

Friday 13 May – Sunday 15 May 2022

**How much is Water Camp?**

The central camp fee is £60 and this covers all of the activities, camping fees and the camp badge. Leaders are charged £10 which includes their camping and camp badge. Units will then need to add on their own costs for food. A deposit of £20 per girl and £10 per leader is required on booking (non-refundable) with the balance being due by 8 April.

**What activities will my girls be able to take part in?**

* Water based: Any three of: Improvised raft building, kayaking, canoeing, bell boating, katakanuing, and stand-up paddleboards
* Land based: Any three of: High ropes or climbing, archery, bushcraft activities including lighting fires and craft Activities.

**Will my girls be able to choose which activities they do?**

No, girls will be allocated to teams and they will do the activities chosen for that group. However, girls who are particularly frightened of heights will not be asked to do the high ropes or climbing activities.

**Who will run the activities?**

Fully qualified instructors, who hold appropriate national governing body qualifications or technical adviser sign off and a first aid certificate will run all the activity sessions. They will have been cleared either through a DBS or CRB check. These instructors are employees of the Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre and not registered with Girlguiding UK. Some sessions will be run by appropriately qualified or experienced Guiding/Scouting leaders who will have undertaken appropriate safeguarding checks.

**Will my unit stay together for all the activities?**

No, girls will be working in teams of 12 which will stay the same for the whole weekend. This will ensure that everyone gets to mix with other girls. The groups of 12 will be then subdivided into teams of 2,3,4,5 or 6. We will endeavour to ensure that no girl is taking part in sessions without any other girls from her unit. You will be asked to break your girls down into smaller groups, for example if you are bringing nine girls you may be asked to divide them into three groups of three before camp for activities.

Please explain to the girls that they may not be able to do activities with their best friends, and to make your task easier we will be sending out a spreadsheet of activities, sessions, and the numbers of girls from each unit in each of the 18 teams in advance of the camp.

**Do I need a going away with licence to bring my girls?**

No, leaders will be able to bring their girls even if they don’t have a licence, we will make sure that you are supported throughout the weekend.

**How many leaders do I need to bring?**

Normal Guiding ratios of 1:12 must be observed and every camping group must have a minimum of two leaders present. If you are planning on bringing very small numbers please speak to us and we might be able to pair you up with another group who also have small numbers.

**What are the timings for camp?**

**Friday**

Leaders may arrive from 4pm to 5.15pm and then from 6.15pm onwards.

Girls may arrive from 6.15pm onwards provided there is a leader present on site from their unit.

Camp to be established – Leaders meeting at 9pm

Hot drinks to be provided centrally at 9.30pm

Camp quiet at 11pm

**Saturday**

9am Welcome to camp introductions at the main flagpole and flag break

9.30am First activity session

11am Tea Break – drinks are served to all girls centrally

11.30am Second Activity Session

1pm Lunch – in units

2pm 3rd Activity Session

3.30pm Tea break – drinks are served to all girls centrally

4pm 4th Activity Session

5.30pm Girls return to unit camps for evening meal

7.30pm Campfire

9.30pm Hot Chocolate served centrally

11pm Camp quiet

**Sunday**

9.15am Flag Break

9.30am 1st Activity session

11am Tea break – drinks are served to all girls centrally

11.30am 2nd Activity session

1pm Lunch

3pm Closing ceremony at flag

3.15pm Girls may depart site

All campers to have left site by 4pm on Sunday

**What Facilities are there?**

We will be camping on the main and side fields at the Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre and we will have access across the whole site. In addition to the main shower and toilet block we are hiring in portaloos.

**Do not** bring Elsan toilets as there is no disposal point.

**What equipment do we need?**

You will need to ensure that your unit is self-sufficient for catering equipment and tentage but remember that this is a small site and every additional tent that comes along is less space for everyone - space will be at a premium as the camp will be fully booked. Space will be allocated on the numbers of girls and leaders attending. Again, small groups might be better pairing up with another group.

**Catering**

You will need to bring a dining tent/mess tent or other such enclosed tent that is large enough to seat all your girls. This ensures that if we have a very wet weekend that all the girls can eat their meals undercover. Remember that the girls will be exceedingly active during the weekend and will get wet repeatedly so plenty of snacks, and hot food that is high in calories will be needed. Girls should be given a hot breakfast and something hot at lunch time, especially if the weather is cold.

There is a large Sainsbury’s Supermarket less than 5 minutes’ drive from the campsite for any additional food shopping and there is a Lidl just a few minutes’ walk away. Online shopping deliveries will be accepted on to site on Saturday morning and afternoon, but not on Friday evening due to the large volume of traffic accessing the site in the evening.

**Snacks**

On the Friday and Saturday evening hot drinks will be provided for the girls. Drinks and biscuits at the morning and afternoon tea breaks will also be provided. This is to save leaders from having to do this and having wet girls going back to their tents. There will be hot drinks available throughout the day for leaders.

**Striking camp**

Leaders may start striking camp whenever they wish on the Sunday and should arrange for transport for anytime after 3.15pm. Girls are encouraged to carry their equipment up to the top of the site to ensure a quick pick up by parents. Everyone must be off site by 4pm.

**What will the leaders do when the girls are doing activities?**

We have a small central team who will be supporting the camp with key functions, but leaders are asked to contribute to the smooth running of the camp by helping out with various functions such as the drinks at break times, shower monitors and toilet restocking. You will, however, have plenty of time for watching your girls taking part in activities and preparing your meals. Allocation for these jobs will be issued at the Friday evening leaders briefing.

We are providing a room for leaders to sit in where they can observe water activities and also shelter should we have harsh weather.

**Can I do the activities alongside my girls?**

No – Activities are restricted to Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders doing the activities with their units, we do not have extra capacity for leaders to take part in activities.

**I have a girl with additional needs, can her needs be accommodated?**

Please let us know if you have a girl with very specific needs, and we will work with the centre to ensure that as many activities as possible are made accessible. For some activities such as the high ropes course full accessibility may not be possible.

**How soon should I book?**

As soon as bookings open on the 1 February 2022

Water camp is one of the most enjoyed county events and always sells out, please book the places you need as soon as possible. At this point a £20 deposit per girl and £10 deposit per leader is required. Deposits are non-refundable. It is doubtful whether you will be able to add additional places later as water camp fills up very quickly.

**What if I have more questions?**

Please contact the camp organiser

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