

Snowgoose Mountain Centre

Bookings & Hire

Notes & Conditions on overnight trip / expeditions.

WW & Sea Kayaks, Open Canoes and Sailing Dinghies.

A WORD OF CAUTION

If you are planning a paddling overnight trip / expedition in open canoes or sea kayaks please remember that these are small craft. Due to our recent experiences it is clear that our clients need to be more aware of the implications of over loading their boats. Careful consideration needs to be given to the amount of gear to be carried. If we feel that you are intending to overload the boats then we will advise you to reduce the amount of gear to a reasonable level. Alternatively we reserve the right to cancel the hire.

Please remember that if you are undertaking paddling expeditions on the Caledonian Canal or any other of our sea or inland lochs - these are BIG wide expanses of open water. Waves can set up to 6' high on inland lochs. Windy Weather on Loch Lochy

You will need to take consideration of the current weather, the forecast, the competence and experience of your whole party, and the amount of gear you are carrying. **IF IN DOUBT - STAY PUT!** Quite often the weather can calm down after a few hours - it is better to hunker down for a few hours than have a life changing experience!

Advice

- Snowgoose Mountain Centre offers an **extensive advice & information service** to clients who hire from us. This is based on years of local knowledge and experience – please use this. We will always take the time to give your group an informal briefing before you leave.

Booking Information

- If you are paddling the Caledonian Canal you are required to “sign in” and register at the BWB canal office at Corpach – this will give you access to a key for showers / toilets along the canal. This can also be booked on line at through British Waterways web site www.waterscape.com/boating/shop
- Everyone paddling the Caledonian Canal must register with BWB – this is for your own safety
- The number / type of boats to be hired from us must be notified and confirmed at the time of booking. We must have a confirmed note of whether you require singles (kayak only), 2 or 3 man open boats. You must also confirm in writing the total number of folks in the group – please make an allowance for a reasonable amount of gear only.
- The dates of hire are always included in the overall period of hire .You can arrange a previous evening pick up from us - please arrive after 5 pm and before 7pm. This will not be charged as an extra day. Other than this exception all the dates for arrival & pick up days are included as whole days in the period of hire. We must have a definite time from you for pick up of gear at the Centre – if you do not arrive at this time we cannot guarantee that we will be available to service your hire at your convenience.
- We require contact details & note of the previous paddling / sailing experience for **all** members of the group. This is for the protection of you and your group.
- You are required to take with you a note of our land line number and mobile number. We also need a note of your mobile number – this is for your own safety.
- Life Jackets / buoyancy aids **MUST** be worn at all times – this is a mandatory condition of your hire booking with us.
- Prior to departure you will leave a signed list of all the equipment you hire from us along with all relevant security deposits by cash or cheque only. We do not accept Driving Licences or Credit Cards

as security. We will not allow any hires to leave us without a relevant security deposit and all payments made and cleared.

Local Information

- We are happy to provide your group with tidal information / weather forecasts / planning information – please ask us for this in advance.
- From our detailed local knowledge we are happy to talk through your plans and give advice on wild camping options in fabulous wilderness locations.
- See more details of the Great Glen Ways Canoe Trail at http://www.greatglenway.com/The_route.htm
- You are welcome to leave cars & trailers with us for the duration of your trip – please confirm with us that this is in order – we do have more than adequate off road parking spaces – but there are periods when we are really very busy.
- There is a good local co-op store within a 2 minute walk from us – open 7.30 am – 10 pm every day.
- The local train service from Fort William – Mallaig stops just outside our accommodation & bunkhouse – The Smiddy Bunkhouse etc. If coming from the south never get off in Fort William – we are 2 stops on at Corpach. This service connects direct to the south via a change in Glasgow to London.
- There is a good coach service between Fort William and Inverness – plus a good local bus service between Corpach and Fort William or alternatively a taxi service.

Drop off & Pick Up Service

- Snowgoose Mountain Centre does provide a drop off / pick up service for canoes & kayaks– the price for this includes the transport of gear. This is charged for the round trip. We provide a free drop off to the top of Neptune's Staircase at Banavie for those paddlers requiring it.

Use & Return of Boats

- All boats, safety gear and all equipment must be returned in a cleaned condition – please leave yourself plenty of time for this. This is up to you. You will be charged for this.
- Any extra cleaning or damage WILL be charged for @ £12.50 per hour plus materials. If there is any damage then security deposits will be retained until damage is made good. Make sure that you allow sufficient time in your planning to adequately have the gear checked back in with us.
- It is up to you to ensure that the boats are not:-
 - * overloaded
 - * dragged over rocks, or along the ground
 - * run up the shore / beach.
 - *used for collecting wood
 - * Full of sand or twigs when they are returned to us
 - *used to play silly games which will damage any of our equipment
- We expect all deck lines / painters / ropes / sheets to be returned intact – not cut.
- It is your responsibility to ensure the safety and security of the boats / equipment over night – lock & wire provided.
- Rivers are not to be run in sea kayaks - Open boats ONLY with proven prior paddling experience.

Please ensure that all of your group have read the above information.

I / We _____ (name) confirm that I / we have read and accepted the conditions laid out above.

I / We _____ (name) confirm that I / we have made sure that everyone in the group has read and accepted the conditions laid out above.

Signed _____ Date _____

PLEASE FILL IN THE EQUIPMENT HIRE BOOKING FORM

