



The Big Paddle 2

Arrangements pending organisation of a Weekend Paddle
(Sat 5th -6th July) prior to BP2

Sunday 6th July - Lechlade

All Kayaks assemble at Lechlade

Paddling activity

Lechlade to Cricklade (upstream) for people not paddling whole BP2 distance.

Several BP2 paddlers stay overnight at Lechlade to guard kayaks. Sunday and paddlers returning to London with their cars.

Accommodation

Bridge House Campsite
Bridge House
Thames Street
Lechlade
Gloucestershire
GL7 3AG
01367 252348

£7.50 per night per person (to be confirmed)

Good facilities, toilets x 4 male and female, showers x 2 male and female, hairdryers, bins, laundry, washing up facilities, good parking. They also have spare tent pegs just in case.

Can leave the canoes near the tents over the weekend.

River access is via a stile and then a short walk. Put in is muddy and restricted to one or two boats at a time.

Food & drink

Good pubs in the locality, Royal Oak and the New Inn are recommended. Not all serve food on a Sunday and Monday night. Also an Indian restaurant, a Chinese restaurant and a fish and chip shop.

The "Riverside" is not great but does serve every day. They also serve a breakfast from 7:00 until 12:00 daily.

There are local shops. They can organise for the local Londis to order in extra bread should we wish to shop there. The nearest Co-op supermarket is located in Highworthy.

There is a pharmacy and a cash machine.

Monday 7th July

Paddling activity

Possible short trip in the immediate environs of Lechlade for those staying overnight Sunday.

All remaining BP2 paddlers meet at Richmond Canoe Club at about 1.00pm for minibus to Lechlade.

Personal equipment will go in a hired van that will accompany us all week.

Accommodation

Overnight stay - Lechlade campsite
as above

Tuesday 8th July

And were off!

Breakfast

Paddling Activity –

23 miles from Lechlade to Swinford Lock

Accommodation

Overnight stay - campsite at Swinford Lock
Eynsham Lock
Swinford Bridge
Eynsham
Oxon
OX8 1BY
01865 881324

£5.00 per pitch (to be confirmed)

Anyone joining at Swinford

Campsite is difficult to find – go over the toll bridge, there is a small private road with an EA notice, immediately before the sewage works; the gate is not locked.

Very few facilities. One disabled toilet and cold water.

There is a Co-op shop in Eynsham proper but would need vehicle to get there from the campsite.

Food and Drink

The Talbot Inn, Oxford Road, Eynsham, Oxfordshire, OX29 4BT 01865 881348. Monday – Saturday 6-9. It was excellent last year and very friendly.

The pub do take cards but there is a £10 credit card limit.

Wednesday 8th July

Breakfast

Paddling Activity

Swinford Lock to Bridge House (about 22 miles)

Accommodation

Camp at Bridge House
Bridge House
Clifton Hampden
Abingdon
Oxon
OX14 3EH
01865 407725
Elisabeth Gower

£9.00 per pitch (to be confirmed)

Pitches right beside the river. Can park to the rear of the tents. Can pull canoes on to the bank. Secure.

Toilets x3 male and female. Shower blocks on a pay for basis (20p) x3. Laundry on a pay for basis. No washing up facilities. Hairdryers are 20p as well.

Food and Drink

The Barley Mow is the nearest public house. 01865 407847
Need to arrive early in order to ensure all are served. Are serving until 22:00. Food last time was excellent.

There is a general store and a post office in Clifton Hampden.

Thursday 10th July

Breakfast

Paddling Activity

Bridge House to Reading (about 20 miles)

Accommodation & Food

Dreadnought Reach (Wokingham canoe club) Possibly a BBQ or we have to work out an alternative.
Full shower facilities.

Friday 11th July

Breakfast

Reading to Cookham Lock (about 22 miles)

Accommodation

Campsite at Cookham Lock
Odney Lane
Cookham
Maidenhead

Berkshire
SL6 9SR
01628 520752

£5.00 per pitch (to be confirmed)

Access to the campsite is via Odney Lane – off the main street. Over a small bridge and then along a narrow tarmacked lane. This is a beautiful place to stop!!!!!!

Lock keeper manages the 30 acre island between the weir and the lock cutting. We can pick anywhere on this island. Kayaks will be safe. Gated access on to the lock after hours (19:00). Adam is the resident lock keeper and will allow us to bring one vehicle on to the island the Friday evening. He will give us a key for the vehicular gate and the pedestrian gate. £10 deposit PER KEY.

There is a unisex shower room (£1 token from the lock keeper and lasts about 8 minutes) and toilets. These facilities are open all night. The lock keeper will allow us to pay for what we use the morning we leave rather than charging up front. There is also an outside tap / hose.

There are plenty of eating options in Cookham. Adam recommends The Ferry, 3 Indian restaurants, Chinese restaurant, Kings Head and the Bell and Dragon.

Saturday 12th July

Breakfast

Meet 2nd Weekend Group

Paddling Activity

Cookham Lock to Elmbridge (about 23 miles)

Accommodation

Elmbridge Canoe club – To be confirmed.

Sunday 13th July

Breakfast – clean up their clubhouse!

Meet anyone that wants to join in (last year Trevor came with juniors).

Paddling Activity

Elmbridge back to the club

Refreshments on the Balcony! Last year Daan organised a fundraising barbeque at the Club and I hope that something similar can work again.

WEEKEND PADDLES

There has been a proposal for a weekend paddle on Saturday 5th/Sunday 6th July for those that cannot do the full week and also would like to paddle some of the Upper Thames. This can be done only if we liaise with the Club Committee to take doubles after the Juniors finish on the Saturday Afternoon.

It would also mean that we would have to plan to take all of the boats for the week on the Saturday or have boats move to Lechlade on both Saturday and Sunday.

I need to know who and how many people would like the option to paddle either the 1st and/or 2nd Weekenders who would be prepared in principle to organise that event.