

BLUEPERIS



Summer Mountain Leader Award Assessment

This course will assess your skills and knowledge with a view to becoming a leader within the UK mountains in summer conditions. It will address the technical skills, judgment and knowledge which you will require to become a safe and inspiring leader. The course is mainly practical based, backed up by a home paper. To view the full ML syllabus go to <http://www.mltuk.org/ml.php>

Course Ethos

To provide an opportunity for candidates to demonstrate the skills required, in a relaxed and friendly environment, alongside providing further training.

Course Content

The course will start with an introduction to how the assessment process will work. Then over the next five days the assessment will cover the Mountain Leader Summer Training Syllabus. A typical course programme is shown on the next page. Some areas, such as navigation, route choice and leadership are covered in more detail. Other techniques and skills are discussed with candidates over the course duration. The programme may well change to suit local weather conditions on each day.

Course Directors

Each course will have a Course Director(s) who is/are responsible for ensuring your course is carried out to the specifications required by Mountain Leader Training (MLT) who oversee the awards. They have been chosen, not only due to their extensive knowledge and experience of the awards but in order to make your course enjoyable and be approachable.

Course Program

DAY	CONTENT	CONTENT
Arrival day	Days 1-4 9.15am to 4.30pm	Arrival Between 6-10pm
Day 1	Welcome chat Course Introduction Kit Check Navigation Techniques Party Leadership, Route Choice Mountain Hazards	Further Training
Day 2	Weather Review Emergency use of the rope Mountain Hazards	Free Evening
Day 3	Expedition	Expedition & Night Nav
Day 4	Expedition	Expedition & Night Nav
Day 5	Return from expedition 1.00pm Course debrief and results Departure	Depart 15:30 - 16:30

Who Are Our Course Directors ?

We have what we feel is a very impressive list of course directors. Our course directors have vast experience of teaching and assessing the awards alongside their own personal experience within the mountains. Many of our directors' work freelance and not only for Blue Peris, which is intentional.

Mark 'Baggy' Richards (MIC) Baggy has been directing and working on courses for many providers for over 15 years. He was heavily involved with the ML scheme whilst working as a full time instructor at Plas Y Brenin and is currently a board member of Mountain Leader Training. This allows the centre to be very current and up to date with the ML Scheme. He still freelances and guides in his spare time.

Ed Chard (MIC) Ed has been directing and working on courses for over 16 years for many providers. He has a varied background having led many expeditions for Jagged Globe all over the world. He currently works part time as the Development Officer for Association of Mountaineering Instructors (AMI), runs the Jagged Globe Scottish winter programme, from January to April alongside being self employed.

Gareth Davies (MIC) has been working on ML courses for nearly 10 years for many providers and directs most of our ML training courses. He has a very varied background as a freelancer and his work has taken in areas all over the UK.

Berwyn Evans (MIC) has been involved with the scheme for over 20 years. He also has extensive experience of working and running ML courses including at Plas Y Brenin. He currently works as a freelance instructor and has vast experience of working with groups.

Mark Walker (MIC and Aspirant Guide) Mark is nearly there in becoming a full mountain guide, no easy feat. Alongside this he works at Blue Peris, and freelances for PYB, Jagged Globe and a range of other companies. Mark is another member of staff who has extensive experience in working and directing ML courses.

Doug Jones (MIC) Doug has held the position of Chair of Mountain Leader Training, been on a variety of mountaineering boards and worked and directed courses for over 25 years, so he knows a thing or two.

Rachel Gregory (MIA) At last a female director, if we could find more, we would employ them. Rachel will be the one who keeps the guys in check. She has over 15 years working and directing on ML courses. She currently works as Deputy Centre Manager and Senior Teacher at Blue Peris.



'Many thanks again, excellent facilities and a comfortable stay. Will definitely recommend the centre for ML Assessment'.
[Alice Du Prez]

'Being assessed in an learning environment made for a very enjoyable course'
[Darren Turner]

'I could not fault the experience; everything was exceptionally an high standard from the teaching to the rooms and food. Great value'
[Sarah Elliott - World Challenge Client]

'The instructors were brilliant'



Stages of the Scheme

Stage 1 Registration

You should be registered and hold a MLT candidate number and have a log book

Stage 2 Training Course

You should have attended a ML Training course or have a certificate of exemption form MLT

Stage 3 Consolidation Period

This is where you have gained further experience to prepare yourself for assessment.

Stage 4 Assessment Course

This is where your ability and competence relevant to the award is assessed.

Before Attending the Course

Please ensure you satisfy the pre-assessment Requirements as set out in the "Prospectus and Syllabus".

Also you are required to bring to assessment the following :

- Current first aid certificate (No photocopy)
- Profile from log book completed.
- Completed log book

Frequently Asked Questions

What is included within the course costs?

Accommodation and beverages on the first evening.
Full board, accommodation and beverages on days 1 to 2 and the morning of day 3.

Beverages on the final afternoon.

This means that you are required to bring all your own camp food and lunch for the final day of the course

Free Wi-Fi (limited to e mails, face book, Google etc, but not downloads and films).

Transport whilst at the centre

What is not included in the course cost?

Travel to the centre and return travel
You are required to bring all your own expedition food.
You are required to bring all your own equipment
Towels.
Toiletries
Your expedition food

What admin do I need to ensure I have arranged?

- Have you sent off a booking form, medical form and paid in full
- Is your log book completed?
- Is your personal profile filled in?
- Do you have your original first aid certificate ready to bring on the course?

Do I need to bring my logbook and all its contents pages with me?

Yes and it needs to be completed.

What accommodation block will I be staying in?

Residential courses are either in our main centre, (Blue Peris) or in our adjacent property, White Peris (visit website for further details).

Can White Peris be hired out?

Yes White Peris can be hired out as a self catering accommodation block for use by outside groups or individuals. Instruction and equipment for a wide range of activities can also be arranged for White Peris users and outside groups. Please visit website course and activities pages for further details.

Can I book last minute?

If places are available you may book the day before a course starts

What maps will I require?

1:25,000 Snowdonia No 117
1:50,000 Snowdonia No 115

Will I be required to bring my own rope?

Yes. However for the times when we use the rope to demonstrate the skills we use centre ropes. However

we still require to see your rope and ask you to carry it. This is an area in which many of our candidates struggle for advice on; for both training and assessment. We have sourced full weight, 10mm to 10.5mm single ropes. They are 30 metres long and all our staff see this as the most optimum length of rope to carry. As it is a single rope then it's ideal for practicing ML techniques and using in real emergencies I can also be used for single pitch climbing and at the climbing wall.

Ropes only £49.00 each plus VAT.

Be aware; Very skinny ropes such as 7mm are too thin to handle, too thin to hold in a fall situation and are more likely to abrade and cut over edges. Many hill walking ropes sold are not suitable for the ML Award. In addition they are normally shorter than 30m. Short ropes are very limiting in their use in UK mountains and the ML award.

What do I receive for my packed lunch?

We ask you to make your own packed lunch each morning (Except for the expedition when you are required to supply your own) this way you are able to have your sandwiches just as you like and as many as you like. There are a variety of fillings, brown and white bread, crisps, fruit, a savory snack, small chocolate bar and a piece of cake.

What do the evening meals consist of ?

There are 3 choices of the main meal and the dessert each evening alongside soup and bread as a starter. (Except for the expedition when you are required to supply your own) On day 5 the course has finished.

Do you cater for vegetarians / Vegans / other special dietary requirements?

Yes, please let us know in advance about any special diets and notify this clearly on the medical and personal details form. We can also send you the menu options for vegetarians and vegans if required. Contact the centre.

Can I gain access to hot and cold drinks throughout my stay?

We have facilities so that you can grab a cuppa at any time and fill your flask. There is no extra charge for this and we have a variety of teas, coffees, cordial and semi skimmed and Soya milk.

More Frequently Asked Questions

Is the centre secure?

All doors on the accommodation blocks have coded door locks, which you will be given the code to. Personal belongings are not insured so please be aware of this. We do have a small safe if you wish to put anything really valuable in. Accommodation is within shared rooms.

Is smoking allowed on site?

Smoking is not allowed inside any building.

Will I obtain mobile phone reception at the centre?

Certain mobiles have better coverage than others. However, most mobiles work at the centre.

Is there a pay phone at the centre?

Blue Peris has a pay phone. However White Peris does not. If required we can arrange for you to use this if you are staying in White Peris

Do you have Internet access?

Our accommodation blocks have access to Wi-Fi, there is no extra charge for this, but there are restrictions on downloads.

Is there on site parking?

Yes you can park on site. When we are busy we have to juggle cars around but it all works out.

Does the centre have a shop?

We have a small shop on site that sells chocolate, drinks and maps. This is opened up on request.

Can I watch the TV?

Blue Peris has access to a TV and plans are in place for White Peris also.

Can I bring my own dog?

We do not allow animals at the centre (except guide dogs). One of the reasons is that dogs are not allowed on the majority of the land we use for the courses.

Are there local amenities?

There are reasonable pubs and a Spar in Llanberis which is 10 minutes drive or 20-30 minutes walk. Closer to the centre in Deiniolen you will find a Londis. Instructors are happy to stop off en route to daily venues if you wish.

Fitness and Health?

You will be asked to fill in a personal details form which amongst other things asks you about illness and disability. Courses are quite intensive and can be tiring, so although a high level of fitness is not essential, a reasonable ability in the activities is necessary in order to participate in the sessions.

Safety ?

Outdoor courses by their nature contain elements of risk. At Blue Peris we pride ourselves on being able to offer you an adventurous experience with some of the most highly trained and experienced instructors delivering the awards. However, whilst every effort is made to conduct activities safely, you do of course have some responsibility for the safety of yourself and others. You should question any practice or instruction which you might deem unsafe.

Insurance?

Bedford Borough Council and Blue Peris Instructors have professional indemnity insurance. We have to advise you to consider arranging your own insurance if you wish to cover illness, injury, damage to and loss of personal effects, cancellation etc.

Equipment ?

You are required to bring all your own equipment.

Kit List

Mountain Leader Assessment

As part of the assessment process we are required to see if you are properly equipped. Therefore you need to ensure that you have all the kit, you feel is needed for the course.

This also explains why you are required to bring your own expedition food.

You are also required to have the following maps

- 1:25,000 Snowdonia No 117
- 1:50,000 Snowdonia No 115

We recommend the following 3 books

- Hill Walking by Steve Long [ISBN 0-9541511-0-0]
Written for the ML and WGL Schemes.
- Nature of Snowdonia by Mike Raine
[ISBN 978-1-906095-10-9]
- Rock Trails of Snowdonia by Paul Gannon

Our
instructors
have lots of
practice at
building
people's
confidence

