



The Mountain Experience

The mountain experience is a weekend course aimed at walkers who want to quickly access the skills and knowledge required to safely and legally go backpacking and wild camping in the hills.

The course takes the form of a mini expedition and will be subject to all the decision making that entails. In the past we have had to contend with gales, flooded rivers and baking heat which all serve to make the training even more effective! Your safety at all times is of first importance and instructors will modify courses and routes appropriate to the conditions.

Accommodation will be in 4-season mountain tents which we provide, and our experience is that carrying slightly heavier tents has its reward in being able to camp higher in the mountains without too much fear of the weather. You are expected to provide your own personal equipment including full waterproofs and mountain walking boots. Loans of equipment such as stoves etc. can be arranged if required.

One of the other benefits of this North Ridge Adventure course is that we will take you from the wild camp, at night, for a night walking experience or mini night navigation experience, if you wish. You will not need to carry any equipment other than map, compass, and head torch, however we will carry full safety equipment as usual. Many clients have found the excitement of finding their tent again to be one of the high points of the trip!

What you will learn;

- Keeping the weight down
 - what to take and what to do without
 - sharing equipment
 - balancing lightweight, safety and robustness
- Map reading and navigation, aiming to progress your skills
- Route planning
- The Campsite
 - Weather, drainage and ground
 - Tent selection, and how to pitch your tent
 - Making it comfortable
 - Environmental considerations of wild camping
 - Moving around at night
- Safety matters
 - Water
 - Cooking and selection of stoves
 - Hygiene
- What it feels like to be self sufficient in the hills!

Course structure

Meeting at 1000 Saturday

Finish around 1300 Sunday

Courses normally take place in Snowdonia or the Brecon Beacons and go through to early afternoon on the Sunday, although sometimes this can be a little longer. Experience has shown that this is the optimum time for making an enjoyable weekend learning experience and giving people time to get home on the Sunday. If you have any specific requests then contact us.