

Walk-around

Slingsby T-31B “Tandem Tutor,” N12065

Serial No. WT-902, manufactured June 1960

Mark Nankivil, nankivil@charter.net

Owned by Dennis Barton of Gainesville, Georgia, this T-31B “Tandem Tutor” was photographed by Mark Nankivil at the 2012 Wabash Valley Soaring Association Vintage/Classic Sailplane Regatta held at the Lawrenceville-Vincennes Airport in Lawrenceville, Illinois.

The T-31 Tandem Tutor is the two-place development of the single-place T-8 “Tutor.” It uses the same wings but has additional bracing. There were 200 T-31s built. Early production T-31s had no means of glide-path control, and spoilers were added to later models and retro-fitted to most of the earlier machines. The Royal Air Force used 131 T-31Bs, known as the Kirby Cadet T.X. Mk. 3, in its air cadet organization from 1950 to the mid 1980s. There are currently three T-31s in the United States.



Slingsby T-31B "Tandem Tutor," N12065

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Span | 13.2 m / 43' 3.5" |
| Length | 7.1 m / 23' 3.5" |
| Wing area | 15.8 m ² / 170 ft ² |
| Aspect ratio | 11.1 |
| Wing profile | Göttingen 426 |
| Empty weight | 176 kg / 388 lb |
| Payload | 200 kg / 442 lb |
| Gross weight | 376 kg / 829 lb |
| Wing loading | 23.8 kg/m ² / 4.88 lb/ft ² |
| Structure | Wood and fabric |
| L/Dmax | 18.5 @ 73 km/h / 41.6 mph |
| Minimum sink | 1.05 m/s / 3.48 fps / 2.06 kt |
| Designer | F.N. Slingsby, Great Britain |
| No. of seats | 2 |

























