

Explorers Connect

#AdventureRevolution



[www.explorersconnect.com](http://www.explorersconnect.com)

[www.facebook.com/ExplorersConnect](https://www.facebook.com/ExplorersConnect)

[www.twitter.com/explorerstweet](https://www.twitter.com/explorerstweet)

## **Expedition Leadership Course 18-19 November (Bristol-based)**

Join other like minded people on a 2 day course learning the hard and soft skills needed to lead expeditions and work in the expedition industry. The training course is designed to be a launch pad - by the end you'll have gained vital new skills and also be more informed about the next steps to take to deliver your own expeditions from start to finish. We're expecting that you'll already have an interest in and be active in the outdoors (either professionally or personally) however as for every EC adventure no particular experience is necessary, just an open mind and appetite for learning!

The course is particularly designed for:

- People who want to lead their own expeditions or overseas fieldwork projects (professionally or personally)
- Leaders who have worked in the outdoors (e.g. military or outdoor education) and want to move across into expedition work
- People who have participated in an expedition as a team member and are interested in getting to the next stage
- Anyone who wants to develop their expedition skills

The course covers the following major areas:

- Expedition planning
- Expedition leadership
- Working in the expedition industry
- Connecting to sponsors and the media
- Meeting others in your position

We'll start by learning about the theory and logistics of organising and leading an expedition and you'll be taken through all the necessary steps, from making an initial plan on paper to applying and executing your ideas actively in the field. We'll look at the main documents which make up the core of any expedition plan, such as the Risk Assessment and the Crisis Management Plan. We will also look at other essential considerations such as food and kit provisioning, and using real-life interactive demonstrations we will learn about dynamic safety management to help you keep calm when you're out in the wilderness.

The course is structured around both scenario-based and practical exercises to look at the soft skills which are vital in leading and organising expeditions. We'll examine and learn about different styles of leadership and their appropriateness to various expedition types. In addition we'll also look at making the most of opportunities in the expedition industry and go through the options for qualifications, training and placements.

During the weekend we will be joined and taught by two leaders who have both been leading expeditions and teaching expedition skills for over 20 years. There will be plenty of opportunities for informal networking and discussion with each other and the instructors.



**Experience:** So we can structure the course accordingly we would like some background info on your experience planning expeditions. Please could you email your answers to the following questions by 30 September to [alex@explorersconnect.com](mailto:alex@explorersconnect.com).

1. *What experience do you already have in expeditions (or related fields)? (don't worry if you don't have any yet!)*
2. *What are your long term aspirations within expeditions (or related fields)?*
3. *Do you know what your next step is? (if so please explain)*
4. *What would you like to get out of the EC EL training weekend?*

## LOCATION

**Address:** St Anne's Terrace (off Wick Road), Brislington, Bristol, BS4 4DY.

As you drive down St Anne's Terrace, at the end where the track narrows you will see a gate on your left with a drive leading down – we'll be in here. If you have any problems finding it call Belinda (07990 710304) when you're nearby. There will be limited space to park on site, but if full when you arrive you can unload and find other parking nearby.

**Public transport:** The nearest train station is Bristol Temple Meads which is less than 3 miles away from the venue. If you are flying then Bristol Airport is approximately 40 minutes drive away and there is a bus connection to Bristol Temple Meads called The Bristol Flyer.

**Lift sharing:** If you can offer or need a lift (or just want to say "hi" to fellow attendees), then you can do this on the event Facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/452052521823373>

Closer to the time if you are still struggling then if you let us know where you will be coming from and we will give out your details to others in the group by email. We find this works really well people are often able to find someone to share a lift with, especially coming from Bristol/SW or London/SE. Please let us know when you intend on arriving – if you have any issues or get lost please call Belinda on 07990 710304.

## ACCOMMODATION

There are limited spaces to stay at the course venue on the Friday and/or Saturday night for £5 per person per night. Please note that the accommodation on site is very basic, but it does allow us to keep costs down and give you more time for networking.

There are two bunkrooms, one sleeping 4 and one sleeping 8. Adult size bunkbed frames are provided but not mattresses or bedding so you will need to bring a sleeping mat and bedding - we recommend the self-inflating type of sleeping mat. There is also plenty of space for camping if you would rather camp, or if you decide you would like something less basic there are plenty of other accommodation options in Bristol.

If you want accommodation we require you to **pay your balance in full**. Places in the dorm rooms will go on a first come first served basis but there is plenty of camping space.



There are showers on site and a self-catering kitchen, though please do not expect to cook anything too complicated we will all be sharing the kitchen. There is a fire pit for a communal campfire in the evenings. If you haven't done 'communal living' for a while it is lots of fun but you might want to bring earplugs just in case!

## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

### **Friday 17 November**

If you will be staying on Friday night then meet at the venue from 6.30 pm.

If the weather is good we will be able to get to know each other around a campfire. Bring a takeaway or food to cook a simple dinner.

### **Saturday 18 November**

09:00: Arrival time for those not staying on site. Feel free to grab a tea/coffee before the course starts.

09:30: Introduction to the course and training begins. Most of the course is classroom based inside a large bunkhouse with projector and screen.

16:30: Formal training will end followed by networking and one-to-one advice sessions.

It's recommended even for those who live in Bristol to stay with the group for the evening - feedback from previous years is that informal sharing of advice and ideas over a drink/meal in the evening are an invaluable part of the weekend.

### **Sunday 19 November**

09:00: Arrival time for those not staying on site – in time for a tea/coffee before the course starts.

09:30 – 16:30: Training

16:30: The formal course will finish followed by final one-to-one sessions

## **WHAT TO BRING**

Notebook and pens for the course

**Clothing:** the majority of the course is classroom based. However, we will be outside for certain scenarios so please bring walking boots, warm clothes and waterproof trousers/jacket.

**Staying overnight:** Everything you will need to camp/stay overnight for one or two nights in October. EC has a few spare tents - please contact Belinda if you'd like to borrow one - first come first served. Please note: If you are in the bunkhouse you will still need to bring a



**sleeping bag/pillow and a thermarest/roll mat.** Thermarest type mats will be more comfortable if you can get hold of one.

**Food:** We will provide tea/coffee/biscuits during the course, but please bring anything else you want to eat – you can also go to the large supermarket less than 1 mile away.

Remember, if you're an EC CLUB member you get discounts off kit and more with loads of outdoor brands both in-store and online - log in to the discounts section on the [membership page](#) with the CLUB password to get the codes you need. If you're not a CLUB member yet [sign up here](#) and get access to all discounts and benefits today!

**Please note:**

- If you do not have the right kit you may not be able to participate. We do have some equipment to lend out so contact us well in advance if you need anything.
- On arrival you will be asked to sign a medical declaration form and provide us with next of kin/emergency contact details. If you have a medical condition or injury that we should be aware of please let us know in advance. Please contact us asap if there is anything you think may affect your participation.

**Price includes:**

- 2 full days' world class teaching from experienced expedition leaders
- Regular opportunities for informal networking and discussion sessions with the leaders
- Refreshments during the course

**Payment:**

**If you booked your place by paying a deposit then unless otherwise arranged the remaining balance for this trip is due on or before 6 October.**

You should have received an email from our booking system which contains the following link that you can click to pay your balance: <https://www.explorersconnect.com/book-now>

Please note if we have had neither payment nor contact from you regarding payment **by 6 October** then we will assume you are not coming in which case you will lose your place and your deposit. If you booked before the Earlybird deadline but pay your balance late then you will lose your Earlybird discount.

**If you have any questions regarding payment or about any aspect of the trip, please contact [alex@explorersconnect.com](mailto:alex@explorersconnect.com).**