline to accept any passengers should such person's health, age, physical condition or general deportment impede the operation and safety of those participating in a flight.

### **What to Wear:**

Dress in comfortable clothing according to the temperature of the day. Closed flat shoes, sneakers or boots must be worn. Do not wear open shoes of any kind. Keep in mind that on morning flights there is always dew on the ground, so footwear, which will keep your feet dry, is important. Short skirts and dresses are not appropriate. Cotton fabrics are preferable to synthetics. Avoid clothing with hanging strings as they may get caught on the basket on entry or exit.

### **What to Bring:**

It is suggested that you bring as little as possible because of the room limitations in the basket. Ladies will have to hold onto their purses if taken aboard. It would be preferable if they could be safely left behind. Cameras can be brought but again must be held in hand. Large video equipment is not practical and you are discouraged from bringing these. Small Cam-Corders work better. The pilot, festival and sponsors are not responsible for any personal belongings brought along on a balloon ride.

### **How Long Will the Flight Last:**

Launch times vary due to wind or weather conditions. All flights start subject to the wind and weather conditions of the day. Each flight varies in duration. Generally, airtime will be between 45 and 75 minutes with another 30 to 60 minutes for landing and packing the balloon. Passengers will be returned to the starting point. All in all, you should plan on a total of 2–3 hours. Be sure to allow yourself plenty of time so that you can really enjoy the experience of your balloon ride. Please keep in mind that there are no restroom facilities on board hot air balloons. Please plan ahead for your comfort.

**Our concern is that you be informed so you may have a safe enjoyable flight. Any concerns – let us know.**

## **Covid-19 Notice**

We are required to follow any local, State or Federal Guidelines in place at the time of the festival. There for requirements may change accordingly. At this time most restrictions have been lifted. We still encourage social distancing and vaccination.

Social distancing is not possible while in the basket/flight.

Your Pilot may require you to wear a facial mask and/or show proof of vaccination.