



Leader's Guide

When

Friday, 13th September 2019 to Sunday, 15th 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.

A younger or lesser experienced Explorer Scout might not return to outdoor activity ever again if given an experience they are not physically and mentally ready for; for this reason, we ask that the Explorer Scout Leader should approve the Explorer Scout application.

With approval of the Explorer Scout Leader, we offer the survival workshop to Explorer Scouts who are older or more experienced in Scouting; typically, 15 years old or over; but, booking should not be restricted by age alone; maturity and experience in Scouting is of equal importance.

If only one or two Explorer Scouts from the Unit wish to participate please don't think you can't apply - it is not necessary for the entire Unit to apply. We will form Units of 4 Explorer Scouts – Explorer Scouts might not be placed with peers from the same Explorer Unit. Please talk to us if you have any questions.

We will confirm the Explorer Scout application with the Explorer Scout Leader before confirming the booking – Leader contact details will be required to complete the Booking.

InTouch

In keeping with Scout Association policy, during this Scouting activity the InTouch system will be in operation from time of arrival to time of leaving to manage communication between the Scouting activity, the home environment and Scouting authorities:

- ✿ Pre-Booking/Pre-Activity enquiries should be addressed to the organiser:

Colin Scarff County Leader | **Email:** colin.scarff@surrey-scouts.org.uk | **Mob:** 07785 372853

(POR: any email between an Explorer Scout and the organiser MUST include a Unit Leader in the message distribution)

- ✿ Home Contact details will be provided to parents/guardians with the welcome information pack following acceptance of the booking.

Home Contact Julie David | **Tel:** 01372 386724 | **Mob:** 07479 967720

Please be aware that Mobile phone coverage is extremely poor at the activity location.



Leader's Guide – cont...

Location

The workshop will be located within privately own woodland in the Surrey Hills (central-south of Surrey) providing very basic greenfield camping in the manner of the early Baden-Powel camps.

We have not revealed the exact site location at this time to retain a sense of mystique about the survival aspect; we will confirm the OS Grid reference to the Explorer Scout Leader at time of confirming joining-in information with the Explorer Scout – we ask the Explorer Scout Leader to assist us in managing the special nature of this survival activity by not revealing the site location to Explorer Scouts.

- ✿ A few days before the activity Explorer Scouts will be notified of joining-in details and Drop-Off location to meet with peers on the Friday evening - As part of a small group, the Explorer Scout will 'hike-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. The pick-up location is accessible via any family car.

The woodland site is a location of special biodiversity interest and is secure; vehicle access is not possible without prior arrangement. We extend a welcome to Leaders to visit the activity on the Saturday afternoon by prior arrangement with the activity organiser.

Notices

The organisers will submit a Nights Away Notification for this survival skills workshop declaring the camping area as a Greenfield Campsite.

A risk assessment for this survival skills workshop has been prepared and submitted to County Team.

The organiser will provide information to support the Explorer Scout Leader in responding to any parental enquiries; however, the Explorer Scout Leader may choose to direct parental enquiries direct to the organiser; we will include the Leader in replies to the parent.

Booking and Payment

- ✿ 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.

Programme

Our team of survival leaders will be on-hand for key skills training and advice throughout this Scouting Activity – Our programme will include:

- ✿ Friday evening – Meet with peers at Drop-Off point – Hike to site (circa 60mins Max) - Setup camp.
- ✿ Saturday Morning - Skills Instruction (fire lighting (no matches), knife-craft (make utensil for cooking/eating), Source and prepare water for drinking, Construct a shelter for overnight).
- ✿ 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 - Identify edible plants/risks involved eating those incorrectly identified & Tracking/Catching food.



Planning

We understand that you, as a Leader, may be keen to get on with planning of your Unit's participation in this Scouting activity – Please don't...

A key aspect of the Survival Skills Workshop is offered as an aid to develop the Explorer Scout and Unit structure; with Explorer Scout Leader guidance, Explorer Scouts are encouraged to play a lead role in organising their own participation in this Scouting activity:

- 🌲 The Explorer Scout should research and understand documentation supporting this Scouting Activity offered with the welcome information pack.
- 🌲 The Explorer Scout should prepare equipment required for this Scouting Activity. It is emphasised that the activity is a simulated 'survival' exercise, not a fashion parade. Equipment and clothing should be minimal – a personal equipment list will be provided - Please encourage the explorer Scout to select clothing carefully and to use the clothing worn at time of arriving at the activity as the sole supply of clothing save for a few additional cold weather/ overnight items.
- 🌲 Personal gas/liquid fuel lanterns are not permitted.
- 🌲 A personal lightweight gas stove will be required for some meals – Liquid fuel stoves are not permitted.
- 🌲 Please make clear to the Explorer Scout that personal electronic items, such as a tablet, electronic game or electronic music, is not permitted – A mobile phone would be useful as a communication back-up during the Saturday evening exercise; mobile phones are subject to the InTouch policy.
- 🌲 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.