

High Adventure OEC Risk Assessment - Caving

Minimum Leader qualification	LCMLA Level 1	Minimum Assistant qualification	In house assessed
Max group size with Leader	12	Max group size with assistant	14

Hazard	People at risk	Pre-control	On session control	Risk (minimal, manageable, unacceptable)
Slips / Falls	All staff & participants	Brief group about the activity. Staff to be familiar with the venue and how to protect potential hazard areas.	Use of rope or spotting where appropriate	Manageable
Flooding / water related injury	All staff & participants	All sessions run by qualified staff. Check recent water levels & weather forecast.	Monitor water levels and exit if necessary	Manageable
Hypothermia	All staff & participants	Groups clothing to be checked prior to session.	All participants to be monitored for signs of hypothermia	Manageable
Equipment failure	All staff & participants	Regular equipment checks and records kept.	Visual and handling check of equipment. Spare lamps to be carried.	Minimal
Radon	All staff & participants	Use through caves, regular checks.		Minimal
Panic attacks	Participants	Thorough group briefing and information from visiting staff	Reassurance and close supervision	Minimal

Essential equipment

Personal - Helmet, Lamp, belt, oversuit & wellies; possibly wetsuits. *Check for warm clothing & complete change of clothing & footwear*

Leader - Group shelter, spare lamps, 1st aid kit, hot drink and emergency food. Rope, slings, karabiners & knife (appropriate to cave),

Site specific details

Long Churn - gr; SD 773 756 - EMERGENCY PHONE (payphone) SD 784 756				
Falls	All staff & participants		Deep drop on left if entering upper L.C. from middle entrance.	Minimal
Dolly Tubs		Level 2 qualification (or above) needed		
Dr Banisters	Participants	All groups to be roped up the chute		Minimal

Dow - gr; SD 983 742 - EMERGENCY PHONE (private) SD 970 722				
Slips / falls	All staff & participants	High ledges and 'the bridge' only to be used with suitable groups	HA staff to 'spot' participants across the bridge one at a time	Manageable

Great Douk - gr; SD 747 770 - EMERGENCY PHONE (private) SD 763 791				
Slips / falls	All staff & participants		Care needed with the short scramble on the waterfall at the lower entrance	Manageable

Runscar & Thistle - gr; SD 765 797 - EMERGENCY PHONE (private) SD 763 791				
Slips / falls	All staff & participants	The top shakehole gets extremely slippery when wet. Check ground conditions	Brief the group thoroughly. Stay as a close team and support each other.	Manageable

Goyden - gr; SE 100 761 - EMERGENCY PHONE (private) SE 102 733				
Water hazards	All staff & participants	Can flood quite suddenly in certain weather conditions, check water levels and wind direction.		Manageable

Valley Entrance - gr; SD 699 774 - EMERGENCY PHONE (payphone) SD 685 736				
Pitch head	All staff & participants	Venue knowledge	Keep group away from the top of the pitch	Minimal

Yordas - gr; SD 705 791 - EMERGENCY PHONE (payphone) SD 685 736				
	All staff & participants	Venue knowledge		Minimal

Brow gill & Calf Hole - gr; SD 800 777 - EMERGENCY PHONE (private) SD 809 721				
Water hazards	All staff & participants	Can flood quite suddenly in certain weather conditions. The entrance and connecting passage flood first.	Check weather forecast and watch water levels	Manageable
Difficult areas	Participants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Large blocks in main rift 2. 'staircase' 3. 'sausage factory' & 'letterbox' 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Beware of holes - lower leg injuries 2. Good briefing, some groups may require belaying 3. Thorough briefing required and good group control 	Manageable

Assessed by	HA OEC Ltd	Renewal date	This Risk Assessment is renewed in October each year as a matter of course, but is also reviewed & amended on a weekly / monthly basis subject to any changes that occur to High Adventure OEC Ltd Normal Operating Procedure.	
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