

Blue Peris Mountain Centre



BOOKING AND INFORMATION PACK - March 2011 **Existing Clients**

Mission Statement

“To develop confidence and an awareness of self, others and the world around us through positive learning experiences in a new and challenging environment”

www.blueperis.co.uk

Dear Course Leader / Head Teacher

I wish to take this opportunity to offer my thanks to you all for the continued support of Blue Peris; I appreciate the extra difficulties that are in place when arranging visits to the centre.

However, your support continues to give opportunities for many residents of Bedfordshire and other authorities UK wide to experience what Blue Peris can offer. This support means we can keep the centre busy and vibrant and move forward.

In view of progress for the Blue Peris experience, please contact me personally regards any issue related to previous visits. If you make me aware of any issue then I can discuss this with you and hopefully be pro active in view of your next visit.

This can be carried out by mail, mark letters 'addressee only' to Mark Richards or e mail me on my private e mail address mark@blueperis.co.uk .

I look forward to hearing your views.

Best Wishes
Mark Richards
Centre Manager

Adults and Community Leisure

As from April 4th 2011 the centre will be run by Bedford Borough Council through their Adults and Community Leisure directive, continuing to be a shared service with Central Bedfordshire Council.

I am very pleased to say that Bedford Borough Council has offered its continued support for the service that Blue Peris offers.

Bedfordshire Outdoor Adventure Management Board

Blue Peris, Kempston Outdoor Centre and Bedfordshire Dof E continue to move forward and work together. This is achieved through representatives from Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire Council. It currently comprises of;

Mark Baggy Richards
Steve Pease
Don Peet
Joe Evans
Jill Dickinson
Tim Herod

Centre Manager Blue Peris
Centre Manger Kempston Outdoor Centre
Service Manager Sport & Recreation
D of E Officer for Bedfordshire
CBC Head of Leisure Service
CBC Sports Development

Bedfordshire Outdoor Adventure (BOA)

Blue Peris is part of Bedfordshire Outdoor Adventure.

BOA was formed (Autumn 09) as a result of the two centre managers in Bedfordshire, wishing to encompass the shared service of the outdoor centres and to further promote and ensure the outdoor provision for residents of Bedfordshire. An exciting opportunity now exists in order to promote and move forward the centres, with the result that more young people experience what we have to offer.

BOA - Mission Statement

Bedfordshire Outdoor Adventure combines the expertise of Blue Peris Mountain Centre and Kempston Outdoor Centre, to deliver high quality outdoor education, recreation and adventure. Both centres promote opportunities to enable people, whatever their age, ability or circumstances to achieve in life.

AHOEC Gold Standard – Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge

The centre has been awarded the following quality badges



LOTC Quality Badge



Gold Standard Badge

Duke of Edinburgh Award - D of E

The centre now offers various types of support for the D of E Award. This ranges from supplying staffing on a daily basis to assist with group teaching and shadowing, to providing training and assessing days/ courses. We are very flexible in what we are able to offer. There is no need to stay residential or at the centre.

Costs for this are worked out on an individual basis and we aim to provide a supporting service at a realistic cost to the students. Please contact Mark at the centre for further details.

Rock Days

These days have received very good feedback from course leaders over the previous 12 months and continue to form part of the programme for many schools in the summer months.

Coasteering

This activity is now fully operational and can be offered as an extra activity for options day.

White Peris - Major Refurbishment

The full refurbishment of White Peris is now complete and feedback from users has been very positive. The building now includes 2 separate rooms for staff, 4 showers, a fully fitted kitchen, central heating, two drying rooms and can accommodate upto 13. The accommodation can also be accessed by wheelchair. Thanks must go to the **Harpur Trust** who have given us 50% of the funding through their grant system. Without this funding the refurbishment would have not taken place. Please view Self Catering/White Peris section of the website for costs and further information.

Other areas of recent development at the centre include

- Padarn, Idwal, Ogwen and Tryfan dormitories have been fully refurbished. They all have new bunks and full storage space. These refurbishments address one of the main issues identified on the centre evaluation forms.
- The centre has purchased full steamer wet suites.
- Emergency and on site lighting has seen even more upgrades.
- The hot-water system has been updated with anti scald valves on taps
- The heating system has undergone even more upgrades.
- All curtains in White Peris and Blue Peris have been renewed
- We have replaced approx 32 mattresses in Blue Peris
- Blue Peris has again seen many developments and changes since the last booking pack was produced. Course income continues to fund major improvements at the centre which have a large positive impact on the value of your course, the course programme and everyone's visit.

Extra Activities: - As normal these activities are being offered

These activities can be built into your programme on request. The current costs are as shown, but these may rise, so please contact the centre for up to date costs. However, if you are going to incorporate any of these costs then it is wise to make an allowance within your costing to take in to account any increases between booking and arrival at the centre.

Mountain Biking

We can offer a full or half day. Please contact the centre for further details and costs.

Indoor Climbing Wall

We often suggest this option as a poor weather alternative / option day activity once you are at the centre. Can I remind all schools, this is an extra cost which needs to be added to the course costs. Can you make an allowance for this, as from September 2011 we can no longer contribute to this cost.

Indoor Wall Sessions 2 – 6 hours. (Costs as Jan 010) £6.00 PER PERSON

Rafting

Costs per person as of January 2010: £12.00

2hr session. Pupils need to be able to swim 25mtrs

Group sizes need to all be 7

This activity is based on water releases by the Environment Agency.

The release cannot be guaranteed

Booking Fees September 2011 – August 2012

These are available by request, please contact the centre

General information

Our standard course is still 5 day/6 night courses, Sunday to Saturday

We are able to quote for other durations if required

Each group of ten students = 1 free staff place

Note Whole Centre Booking (40 +) results in lower price per person (WCB)

Coach travel to the centre is a separate charge. We have negotiated a competitive rate with local coach companies. However, you are free to arrange your own transport

Whole Centre Booking (WCB) rate

Groups opting for this, commit to paying for a minimum of 40 places. Groups from different organisations can combine to obtain this discount. The group may be a mix of full fee paying and 'remission of fees' (maximum 6 students who meet requirements) students if from Bedfordshire. If the WCB price is taken as an option, then this applies to a minimum of 40 students. If student places fall below this then the full cost of the 40 students will still be charged for.

Please take into consideration: If your numbers drop, the centre needs to be informed ASAP. You will need to consider the extra cost per student if numbers drop below 40.

Coach Travel

Coach costs are no longer included in course costs. All coach seats are fitted with lap belts. Maximum number on a coach is 57 (including the courier seat) **the 57 seat coach needs to be booked at least 3 months in advance.**

Costs for activities and accommodation

Again we have seen a rise in running and operating costs alongside more HSE pressures. However for the third year in succession course costs have only risen by a small amount. I hope you view this as giving excellent value to your students.

Remission of fees Bedfordshire Schools only

The council is currently reviewing the remission of fees policy that the centre operates. The new guidance is not yet available. Currently it is 15% maximum of the total course numbers (Excluding staff) Details must be sent to the centre 6 weeks prior to the course start date.

What's included in the cost?

Instruction, accommodation, food, specialist and protective equipment, transport on activities, and a full programme of instructor-led activities (details negotiated before arrival). Free staff places to a ratio of 1:10. Extra staff places will be charged at a rate of £60.00 per head.

What's not included?

Transport costs to and from the centre, student's personal clothing, pocket money, baggage and personal possessions and curtailment insurance. Some groups book extra activities, visits or facilities not included in the price (e.g. mountain biking, white water rafting and museums), these will be added to your final invoice at cost. **All castle & Electric Mountain visits must be booked direct by the school and invoiced to the school.**

Numbers

Blue Peris can accommodate up to 48 students and 6 staff. In addition to this, White Peris (our small annexe building) can be suitable for an extra 10 student places alongside 3 staff places. The dormitories are split into 4 and 6. With a room of 2 and a room of 1 which can be used by staff/students.

Transport to and from the Centre

The major change in 09-010, was that transport would be shown as a separate cost to the overall course cost per head. This change was requested by the Council.

Therefore, the course costs given in this year's booking pack will again reflect this.

Blue Peris will still arrange the transport for you, if you wish and will charge no extra cost for this service apart from the actual coach costs. Many of you are aware that the centre has arranged attractive costs with a North Wales based coach company and that the centre will book the coach transport for you.

However, you may arrange the coach yourself if you wish.

However, if direct coach travel costs do increase through the booking year then the centre will have to pass these onto the customer as required.

For full details and costs contact Karen at the centre via email on mail@blueperis.co.uk.

AALA Licence

Again we have been awarded a Licence to operate by AALA.

Insurance

All students and accompanying staff have limited personal injury cover. Baggage, personal effects, cancellation etc. can be covered quite cheaply by purchasing School Journey Insurance. Most schools already have this cover but please check.

Visiting staff

Please note, you are expected to assist with the activities during the day, we need one adult to assist each instructor-led group of 10. In addition you are required to help supervise the students throughout meal times and supervise other duties, in the evenings and overnight. A majority of evenings*, an instructor is available to organise/run some of the evening programme of activities and support supervision of mealtimes etc * This will depend on student numbers and course content

Parents/Guardians

They must be made aware of the booking conditions and their responsibilities. On rare occasions when a student's behaviour is such that they have to be sent home then parents/guardians are expected to arrange this or reimburse the school's and/or centre's costs in doing this. Wilful damage to centre property or loss of equipment due to carelessness, will also incur charges added to the school's final invoice.

Programmes and Courses

Activity programmes can be designed to suit every group's needs and with the help of your school staff we can support a school's curricular needs. Programmes can be discussed with Rachel by e-mailing her on Rachel@blueperis.co.uk.

Shorter or longer courses

We are happy to discuss to try and accommodate these, please contact the centre for rates and dates. However, it may mean travel costs rise.

Losses

The centre will charge groups for all losses. However, these losses should be identified to you at the end of your course, before you leave, not at a later date.

Centre Shop

This sells a small stock of refreshments, souvenirs and tee shirts. The shop can be a daily occurrence or **opened to suit your needs**. If you wish, we can limit the amount students spend.

Healthy Eating

The centre has progressed over recent years to try and address this issue. It is an on going process.

Course Photo CD,s

A DVD containing photos of the week is available for each student to purchase at the end of the week. These currently cost £2.00 (However they are subject to a price increase if supply costs rise).

[Terms and Conditions](#)

Prices are currently set until 31st August 2012.

Please read the booking conditions and course fees carefully before confirming your course. These were updated in February 2011 in line with BBC/CBC.

AVAILABILITY OF COURSES

Demand for courses at Blue Peris has increased steadily over the years together with the fact that the Centre has to operate under a strict budget. Whilst every effort will be made to meet the school's first choice of dates, certain times of the year are obviously more popular than others and dates can no longer be held from one year to the next. Schools should, therefore, be prepared to consider alternative dates if necessary. Normal course dates run from a Sunday to a Saturday but we are able to cater and quote for shorter periods if required.

Booking Ahead

You are able to book up to 2 years ahead...

Deposits and course confirmation

Between 104 & 52 weeks prior to course start date a £400.00 non refundable deposit is required to confirm a booking.

If booking between 51 & 27 weeks prior to course start date, a minimum of £800.00 non refundable deposit is required to confirm a booking.

26 weeks before the commencement of the course £125 per person non refundable deposit is required to confirm a booking.

8 weeks prior to course start date the full amount will be required to confirm a booking.

Bookings cannot be confirmed until the deposit is paid or you agree to be invoiced for a booking. In addition to this a signed booking form is required.

By agreeing to be invoiced then you accept the above terms and conditions.

Cancellation

- More than 12 months prior to course start date loss of £400.00.
- More than 27 weeks before course start date, loss of the £800.00 deposit.
- Less than 27 weeks before the start of a course incurs loss of the deposit and the total amount of £125 per person.
- Less than 8 weeks before the start of a course incurs the loss of the full course cost.

Invoicing

Confirmation and request for deposit when making a booking

At 26 weeks prior to course start date you are required to pay £125.00 per person.

The final invoice will be raised 8 weeks prior to the course starting.

Lower numbers than the original booking

We appreciate the logistics of organising a course and monitoring finances in regards to numbers. The centre is happy to cater for lower numbers than originally booked for if this number is between 1-2 students and we are aware 2 weeks prior to the course start date.

However, a large reduction in numbers (over 3) will have to be charged for.

Therefore, the following applies;

Drop in student numbers of between 1-2 prior to 2 weeks of course start date, will result in a full refund of those places

A drop in numbers of 3 students and above 26 weeks prior to course start date will result in the places of 3 and above being invoiced for.

Those organisations that have taken the Whole Centre Booking Option (WCB) need to be aware that if their numbers drop then the costs of the course per person will rise accordingly.

If numbers do fall at any stage then contact the centre ASAP

Insurance

Please note; insurance for cancellations is not included by Blue Peris. Cancellations are often covered by school journey insurance. However, this will differ between various authorities.

Dual occupancy with other groups

Some of our clients do share the centre with other groups, i.e. two schools. If this is something you may wish to consider then phone the centre to discuss further.

BLUE PERIS MOUNTAIN CENTRE Booking Form – NOT FOR INDIVIDUALS

Only for use by schools, university, youth and college groups and organisations

Please read the booking conditions and course fees carefully before returning the form

Name of organisation:		
Correspondence address:	Phone:	
	Fax:	
	Email:	
	Coordinating Person:	
Type of course required:		
Preferred first choice of dates: (BP will contact you in view of confirming these dates)		
Second choice of preferred dates: (BP will contact you in view of confirming these dates)		
How many students will be attending (if possible in multiples of 10):		
I would like all correspondence by email or by phone/post (please circle preferred option)		
<i>Details of Group</i>		
Age Range		
Year Group		
I have read and understood the booking conditions. PLEASE TICK		
I wish to be invoiced for deposits and payments PLEASE TICK		
I have included the £400 non refundable deposit (52 weeks and over)		
I have included the £800 non refundable deposit (52 - 26 weeks)		
I have included the £125.00 per person deposit (26 – 8 weeks)		
I have included the full course costs (8 – 0 weeks)		
I wish to be invoiced for the above deposit (please tick)		
NOTE : An agreement to be invoiced, confirms booking once invoice is sent		
Signed	Print:	Date:
Head Teacher Or Course Leader		

