



Wild camping in Eryri during Mountain Leader training and assessment courses

Guiding Principles for providers, course directors and course staff

This document provides a set of eight principles for undertaking wild camping in Eryri. It is intended that all Mountain Leader scheme providers, course directors and course staff will abide by these simple principles, where practicable. A degree of flexibility has been retained to ensure that if the plan has to change, such as during extreme weather events, syllabus coverage in appropriate terrain and candidate safety will take precedence.

Our eight guiding principles are closely aligned with the [BMC's Respect the Wild campaign](#).

- 1. Be inconspicuous.** Only use remote locations, well out of sight of civilisation. Stay for one night only. Arrive late and leave early, and don't leave tents up during the day. Where possible, use dull or dark coloured tents,.
- 2. Need the toilet?** Removing all human waste using a packable toilet kit is the best solution. Away from popular spots, as a last resort, bury solid waste 15cm deep, replacing the earth afterwards. Pack out your toilet paper and sanitary products in a zip-lock bag. Wash up and toilet a minimum of 50m from any water sources.
- 3. Choose durable ground.** Pitch your tent on well drained ground that won't be easily damaged or leave traces of your visit. Pitching tents within a sheepfold is a last resort.
- 4. Leave no trace.** If you take it in, take it out. Try to remove any litter you find too. Pack out all food waste - it takes much longer than you think to decompose. Replace any rocks you've moved.
- 5. Use lights on their lowest setting around camp.** Light and noise is very noticeable at night and can disturb wildlife and people. Think carefully about your night navigation location and its proximity to civilisation, discretion is critical.
- 6. Keep group sizes small.** Large groups can have a huge impact. Always separate large training or assessment courses (i.e. 2 teams) and use separate campsites. If you must use a bothy, such as during very poor weather, ensure you follow Mountain Bothies Association's [Bothy Code](#).
- 7. Vehicles and parking.** Limit the amount of cars left overnight at small remote car parks. Encourage lift sharing as much as possible.
- 8. Social media.** Posting content and imagery on social media, which highlights wild camping, needs to be in line with the above guiding principles.