



Terms & Conditions of Canoe / Kayak Hire

All equipment for hire is subject to availability.

We WILL hire CANOES (Open Boats) to inexperienced paddlers once we are satisfied you are aware of the locations appropriate for your use of the canoe.

We DO NOT hire KAYAKS out to complete beginners or inexperienced paddlers, all users must assure us of their personal competence and inform us where they intend using the canoe or kayak.

The person hiring the canoe or kayak is fully responsible for the boat/equipment and their individual safety throughout the hire period.

The use must be within one of our designated areas, i.e. NI canoe trails, Shaw's Bridge, Antrim Lough Shore, Castlewellan Lake. We only hire for use on the Sea or Strangford Lough in limited areas, unless accompanied by a minimum BCU Level 3 Coach.

YOU, the individual, are responsible for your own and the rest of your group's safety.

Clients booking by telephone will be deemed to have read and accepted these Terms and Conditions. T&C paperwork will be reviewed and signed on day of hire.

Every person must attend the safety briefing and complete and sign a Health and Safety Disclaimer Form.

All equipment must be returned at the agreed time and in the condition that it was hired.

Any loss or damage to any of our equipment must be paid for in full at the end of hire period.

Anyone hiring equipment does so at their own risk and must realise their own ability and experience.

No alcohol should be consumed prior to or during your trip on the water.

Shooting of weirs or rapids is NOT permitted.

The minimum age to hire equipment is 18. The persons hiring and in charge of people under the age of 18 will have to prove they have enough experience to look after them. No one under the age of 16 is permitted unless accompanied by a qualified coach or instructor. (The exception to the rule will be DofE Expeditions or similar, where the group will be supervised from a distance and the individuals have reached a recognised standard of safety).

Minimum group size is 2 people.

All people hiring MUST BE ABLE TO SWIM a minimum of 50m.

Buoyancy Aids will be provided and must be worn at all times.

MTA holds the right to refuse hire.

OTHER LOCATIONS that are not marked Canoe Trails

River Lagan, Shaw’s Bridge, above rapids – Restricted area of use; boundaries are as follows: No passing under Shaw’s Bridge which is 20 m below canoe steps, down stream. No passing Gilchrist Bridge approx 1 mile up river from Shaw’s bridge.

River Lagan, Shaw’s Bridge, below rapids – restricted area of use; boundaries are as follows: Down stream; 200m above Stranmillis weir.

Sixmile Water, Antrim Lough Shore – River mouth of Lough Neagh 100m down stream and up to the Antrim Forum approx one mile up stream.

Rivers not listed above to be discussed and Risk Assessed prior to hire; Insurance company to be notified.

Advice

Be Prepared; conditions on rivers and lakes can change quickly. No matter what the forecast is, be prepared. Plan your day well with all your group members. Please call or email if you have any questions.

MTA will refuse hire if the conditions are not favourable on the day. E.g. river in flood. We want you to have a FUN, memorable experience.

Always bring the following with you on your journey

- Mobile Phone
- Long sleeved top
- Light waterproof top
- Suntan Lotion
- A hat
- Water & Food - even if stopping for a pub lunch!
- A warm change of clothing

Follow the ‘Leave No Trace Principles’
Respect other river users, including fishermen.

To reserve the boats we require full payment and credit card details, we may ask for proof of identification (passport or driving licence) from the credit card holder. Charges for any loss of, or damage to, our equipment will be deducted from the credit card when repair or replacement charges have been ascertained. Damage to property belonging to a third party may also be deducted from the credit card.

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions of hire detailed in this document, in particular with regard to personal safety and agreed areas. I accept that payment may be taken from my credit card for any loss or damage caused during the hire period.

Signed: _____

Date: _____