



BCU 4 Star Sea Kayak Leader Assessment

With Steve Banks

Overview:

This is the assessment course for the BCU 4 Star Sea Kayak Leader Award. The remit of this qualification is significantly greater than its predecessor and now permits holders to lead a group of up to 4 competent others in moderate sea conditions. Candidates who trained under the old scheme must ensure that they meet all the extra requirements of the new award before presenting for assessment. Please note that this is not a coaching award and it is not deemed suitable by the BCU for the introduction of beginners to the sport. 4 Star is the prerequisite for the new UKCC Level 3 Coach Award, the new BCU Moderate Water Endorsement as well as for BCU 5 Star Sea Kayak Leader training.

Assessment will be via task setting, observation and discussion in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.

Content:

The assessment course will cover the following general competencies:

Personal paddling skills

Safety and rescue

Leadership and group management

Theory (e.g. navigation, tidal planning, environment etc.)

For the full syllabus please go to the BCU website

Prerequisites:

It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that they are aware of and meet the minimum requirements for this qualification.

- Registration with the BCU for assessment (Form LR). **The BCU have decided that if you do not present at the start of the assessment with the LR form duly completed and stamped by the BCU you are not permitted to take part in the course. The provider is permitted no leeway in this regard so please organise this well in advance.**
- BCU 4 Star training
- BCU Coastal Navigation & Tidal Planning Certificate or APL from the BCU. **CN&TP must now be completed before the training course.**
- Minimum 8 hour First Aid certificate including CPR



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- Logged evidence of a **minimum** of 24 quality sea trips of **at least** 4 hours duration which have exposed the candidate to all conditions and environments covered by this award.
- Logged evidence of a **minimum** of 5 trips as above in the role of assistant leader.
- An up-to-date and well organised log book.
- It is strongly advised that you obtain a handheld VHF licence from Ofcom as evidence that you are aware of marine radio procedure and are legally allowed to use a radio at least in emergencies. These licences are free and may be obtained online. If you wish to use a VHF for general communication you will need to obtain an operator's certificate. These require course attendance at a cost.

Please check the BCU website for a comprehensive list of prerequisites as they are updated periodically and we cannot always keep up with changes.

Dates and Cost:

As advertised

Venue:

Practical work will usually take place in local Cumbrian venues in moderate sea conditions. Bespoke courses can be run anywhere.

Equipment:

Candidates are expected to present with all their own equipment for this course, including sea kayak. Borrowed equipment will be treated as if it is the candidate's own.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this provision please feel free to contact Steve who will be very happy to assist and advise you.

Due to high staff/client ratios and the highly disruptive effect of late withdrawals, any course cancelled within 30 days of the start will incur loss of all fees. If you have any concerns regarding your ability to participate in a course on which you have enrolled you are strongly advised to take out appropriate insurance. Steve Banks Outdoors is not in a position to indemnify clients against any illness, injury or other misfortune which may affect attendance. If a course has to be cancelled a full refund will be given. Please see the terms and conditions on the bookings page of the website for comprehensive information <http://www.stevebanksoutdoors.co.uk/booking.php>



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