

## Altitude Adjustment

Five ways to get above it all. | by [Molly Dickinson](#)

Some laws need to be broken. Gravity is one of them. If you're itching to cut loose from Mother Earth for a few hours, metro Atlanta's got a slice of sky with your name on it. Here, our sky-high suggestions for getting off the ground, over the top and into the wild blue yonder.



### Banning Mill's Adventure Resort

You've gotta love German engineering... especially when it allows you to plummet 10 stories and land, cat-like, on your feet. Thanks to a massive fan originally designed for "high rescues," the Power Tower Free Fall delivers a 100-foot leap of faith with a feather-light touchdown. Take on the Tower only, or add the All Day Rush Zip Line Tour... eight hours, 40,000 linear and 300 vertical feet, at speeds topping 60 mph. We trust you'll make the right choice. They also offer falconry. With falcons. (Just thought we'd mention that.) [historicbanningmills.com](#), 770.834.9149

### Fighter Pilot for a Day

*Top Gun* fans (meaning: everyone) can command 90 percent of the fly-time behind the stick of a current-issue Marchetti SF260 fighter pilot—aka the Ferrari with wings—in a gut-flipping, heart-thumping, full-throttle air combat experience. Suit up, strap in and make like Maverick as you engage your enemy in a full hour of all-out, acrobatic dog-fighting, high in the Georgia skies. No experience necessary. You'll be fully trained and accompanied by a veteran fighter pilot named "Snoop," "Flopper" or "Smudge," with a take-home video to prove it. All together now: "I feel the need... The need for speed!" [cloud9living.com](#), 866.525.6839

### Atlanta Rocks! Indoor Rock Climbing Gym

Are you more Spidey than Superman? Crawl your way to the top and grab the sky in your bare hands... No wings, engines or capes necessary. You'll earn every inch of air as you muscle up and over more than 12,000 square feet of rock-studded verticals, teeth-gritting overhangs and no-rope bouldering walls. If you're looking to get high on your lunch break (hey, it's natural), go for the Power Lunch special,

an all-you-can-climb buffet of 100-plus routes ranging from beginner to Spider-Man, available 11AM-2PM weekdays for a dirt-cheap \$10. [atlantarocks.com](#), 404.351.3009

### Magic Ballooning

Float like a butterfly, get buzzed like a bee. Every lighter-than-air flight in the towering 70-by-50-foot Sun Dancer hot air balloon ends with a bottle of Champagne, a tradition begun by French aeronauts (but of course) to celebrate a safe landing... and appease frightened farmers. The basket's a perfect perch for two, plus your professional pilot, so you can sweep your lady off her feet in high style. [magicballooning.com](#), 404.808.6132

### Vintage Flights

These are your grandpa's airplanes, which is precisely why they are so damn cool. See the world through the goggles of a WWII airman, from the cockpit of an authentic Stearman Biplane or AT-6 Texan actually flown during the war. Experience the same battle-ready maneuvers taught to young cadets, in the very planes they trained on. They'll even let you man the controls. [vintageflights.com](#), 404.791.9603