



COVID-19 Protocols for Wildwood Bushcraft courses

This document has been updated to reflect the current status of COVID-19 and our practical approach. We hope this plan will give you confidence in attending our courses. We ask for your co-operation in following these procedures. We will have a separate document for those attending navigation courses.

Booking, rescheduling and attending Courses

We are required for insurance purposes to get your confirmation of the following when you book or re-book your course (it is part of the booking process):

You confirm that you will not attend the course and will inform us ASAP if within the 14 days before the course

- yourself or anyone in my bubble has been infected or shown symptoms of COVID-19

Social Distancing and PPE

We currently need to observe the guidelines of at least 2 metres distance from anyone that is not in your contact group (i.e. those people that you are not distancing from). Everyone outside of contact groups will avoid physical contact, such as hand shaking on meeting.

When the instructor is teaching he will gather the group so that everyone can hear and see, but so that distancing is observed.

It is also recommended that you bring a face covering just in case you are in a situation in which you cannot be adequately spaced such as receiving First Aid, cooking or under a tarp. Please see summary of changes to kit list below.

Toilet Facilities

To minimise contact with surfaces that could spread the virus we will ask that each person brings their own toilet paper and hand sanitizer and if needed a small ziplock bag to take away any used sanitary products.

Depending on the location of the course we will either have a communal pit latrine or we will dig individual pits.

Communal pit latrine

As usual this latrine will be screened with a tarp for privacy. It will be possible to enter and leave without touching the tarp itself. Instead of a toilet seat we will use a squat latrine (where the person stands with feet straddling the hole and squats down).

Individual pit latrines

In some course locations we may use individual latrines (only when advised by the instructor). You can either bring your own trowel or carve a digging stick at the site.





The instructor will guide you on a suitable area to use away from fresh water. Pits should be at least 15 cm deep, filled in after use and marked by two small sticks - one on each side of the latrine so others can avoid that area.

Hand washing

Usually we will set up a hand washing stations (except where sea water is readily at hand). We will operate a system that allows you to access water using a foot operated water dispenser so you don't need to touch water containers or bowls. If this needs refilling hands should be sanitised before doing this.

After washing with water you can use your own alcohol gel.

Food preparation and cooking

Survival courses and Foraging courses

It should be possible for all participants to take part game preparation (if relevant to the specific course). For larger game, like rabbits, people will be put in groups of 2 or 3. In this case one person does part of the process while the others stand back. The carcase is then put down and someone else comes forward picks up the task. This must be done with disposable gloves (to be brought by participants) and with 2 metre distance maintained.

Hands should be washed and sanitised before any communal food preparation (cutting meat or vegetables). Communal meals will be dished up by someone with sanitised hands and wearing a face covering. Food placed into mess tins using utensils and not touched by hand.

Hot drinks made communally on the fire will be poured into individual cups spaced two metres apart on the ground.

Self-catering overnight courses

On self-catering overnight courses people will cook their own food near to where they are sleeping using a camping gas stove.

For communal drinks the same process described above will apply

Dish washing

Bowls and cutlery will be washed in hot water with detergent and rinsed under the tipi tap. Participants will bring their own scourers.

Shelters

On Survival courses people usually stay in shelters they build themselves and initially occupy a shelter built by someone else on a previous course. The use of a pre-built shelter only happens at the start of the course and is not a risk from the point of view of COVID-19 as all shelters will have not have been used for several days even weeks in some cases (the minimum period would be 3 days).





People will obviously only share a shelter with people in their contact group. In most cases people will build and occupy individual shelters. Normally we would hire out breathable bivvy bags as a back up in heavy rain but we cannot do this in the current situation due to risk of the bags harbouring the virus. We are asking participants to either bring their own breathable bivvy bag (not an orange Survival bag which will accumulate moisture), and/or a cheap plastic tarp to throw over the top of your shelter.

Tool use

You can either bring your own cutting tools (sheath knife and saw, **not** axe or machete) or you can borrow them from us. We either quarantine or sanitise them at the end of the session depending on how long before they will be used again. We ask participants to hand sanitise before using items that are being loaned.

Changes to kit list

1) The following items are now essential on all bushcraft/survival courses in addition to general items:

- hand sanitizer
- face covering (in most circumstances you will not be required to wear it)
- toilet paper or other sanitary products

2) On overnight courses the following are essential:

- dish scourers (about 5)
- cheap plastic tarp and some cordage AND/OR breathable bivvy bag
- camping stove on non-survival courses

IMPORTANT - this list is in addition to the standard list linked to from our webpage about the course. If anything is unclear please get in touch with us on 01687 470 415

