

Five Day Residential Visit Programmes

Introduction:

We encourage visit leaders to contact us to discuss their group's programme early in the visit planning process to ensure that we can tailor it to your group's needs. As part of designing a programme we ask visit leaders for three aims for their visit.

Whilst we pride ourselves on range of activities that we offer at Thornbridge Outdoors, and the flexible ways in which they can be incorporated into a programme to meet visit aims and budgets, we realise that planning a programme can seem daunting. The sample programmes below are designed to illustrate different possibilities and the different 'bundles' available.

Our 5 day bundle options are:

- Bundle 5A which includes 2 instructed activity sessions
- Bundle 5B which includes 4 instructed activity sessions
- Bundle 5C which includes 8 instructed activity sessions

Bundles can be further tailored through the use of 'bolt ons' which include:

- extra instructed activity sessions
- additional bike hire (one session included within each bundle):
- facilitated local day walk - a day walk from the centre led by one of our instructors, assisted by school staff, in a group of up to 30 young people
- evening climbing wall sessions (approx 1 hour of climbing per group):
- evening instructor led local walk

[Click here to see visit prices.](#)

Arrival day:

You are welcome to make as much of your first day as you wish by arriving anytime after 9am.

On arrival you will be directed to a meeting space to drop off your luggage before meeting an instructor for your equipment issue at stores.

Following equipment issue some groups choose to start a rotation of activities straight away, whilst others do a whole group activity until lunchtime led by a Thornbridge Outdoors instructor which may be:

- a site familiarisation walk – tour the site, see activities which you may be doing and admire our wooden animal sculptures en route
- an introduction to orienteering and using maps – learn and practice core skills ready to build upon them over your stay

- icebreakers and team development activities

Groups typically bring a packed lunch from home on their arrival day (can be provided if needed) which can be eaten hopefully outside on picnic benches, and if not in your meeting space.

After lunch activities continue, after which you can move into your accommodation and have a welcome talk by a Thornbridge Outdoors instructor if you haven't had one already.

Departure day:

On your departure day you will again be allocated a meeting space as we ask that you vacate your accommodation by 10am, to allow for our cleaning team to have it ready for the next group.

You are welcome to stay on site for as much of the day as you wish and carry on with activities.

Activities:

To ensure the high quality of what we provide we work with groups of up to 12 young people and generally run activities over sessions of 3 hours – typically 9.30am – 12.30pm and 1.30pm-4.30pm. Some activities combine well to form a whole day.

Minibus travel to and from offsite activities is included within bundles.

[Click here to see the range of outdoor and environmental education activities available.](#)

Sample programmes:

The sample programmes to illustrate what's possible within each bundle – but there are many different options.

If you're wondering what the different activities involve please click the link above to find out more.

Key:

Activities led by a Thornbridge Outdoors instructor
Activities led by visiting staff who've attended an induction course
Activities led by visiting staff – no induction course necessary

Bundle 5A Sample Programme

Group: 25-36 young people with 3 visiting staff (could work for 16 - 72 young people)

	Session	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Monday	Arrival	Arrive at 10am. Drop off luggage and stores as needed.		
	Morning 11am – 12.30pm	Whole group introductory activity led by an instructor		
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Thornbridge Challenge	Weaselling	Nature trail & problem solving
	After activities	Settle into accommodation. Fire practice led by school staff		
	Evening	Postcard writing		
Tuesday	Morning 9.30am-12.30pm	Nature trail & problem solving	Thornbridge Challenge	Weaselling
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Weaselling	Nature trail & problem solving	Thornbridge Challenge
	4.30pm – 4.45pm	Thornbridge Challenge finale		
	Evening	Nightline		
Wednesday	Morning 9.30am-12.30pm	Local walk led by school staff or day visit to a local attraction (group to arrange own transport if needed – advice available)		
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm			
	Evening	Nightwalk and campfire		

Thursday	Morning 9.30am-12.30pm	Rotation of 3 visiting staff led activities: Orienteering
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Low ropes Den building
	Evening	Wyedale (games) room and shop
Friday	Before activities	Clean and leave unit by 10am
	Morning	Photo treasure hunt and Thornbridge history trail
	Afternoon	Return kit to stores. Depart at 1.30pm

How about?

- Adding a 1 hour (for each activity group) evening climbing wall session as a bolt on (additional charge).
- Taking advantage of the facilities in your accommodation to replace a teacher led activity with a cooking session.
- Getting an instructor to lead your daywalk (is a bolt on). See fantastic views, learn about the landscape as you explore it under the guidance of one of our knowledgeable instructors.

Bundle 5B Sample Programme

Group: 37-48 young people with 3 visiting staff (could work for 16-48 young people)

	Session	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
Monday	Arrival	Arrive at 10am. Drop off luggage and stores as needed.			
	Morning 11am – 12.30pm	Whole group introductory activity led by an instructor			
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Low ropes	Mountain biking	Orienteering & den building	High ropes challenges
	After activities	Settle into accommodation. Fire practice led by school staff			
	Evening	Den building and postcard writing			
Tuesday	Morning 9.30am-12.30pm	High ropes challenges	Low ropes	Mountain biking	Orienteering & den building
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Orienteering & den building	High ropes challenges	Low ropes	Mountain biking
	Evening	Nightwalk		Nightline	
Wednesday	Morning 9.30am-12.30pm	Mountain biking	Orienteering & den building	High ropes challenges	Low ropes
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Problem solving & photo treasure hunt	Mine exploration	Baking	Discovery walk
	Evening	Nightline		Nightwalk	
Thursday	Morning 9.30am-12.30pm	Discovery walk	Problem solving & photo treasure hunt	Mine exploration	Baking
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Baking	Discovery walk	Problem solving & photo treasure hunt	Mine exploration
	Evening	Games on the field & campfire			

	Session	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
Friday	Before activities	Clean and leave unit by 10am			
	Morning	Mine exploration	Baking	Discovery walk	Problem solving & photo treasure hunt
	Afternoon	Return kit to stores. Depart at 1.30pm			

How about?

- Replacing any of your instructor led activities with canoeing, Weaselling, abseiling, bouldering or rock climbing for no change in cost.
- Replacing any of your visiting staff half day activities with another instructor led activity – just add an extra instructed session bolt on to the price.

Bundle 5C Sample Programme

Group: 37-48 young people with 3 visiting staff (could work for 16-48 young people)

	Session	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Monday	Arrival	Arrive at 10am. Drop off luggage and stores as needed.		
	Morning 11am – 12.30pm	Whole group introductory activity led by an instructor		
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Thornbridge Challenge	Thornbridge Challenge	Thornbridge Challenge
	4.30pm – 4.45pm	Thornbridge Challenge finale		
	After activities	Settle into accommodation. Fire practice led by school staff		
	Evening			
Tuesday	Morning 9.30am-12.30pm	Full day offsite: Canoeing followed by Weaselling	Full day offsite: Weaselling followed by Canoeing	High ropes challenges
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm			Firelighting and survival
	Evening			
Wednesday	Morning 9.30am-12.30pm	Full day Adventure walk	Full day Adventure walk	Full day Adventure walk
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm			
	Evening			

Thursday	Morning 9.30am-12.30pm	Firelighting and survival	High ropes challenges	Full day offsite: Weaselling followed by Canoeing
	Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm	High ropes challenges	Firelighting and survival	
	Evening			
Friday	Before activities	Clean and leave unit by 10am		
	Morning	Low ropes and problem solving	Low ropes and problem solving	Low ropes and problem solving
	Afternoon	Return kit to stores. Depart at 1.30pm		

How about?

- If you're here in the summer make the most of an evening and go for a walk up Longstone Edge to see the sunset – this could either be led by visiting staff or one of our instructors as a bolt on (additional charge).
- Having an evening session on our climbing wall (and boulder if the weather's good) as a bolt on (additional charge).