



# Safely flying as a helicopter passenger

Read this information to prepare for your helicopter flight.

## Passenger safety

### Entry and exit

Remove hats and loose items. Do not approach the helicopter without the pilot's instruction to do so. Always approach and leave the helicopter from the front and where the pilot can see you. Never go near the rear of the helicopter.

### Seat belts and seating

Your seat belt must be firmly fastened at all times. If you are in the front seat, stay clear of flight controls. The pilot should give a safety briefing about not interfering with them.

Ensure that personal items remain clear of the controls.

### Doors

If there are no doors, remove all loose items from your pockets and store them as directed by the pilot. If there are doors, do not open them on landing until the pilot indicates for you to exit.

### General

Headsets are provided and should be adjusted for comfort. The pilot will show you how to adjust the volume. The microphone should be close to your mouth.

If you are beginning to feel uncomfortable or airsick, let the pilot know.

Dangerous goods rules apply to all air travel. You must not carry dangerous goods on board.

If in doubt, ask the pilot for more information or go to [casa.gov.au/dg](http://casa.gov.au/dg)

## Emergencies

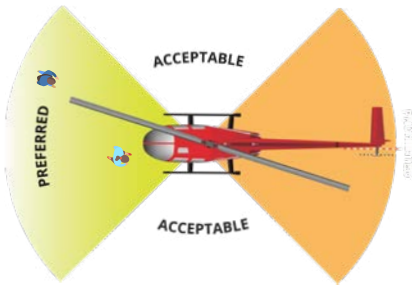
### Before the flight, the pilot must brief you on emergency procedures.

This includes how your seatbelts operate, how to operate your emergency exits and what you need to do in the event of a forced landing. You should make sure you understand these procedures. Mentally rehearsing the procedures can help you remember them in the stress of an actual forced landing.

In the event of a forced landing, after all violent movement stops, evacuate the helicopter. Stay with the helicopter until help arrives. Activate the emergency beacon (red or orange box) and leave it on until help arrives. Water, first aid kit and emergency rations will be located as indicated by the pilot or in the rear boot of the helicopter (if fitted).

Ditching into water – if the helicopter ditches into water it will most likely roll inverted and fill with water resulting in disorientation. Do not inflate your life jacket until clear of the aircraft. If you are in water, maintain contact with the exit and do not remove seat belts or open doors until the helicopter has settled and the blades have stopped turning.





Wait for acknowledgement from the pilot to enter or leave the rotor arc. Approach and leave to the side or front in a crouched position – never by the rear of the helicopter.



**Do not approach or leave the helicopter without the pilot's acknowledgement.** Make sure the pilot can see you at all times and observe the helicopter safety zones as shown above.



On sloping ground, **always approach or leave on the downslope side** for maximum rotor clearance.



If swirling dust, grit or snow is a possibility, **remain clear of the helicopter landing and take-off area until visibility is restored.** If blinded by swirling dust, grit or snow, and unable to confidently evacuate away from the helicopter, **STOP** – crouch lower, or sit down and wait for assistance.



**Objects swept along by rotor wash can be dangerous.** Ensure bags are done up and loose objects on your person such as hats are secured. Secure loose ground objects in the take-off and landing area.



**Do not approach or leave a helicopter** when the engine and rotors are starting up or running down.



**Approach the helicopter in a crouching manner for extra clearance.** Remove or secure all loose articles, including hats. Never reach up or chase after articles that blow away.



**Carry tools etc. horizontally below waist level** – never upright or on the shoulder.