

GENERAL NOTES FOR COURSES

As parts of all of our courses are based outside, you will need to dress accordingly. Wellingtons or good boots are necessary for all outdoor activities. Please bring a change of shoes for wearing indoors, and please remove muddy boots etc. before entering the classroom. **For health and safety reasons, the whole of Honeybank is a no smoking area - Please ensure that you do not infringe this policy.** If you have a Gift Voucher issued by us, you must bring and surrender the actual voucher (no photocopies) on the day of the course. We regret that, if you do not, we will have to levy the full charge.

PLEASE NOTE THAT, DUE TO THE NATURE OF OUR SERVICE, NON-FEE PAYING VISITORS/SPECTATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE PREMISES DURING ANY EVENT; THIS INCLUDES SPOUSES, PARTNERS, CHILDREN, PARENTS, DRIVERS etc.

While we take all reasonable steps to ensure your safety at all times during your stay with us, you should note that the very nature of the activities undertaken at Honeybank will inevitably carry some form of risk. Your attendance on the course indicates that you accept this risk, and you will be required to sign a disclaimer, confirming your understanding and acceptance of this, before commencing your activity. Cars are parked entirely at owners' risk.

HAWK/OWL ENCOUNTERS

The day will consist of a short session in the classroom, a tour of our birds, the chance to see a longwing (falcon) flying, and the opportunity to experience the thrill of hawks and owls flying directly to you and landing on your fist. It is not possible to guarantee which birds you will be flying, but we will usually use both hawks and owls. As much of the course will take place out of doors, it is advisable to wear sensible outdoor clothing, and to bring Wellington boots to wear while flying the birds in the fields at Honeybank. If the weather is really bad, we will still endeavour to allow you to fly the birds, but reserve the right to alter the itinerary as necessary. Tea and coffee are available at Honeybank, but you are advised to bring your own packed lunch, unless you have made specific arrangements with us for catering.

HAWKING DAYS

The day begins with a short handling and familiarisation session, before you are taken to a suitable area where we will use ferrets to bolt rabbits from their burrows, at which time you will "slip" the hawks, which will chase – and hopefully catch – the rabbits. On hawking days, it is vital that you are properly dressed, and have a good packed lunch with you. By prior arrangement, we can arrange (at extra cost) for a pub meal at lunchtime or at the end of the day. Only extremely bad weather will stop us on a hawking day. Hawking days can only be taken during the relevant season (usually October – March).

FERRETING DAYS

Ferretting/rabbiting days begin with an introduction to the ferrets, equipment and methods to be employed, before loading ferrets and equipment and being driven to the hunting area. Only extremely bad weather will stop us on a ferreting day, and so suitable outdoor clothing and a substantial packed lunch is essential. By prior arrangement, we can arrange (at extra cost) for a pub meal at lunchtime or at the end of the day.

HAWK/OWL WALKS

These events start with a quick tour of our birds, and then a very short familiarisation and handling session, before taking the birds into the fields which surround Honeybank. Sessions are either in the morning or the afternoon; they can also be arranged for early evening (subject to light conditions).

PHOTOGRAPHIC SESSIONS

Photo Days will involve you being presented with the opportunity to photograph various raptors; these will vary according to time of year, condition of birds etc. Please ensure all your equipment is ready to go from the start of the session, and that you have the correct lenses and plenty of memory cards.

BOOKING YOUR DAY

Simply ring or e-mail us to arrange a date (strictly subject to availability); please do not leave this too late as it may not be possible to accommodate you. Once booked, you will receive written confirmation, along with full travel details. You may, if you wish, upgrade from a half-day to a full day, at a cost of £45 per person. Please ask for details when booking your event.

Vouchers expire on the expiry date written on them, i.e. 6 months after issue/purchase.

A standard administration fee of £30 (plus vat) is chargeable for any alteration to arrangements/bookings or other change (except upgrades). Where a cancellation is made within 28 days of the booked date, the voucher will become null and void, and any monies owing will become payable with immediate effect. Vouchers are not redeemable.

CONTACT DETAILS

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