

# Scouts



## Surrey Explorers Survival School



# Explorer Scout's Guide

## When

Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019 to Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019

## Concept

The Survival Skills workshop is about overcoming adversity; the challenges presented in order to survive in the wild will be circa 50% mental and 50% physical:

- ✿ Mental in that facilities and conditions on the remote woodland site will be very basic, and;
- ✿ Physical in that everything we do will involve hands-on work.

Explorer Scouts are welcome to apply for a place to participate in this Survival Skills Workshop with approval of the Explorer Scout Leader.

A younger or lesser experienced Explorer Scout might not return to the activity ever again if given an experience they are not physically and mentally ready for; for this reason, we offer the survival workshop to Explorer Scouts who are older or more experienced in Scouting; typically, 15 years old or over.

We will form Units of 4 Explorer Scouts – If only one or two Explorer Scouts from the Unit are interested in participating, please don't think you are not able to apply - it is not necessary for the entire Unit to apply.

## Our programme will include:

- ✿ Friday evening – Meet with peers at Drop-Off point – Walk to site (circa 90mins Max) - Setup Tarp'n'Hammock – Issue ration pack.
- ✿ Saturday Morning – Breakfast (ration pack) - Skills Instruction (fire lighting (no matches), knife-craft (make utensil for cooking/eating), Source and prepare water for drinking, Construct a shelter for overnight) and Lunch (back woods).
- ✿ Saturday Afternoon – Practice skills (construct overnight shelter, make utensil, establish fire)
- ✿ Saturday Dinner - Prepare cooked meal of meat such as rabbit or fish to cook over an open fire.
- ✿ Saturday Evening – Search and Rescue Exercise.
- ✿ Sunday Morning – Breakfast (Back woods) followed by Tracking/Catching your food (such as fishing or snares). Identify and source local, edible plants and the risks involved in eating those incorrectly identified.

## Booking

To simplify administration booking is via our booking site only - [Booking Site](#)

Activity fee is charged at £40.00 per Explorer Scout payable at time of booking.

Places are allocated on first-come-first-served basis.

Please talk to us if problems are encountered or you have any questions.

Organiser: [colin.scarff@surrey-scouts.org.uk](mailto:colin.scarff@surrey-scouts.org.uk) (Explorer Scout Leader MUST be CC'd in message)

## Explorer Scout's Guide – cont...

### Planning

A key aspect of the Survival Skills Workshop is offered as an aid to develop the Explorer Scout and Unit structure; Explorer Scouts are encouraged to play a lead role in organising their own participation in this Scouting activity; this does not mean the Explorer Scout must plan alone, you might like to coordinate with fellow unit members:

- 🌳 The Explorer Scout should read and understand documentation supporting this Scouting Activity offered with the welcome information pack.
- 🌳 The Explorer Scout should prepare equipment required for this Scouting Activity (see separate Personal Equipment document); also, Survival Skills - Survival; It's Your Choice.
- 🌳 The Explorer Scout should practice pre-requisite skills required to fully engage in this Scouting Activity:
  - 🍎 Basic map'n'compass (navigation) skills – As part of a small group, the Explorer Scout will 'walk-in' to site on the Friday evening from a specified drop-off location – an evening walk through a hilly, forested, area which should take no more than 60 minutes.
  - 🍎 Basic First Aid – The Explorer Scout will participate in a Search and Rescue scenario in the hills surrounding the activity area. Basic First aid knowledge will be 'tested' on a live (human) casualty during this scenario – diagnostic skills and reasoning in first-aid skills would be of assistance.
  - 🍎 Basic Cooking skills – The Explorer Scout will prepare and cook their own meals using foods provided – There will be NO central catering back-up.

### Location

The site is an area of biodiversity and scientific interest within a remote wooded hillside in central south Surrey close to the West Sussex border owned and managed by Forestry England.

In the planning of this Scouting activity it is decided not to publish the location of the site in advance in order to deter familiarisation with the locality which would serve to challenge the survival aspects.

- 🌳 A few days before the activity Explorer Scouts will be notified of a Drop-Off location to meet with peers on the Friday evening - As part of a small group, the Explorer Scout will 'walk-in' to site – A briefing will be given at the Drop-Off location.
- 🌳 Details of the pick-up location for the Sunday will be notified to parents/guardians separately.

For information on the work of Forestry England in managing our natural heritage forests and biodiversity please visit: <https://www.forestryengland.uk/>