



Bushcraft and Forest School courses events offered by IOL Organisational Members

IOL Level 3 Bushcraft Competency Certificate

31 Oct 2025, 09:30 – 2 Nov 2025, 16:00, 10-12 April, 23-25 Oct 2026

Incl. overnight self-catered camping.

Polaris Wilderness Adventure Ltd. Bayford, SG1 8QB

IOL Members £325.00. Non members £350.00

T: 07971289604

info@polarisbushcraft.co.uk

<https://www.polarisbushcraft.co.uk/iol-bushcraft-competency-certificate>

Bushcraft Competency Award - 2 day course - IOL ACCREDITED

WOODLAND SURVIVAL CRAFTS

Bushcraft and Survival Skills Specialists

Woodland Survival Crafts. Ashton under Lyme.

30-31 Aug. £220 (£200 IOL Members)

<https://www.woodlandcrafts.com/shop/p/bushcraft-competency-award>

T: 07736 225035 Dave dave@woodlandcrafts.com

This is a 2-day, IOL-approved course designed very much for outdoor professionals/centre staff wanting to deliver short sessions of quality bushcraft. As a result it is often run as a bespoke course for 3 or more of your instructors. Course dates for individuals are available as listed and are sometimes being run at different locations around the country.

Site requirements to run a course at your venue are:

- a selection of fire places or bases
- enough trees or equivalent to use for tarp shelters
- toilets and water
- a covered area out of the wind.

Bushcraft Competency Certificate - 3 day course - IOL ACCREDITED

WOODLAND SURVIVAL CRAFTS

Bushcraft and Survival Skills Specialists

Woodland Survival Crafts. Spring Wood, Derbyshire

26-28 August, 18-20 October £325 (£300 IOL Members)

An ideal training course for Outdoor Professionals leading to the Bushcraft Competency Certificate developed through the IOL.

<https://www.woodlandcrafts.com/shop/p/bushcraft-competency-certificate>

T: 07736 225035 Dave dave@woodlandcrafts.com

Designed especially for Outdoor Centres and Professionals, our Bushcraft Competency Certificate Training three day course will build on your basic bushcraft skills, allowing you to enhance your existing bushcraft/forest school sessions.

As an approved training course with the Institute for Outdoor Learning, you will be able to use this along with a further 100 hours +/- of Bushcraft based experience in order to work towards the Bushcraft Competency Certificate. This award is increasingly recognised within outdoor learning circles as suitable clarification of safe and competent practice.

Whether you are a Forest School Leader, Environmental Education Officer or Outdoor Instructor, you will find the course incredibly beneficial – enhancing your bushcraft knowledge and confidence in teaching.

During the three days you will learn and enhance the key skills of bushcraft, including:

- Effective shelter building
- Confident and safe knife skills
- Successful friction fire lighting
- Efficient water filtering
- Inspiring tree identification
- String making
- Accurate direction finding

Over the years we have trained many teams in the UK and occasionally overseas. For centres and organisations wanting several staff members trained, please contact us to create your own course.



Bushcraft Competency Certificate training course (IOL Accredited)

Discover Tribe. 14-16 July, 15-17 Sept, 13-15 Oct 2025, at TRIBE Bushcraft Centre, Dronfield. Cost: £325/£300

All easily bookable online at <https://www.discovertribe.co.uk/events-for-adults/>

Peter Sutherland 07947722958 contactus@discovertribe.co.uk

At TRIBE, we are committed to helping you achieve the BCC. Our training courses span three days and include 24 guided learning hours. Whether you are an educator, instructor, leader, or simply someone passionate about the outdoors, this course is open to all who have an interest in bushcraft, though some prior experience is recommended. We provide a supportive and immersive environment where participants can hone their skills under expert guidance, preparing them for the next stages of certification. All trainees have access to our Google Classroom BCC group with helpful resources and a growing community. Courses run 9am - 5pm each day, and participants are able to book camping over in the woods if desired. Don't just take our word for it, here are some reviews from recent trainees:

"Absolutely fantastic course. Thoroughly enjoyed 3 days, great location, really good teaching from Pete. I would definitely recommend." - Luke, May '25 course

"An amazing course which hugely built on some basic skills I had and taught me many new skills. I feel more confident now to deliver workshops in my school setting to pass on these Bushcraft skills which otherwise would be lost to future generations.

The instructors were so patient and knowledgeable and really built my confidence as well as sharing far more tips and information than was planned for.

I cannot believe how calmly and confidently I walked around the camp with a fire, I started and grew, before setting it down on the ground! I can't wait to pass on those proud moments to our future generations." - Donna, Mar '25 course.



2 Day Bushcraft Competency Award Training – IOL Accredited

Backcountry Survival. 18-19 Sept. Aviemore. £215.

Tel: 07584090025

Email: info@backcountrysurvival.co.uk

www.backcountrysurvival.co.uk



3 Day Bushcraft Competency Certificate Training – IOL Accredited

Backcountry Survival. 25-27 July. Aviemore. £285.

Tel: 07584090025

Email: info@backcountry survival.co.uk

www.backcountry survival.co.uk

1 Day Bushcraft Competency Diploma Training (Module)

Backcountry Survival. 28th Jul 25, 29th Jul 25, 23rd Aug 25, 24th Aug 25, 10th Oct 25, 11th Oct 25

Aviemore. £125.

Tel: 07584090025

Email: info@backcountry survival.co.uk

www.backcountry survival.co.uk

4 Day Woodland Skill Leader

Backcountry Survival. 19th – 22nd Aug 25, 6th – 9th Oct 25

Aviemore. £500.

Tel: 07584090025

Email: info@backcountry survival.co.uk

www.backcountry survival.co.uk

1 Day Foraging Course

Backcountry Survival.

23rd Aug 25, 13th Sep 25, Aviemore. £80.

20th Sept, Perth.

Tel: 07584090025

Email: info@backcountry survival.co.uk

www.backcountry survival.co.uk

Level 3 Certificate For Forest School Leaders

Field Studies Council. 29, July - Fri 8 August 2025, 8, October 2025 - Fri 14, November 2025.

Bishops Wood Crossway Green Stourport-on-Severn. £1075

01743 852100 01299 250513 enquiries.bw@field-studies-council.org

<https://www.field-studies-council.org/courses-and-experiences/static-courses/level-3-certificate-for-forest-school-leaders/>

Level 2 Award in Forest School Assistants

29th July 2025 - Fri 1st August 2025, 8th October 2025 – Thursday 16th November 2025.

Field Studies Centres, Bishops Wood Crossway Green, Stourport-on-Severn. £560

01743 852100 01299 250513 enquiries.bw@field-studies-council.org

<https://www.field-studies-council.org/courses-and-experiences/static-courses/level-2-award-in-forest-school-assistants/>

Level 1 Forest School Ethos and Principles

Tue 29th - Wed 30th July 2025, 8th - 9th October 2025

Field Studies Council, Bishops Wood Crossway Green, Stourport-on-Severn. £260.

01743 852100 01299 250513 enquiries.bw@field-studies-council.org

<https://www.field-studies-council.org/courses-and-experiences/static-courses/level-1-forest-school-ethos-and-principles/>

Forest School CPD Wildlife Knowledge and species Identification

Thu 11th September 2025 16:00 - 18:00

Field Studies Council, Bishops Wood Crossway Green. Stourport-on-Severn. £35.
01743 852100 01299 250513 enquiries.bw@field-studies-council.org
<https://www.field-studies-council.org/courses-and-experiences/static-courses/forest-school-cpd-wildlife-knowledge-and-species-identification/>

Forest School CPD – Tools and Craft items

Thu 2nd October 2025 16:00 - 18:00

Field Studies Council, Bishops Wood Crossway Green, Stourport-on-Severn. £35
01743 852100 01299 250513 enquiries.bw@field-studies-council.org
<https://www.field-studies-council.org/courses-and-experiences/static-courses/forest-school-cpd-tools-and-craft-items/>

Forest School CPD Wildlife Knowledge and species Identification

Thu 25th September 2025 16:00 - 18:00

Field Studies Council, Bishops Wood Crossway Green. Stourport-on-Severn. £35
01743 852100 01299 250513 enquiries.bw@field-studies-council.org
<https://www.field-studies-council.org/courses-and-experiences/static-courses/forest-school-cpd-knots-ropes-and-shelters/>

Forest School CPD – Fire Lighting and Cooking

Thu 18th September 2025 16:00 - 18:00

Field Studies Council, Bishops Wood Crossway Green Stourport-on-Severn. £35
01743 852100 01299 250513 enquiries.bw@field-studies-council.org
<https://www.field-studies-council.org/courses-and-experiences/static-courses/forest-school-cpd-fire-lighting-and-cooking/>

Forest School Leader Training Level 2 or 3

23, 30 June & 7 July 2025, 18– 22 August 2025, 15, 22, 29 Sept & 2, 9 October 2025, 27- 31 October 2025. At Leeford Woods, Exmouth, Devon.

The Outdoors Group.

Level 3: £1050 without First Aid or £1,275 with First Aid. Level 2: £725

07922 427608. training@outdoorsgroup.co.uk, <https://www.outdoorsgroup.co.uk/training/>



Nature Connection & Forest Bathing Guide Teacher Training: 3 cohorts run in 2025

1-3 August 2025. 3 day course.

Adore Your Outdoors.

Online or in private woodland in Fareham, Hampshire

07717368308 sonya@adoreyouroutdoors.co.uk
<https://adoreyouroutdoors.co.uk/forestbathingguidetraining/>

3 cohorts run in 2025. All start with a weekend of online learning on 5th April, 24th May or 12th July. Then choose from either an immersion week in the woods in Hampshire or an immersion week online. After that week, there are numerous coursework deliverables including deepening nature connection personal practices and delivering 3 trial walks with at least 4 participants, plus an open book exam.

COHORT 1/2025: ONLINE INTRO: Sat 5th & Sun 6th Apr + WOODLAND IMMERSION: w/c Monday 28th April (Mon to Fri) OR ONLINE IMMERSION: w/c 12th May (Mon to Fri) + COMPLETION: 30th September

COHORT 2/2025: ONLINE INTRO: Sat 24th & Sun 25th May + WOODLAND IMMERSION: w/c Mon 9th June (Mon to Fri) OR ONLINE IMMERSION: w/c Mon 16th June (Mon to Fri) + COMPLETION: 31st October

COHORT 3/2025: ONLINE INTRO: Sat 12th & Sun 13th Jul + WOODLAND IMMERSION: w/c Monday 11th August (Mon to Fri) OR ONLINE IMMERSION: w/c Mon 18th August (Mon to Fri) + COMPLETION: 30th December.

£2745 for the hybrid learning path (includes the woodland immersion with 2 opportunities to deliver sessions for real life customers or volunteers), or £2245 (fully online learning path).

Is 2025 your year to become a Certified Forest Bathing Guide? Want to be your own boss while nurturing a deeper connection with nature—for yourself, your clients, and the future of our planet? As nature lovers, we share a common concern: while we cherish the natural world, the impact of climate change and biodiversity loss can feel overwhelming. We also crave a slower pace, a simpler life, far removed from the "more, more, more" mentality.

It can leave you wondering how to live a happy, healthy life and be part of the solution. What you're longing for is likely: a deeper connection to nature that eases anxiety and nourishes your soul; a fulfilling and financially rewarding career where you're in control; a strong sense of purpose; a feeling of belonging.

At Adore Your Outdoors, we believe Forest Therapy Guiding, with a business rooted in nature, offers a path to truly joyful living—for you and future generations. We believe those who nurture a sustainable future deserve both financial reward and deep fulfilment.

As a certified Forest Bathing Guide, you can:

- Be your own boss and revitalise your career.
- Embark on a profound journey of self-discovery.
- Become a certified, trusted professional.
- Create transformative experiences.
- Harmoniously combine purpose with profit.
- Join the Forest Bathing revolution.

Choose from the fully online learning path or a hybrid approach with a transformative week together in Hampshire. With three intakes in 2025, you can find the perfect fit for your schedule.

Shinrin Yoku (Forest Bathing) has been integrated into the Japanese healthcare system for over 45 years and is now endorsed by the NHS, lending legitimacy to your practice. Research consistently demonstrates long-lasting benefits, including stress reduction, improved sleep, enhanced immunity, and well-being.

Are you ready to answer the call of the wild?

Level 3 Coastal Top-Up

Forest School SNPT

10th July – 11th July. 2 Day Course. At Bishop's Wood Countryside Centre, Caswell, Swansea. Cost £300
01792 367118 office@forestschoolsnpt.org.uk

Level 3 Forest School Leader

Forest School SNPT

23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th September and 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th October 2025. 8 Day Course (2x block of 4 day sessions). At Bishop's Wood Countryside Centre, Caswell, Swansea. Cost £1100
01792 367118 office@forestschoolsnpt.org.uk



Nene Park Trust

Certificate in Leading Forest School – level 3

IOL Accredited and delivered by Cambium Sustainable

11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 September and 2, 3 October 2025.

Nene Park Trust, Ferry Meadows Country Park, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. £975 including registration fees and VAT. 01733 234193. anna.thompson@neneparktrust.org.uk www.nenepark.org.uk

This Forest School Leader training is designed for those who would like to set up and run a forest school programme. The course involves eight days of training, including theory and practical sessions. All of our training takes place in person at Ferry Meadows Country Park, Cambridgeshire. The theory elements of the

courses will be delivered in the comfortable surroundings of the Lakeside Meeting Room, while the practical skills sessions will take place outdoors in our dedicated forest school site.

There are five units of study at Level 3:

- Supporting learning, play and development in natural environments
- Deliver forest school
- Observation and evaluation of forest school
- Sustainable use and management of natural resources
- Teach outdoor practical skills

As part of this course you will:

- Attend training days which consist of both theory and practical tasks
- Run a forest school programme in your chosen setting
- Have a work-based assessment
- Complete a portfolio for assessment.



Nene Park Trust

Award in Assisting Forest School – level 2

IOL Accredited and delivered by Cambium Sustainable

11, 12, 18, 19 September + 2 October 2025.

Nene Park Trust, Ferry Meadows Country Park, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. £525 including registration fees and VAT. 01733 234193. anna.thompson@neneparktrust.org.uk, www.nenepark.org.uk

This course is designed for those wanting to assist a Level 3 Forest School Leader. The course duration is five days of training including theory and practical sessions, plus assisting with planning and delivery of a minimum of 3 forest schools sessions. All of our training takes place in person at Ferry Meadows Country Park, Cambridgeshire. The theory elements of the courses will be delivered in the comfortable surroundings of the Lakeside Meeting Room, while the practical skills sessions will take place outdoors in our dedicated forest school site.

There are 4 units of study at level 2:

- Supporting learning, play and development in the natural environment
- Sustainable use and management of natural resources
- Outdoor practical skills
- Forest school assistant



Bushcraft Competency Certificate Training

1-3 August 2025. 3 day course.

Explore the Great Outdoors. Warminster, Wiltshire.

07776220196 office@forestschooolsnpt.org.uk

<https://www.explorethegreatoutdoors.co.uk/bushcraft-courses.php>

Woodland Activity Leader Training (WALT)

2-8 Aug 2025 www.wild-things.org.uk enquiries@wild-things.org.uk

Wild Things. Findhorn Village Centre, Findhorn. £720.

Woodland Activity Leader Training Practical Only

18-20 July, 18-20 Oct 2025 www.wild-things.org.uk enquiries@wild-things.org.uk

Wild Things. Findhorn Village Centre, Findhorn. £360.

Coastal Activity Leader Training

26 July – 1 Aug 2025 www.wild-things.org.uk enquiries@wild-things.org.uk

Wild Things. Findhorn Village Centre, Findhorn. £720.

Level 3 Forest Leader Training

26-29 June 2025.

Root-and-Branch Out CIC. Woodland in Rutland. With Carol Middleton, accredited by ITC First and recognized by the FSA. www.underthehazels.org

<https://www.rootandbranchout.co.uk/bookings.html>

Bushcraft Competency Training 2 days - IOL ACCREDITED



1st – 2nd November (date changed) 2025. Woodland Classroom, Wrexham, N. Wales.

<https://woodlandclassroom.com/event/iol-bushcraft-competency-award/>

<https://woodlandclassroom.com/event/iol-bushcraft-competency-award-2/>

This accredited training course is designed for instructors, leaders and teachers who want to demonstrate that they follow good practice and have a high level of safety and competency in a range of bushcraft skills.

This 2 day course is designed for the outdoor learning workforce including FE/HE students, apprentices, instructors and teachers. It is suitable for a wide range of people working or volunteering in formal or non-formal settings such as early years, schools, colleges, outdoor centres, education centres, wildlife trusts, national parks, youth and voluntary organisations. Wherever you are on your journey into bushcraft we aim to bring your confidence and skillset forward to the next level.

This 2 day course is open to all with an interest in passing bushcraft skills and knowledge on to others. The course covers 5 key bushcraft skill units; edged tools – knives & saws, fire, water, tarp shelters & knots and campfire cooking.

Our weekend long course is all set against the backdrop of mixed woodlands, wetlands and open meadows of [Park In The Past](#), with 120 acres of wild space to explore. Students are encouraged to camp over in the woods, with the option of staying over on both the Friday and Saturday, or just Saturday night.

This course covers five essential bushcraft skillsets

Bushcraft Competency Certificate - IOL ACCREDITED



Various dates

Jack Raven Bushcraft. Jack Raven Bushcraft Camp, Kent. 07553

763397, info@jackravenbushcraft.co.uk,

www.jackravenbushcraft.co.uk

The syllabus meets the IOL Statement of Good Practice. On this intensive 3 day course you will cover:

- UK knife law and its relevance to bushcraft,
- Safe use of basic bushcraft tools such as knives, folding saws and bow saws,

- How to sharpen a bushcraft knife,
- Making simple carved implements such as a tent peg or feather stick,
- Safe shelter construction, including 'A' frame and 'lean to' debris shelters,
- Importance of insulating yourself from the ground in a debris shelter by creating an improvised bed,
- Establishing fires by: bow drill, fire steel, flint and steel, lenses, mirrors, chemicals, matches, fire pistons, lighters, batteries & wire wool,
- Constructing and using a tinder bundle to light a fire,
- Locating, filtering and purifying water,
- Tree identification and uses, including food sources available from trees,
- How to prepare and make natural cordage from a variety of sources,
- Natural navigation using shadow sticks, a watch, the moon and stars,
- And of course, ensuring that we leave no trace

Throughout the course we will provide advice and guidance on tools and equipment and how to teach the skills covered to other people, whether that be individuals or groups, all based on our own years of experience.

To be added to the register of holders of the IOL Bushcraft Competency Certificate, you will need to log 120 quality hours and attend a separate assessment, as well as join the IOL and the Bushcraft Professional Practice Group. Memberships and assessments are administered through the IOL.

Take a look at our 'IOL Hall of Fame' to see photos of the people that we know have successfully taken their assessment. and gained the IOL Bushcraft Competency Certificate.

Link: <https://www.jackravenbushcraft.co.uk/bushcraft-qualifications/iol-bushcraft-competency-certificate/>