

# GDPR COOKIE POLICY

[www.openskysoul.com](http://www.openskysoul.com)

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## 1. Purpose of this Policy

This document explains the use of cookies and similar technologies on the Open Sky Soul website and describes how you can manage your choices. It is drafted to comply with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR), the ePrivacy rules as implemented in Member States, the UK GDPR, and the Australian Privacy Act 1988 (Cth).

## 2. What Are Cookies?

Cookies are small data files placed on your device when you visit a website. They serve functions such as enabling core site operations, measuring traffic, remembering preferences, or delivering advertising. Pixels, tags, local storage, and scripts operate in a comparable manner; they are referred to collectively as “cookies” in this Policy.

## 3. Legal Basis for Setting Cookies

- **Strictly Necessary Cookies** operate on the legal basis of our legitimate interest to provide a secure, functional service (Article 6(1)(f) GDPR).
- **Analytics, preference, and advertising cookies** operate only with your prior consent obtained through the consent banner (Article 6(1)(a) GDPR). You can withdraw consent at any time.

## 4. Categories of Cookies We Use

Category	Purpose	Examples
<b>Essential</b>	Maintain security, remember session choices, protect forms from abuse.	crumb, rc::a, rc::c
<b>Analytics</b>	Count visits, measure engagement, improve content.	_ga, _ga_*, ss_cvr, ss_cvt
<b>Other/Testing</b>	Internal platform tests or placeholders that do not yet have a defined category.	test

## 5. Detailed Cookie List

Cookie	Domain	Description	Expiry	Category
crumb	<a href="http://www.openskysoul.com">www.openskysoul.com</a>	Squarespace CSRF protection	Session	Necessary
_ga	.openskysoul.com	Google Analytics visitor ID	1 year 1 month 4 days	Analytics
_ga_*	.openskysoul.com	Google Analytics session counter	1 year 1 month 4 days	Analytics
ss_cvr	<a href="http://www.openskysoul.com">www.openskysoul.com</a>	Squarespace unique-visitor ID	1 year 1 month 4 days	Analytics
ss_cvt	<a href="http://www.openskysoul.com">www.openskysoul.com</a>	Squarespace visit timestamp	1 hour	Analytics
test	openskysoul.com	Placeholder, no description available	Persistent	Other
rc::a	google.com	reCAPTCHA bot detection	Persistent	Necessary
rc::c	google.com	reCAPTCHA bot detection	Session	Necessary

When additional services (for example Google AdSense or Mailchimp) are enabled, their cookie details will appear in an updated list before activation and will require your opt-in where required.

## 6. Third-Party Cookies

Some cookies are placed by third parties that act as independent controllers. Those parties may combine information from our site with information from other sites. Their privacy notices apply to subsequent processing. Key third parties include:

- **Google Analytics** (Google Ireland Ltd.) for aggregated traffic metrics. IP anonymization is enabled.
- **Squarespace Ireland Ltd.** for hosting and site performance.
- **Google reCAPTCHA** for fraud prevention.

## **7. How to Manage Your Preferences**

### **7.1 Site Consent Banner**

When you first visit, a banner asks for your consent to non-essential cookies. You may accept all, reject all, or choose specific categories. The banner can be reopened anytime via the “Cookie Settings” link in the footer.

### **7.2 Browser Controls**

Most browsers allow you to delete or block cookies and to clear browsing data. Instructions are available from the vendors:

- **Google Chrome:** [support.google.com/chrome/answer/95647](https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/95647) ([Support Google](#))
- **Mozilla Firefox:** [support.mozilla.org/en-US/kb/clear-cookies-and-site-data-firefox](https://support.mozilla.org/en-US/kb/clear-cookies-and-site-data-firefox) ([Support Mozilla](#))
- **Microsoft Edge:**  
[support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/manage-cookies-in-microsoft-edge-view-all-block-delete-and-use-168dab11-0753-043d-7c16-ed5947fc64d](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/manage-cookies-in-microsoft-edge-view-all-block-delete-and-use-168dab11-0753-043d-7c16-ed5947fc64d) ([Support Microsoft](#))
- **Apple Safari:** [support.apple.com/en-us/105082](https://support.apple.com/en-us/105082) ([Support Apple](#))

Blocking all cookies may impair site functionality.

### **7.3 Google Analytics Opt-Out**

Google provides a browser add-on that prevents Analytics measurement across sites. You can obtain it from [tools.google.com/dlpage/gaoptout](https://tools.google.com/dlpage/gaoptout).

## **8. Retention of Cookie Data**

Cookie durations are listed in Section 5. Analytics data retained by Google Analytics is currently configured to expire after 14 months. Logs stored by Squarespace are retained for up to 12 months for security and diagnostics.

## **9. International Transfers**

Where third-party providers transfer personal data outside the EEA or the UK, they rely on Standard Contractual Clauses or other lawful mechanisms. Further details can be requested using the contact email above.

## **10. Changes to This Policy**

We may update this Policy to reflect legal or technical developments. Material changes will be sign-posted on the site and, where required, we will request your consent again.

## **11. Contact**

For questions or to exercise rights under Articles 15-22 GDPR, email [marissa.e.shelton@gmail.com](mailto:marissa.e.shelton@gmail.com).

By continuing to browse after setting your preferences, you acknowledge that you have read this Policy and understand how we use cookies.