

Loddon District Annual Hill-Walking trip

Lake District: Sat 6th to Tue 9th April 2019



Outline information

Explorers, the time has come to start putting plans in place for our annual Easter hill-walking trip. Following a successful trip to the Yorkshire Dales this year, we have decided to return back to one of our favourite locations and arguably the most beautiful area of England; The Lake District! Having studied the term-time programme for our local schools, we have set the dates shown above for the trip. The intention will be to leave Woodley by Mini-Bus early on Saturday morning 6th April, and return back on Tuesday afternoon 9th April.

As with last year, we will open up this trip to older Scouts from any Scout Group within the District, so we will organise ability based groups undertaking different routes. It is our intention that all participants will get to the summit of at least one mountain during the trip, which will be no mean feat, and one of our objectives will be Scafell Pike, the highest peak in England.

In order to prepare everyone for the trip, we will be arranging practice hikes on week-ends in February and March, and the intention is that everyone must undertake at least two practice hikes.

As we included an activity day in our Yorkshire trip this year, which was enjoyed by most people, we intend to find a local activity provider in Cumbria and offer a similar day of climbing/abseiling/gorge scrambling or similar activities for next year's trip (subject to provider qualifications etc), to provide some variety to the trip programme.

As with previous trips, we will be staying in a youth-hostel which will be our base for the duration of our stay.

The key to successfully getting to the top of a mountain depends on various factors such as Planning, Preparation, Determination, Teamwork and of course having appropriate weather conditions. Determination is a life skill and comes more easily to some people than others, and is worth working at. Teamwork goes without saying; as Scouts we should help and encourage each other in all things.

People hill-walk for many reasons, however a big motivating factor is the sense of freedom that it gives and the chance to escape from many of the normal things that we take for granted. The dangers and risks involved to some extent heighten this sense of freedom, for example getting buffeted by the wind and rain. Hill-walking is an activity not without risks; however you should know that we carry out risk assessments and do everything within our ability to minimise these. As a group we have built up extensive experience of hill-walking. Please be assured that we place the safety of our participants as our highest priority, and if the situation calls for it, the Leaders will adapt the planned routes for the safety of the group.

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If you have joined us on a trip in the past, you will know how much fun we have. If you haven't. Don't worry! You will get to know us during the practice hikes, and we will discuss kit requirements during these walks.

The cost of the trip cannot be finalised at this stage, as it depends on the total number of participants, number of vehicles required, and activities provided. The cost of this year's trip was £160 per head, so we expect the cost of our next trip to be in this region.

If you would like to join us for our next adventure, please email me to reserve a place using my email address below, and transfer a £100 deposit into our Explorer account; sort code 30-96-96, account 04472958. Payment and email needs to be with us by Friday 26th October 2018. Please use your name and LAKES 19 in the payment reference.

Looking forward to as many of you as possible joining us on another adventure!
Leo.

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Scafell Pike- England's highest peak and the objective for our more able walkers.