

Frequently Asked Questions for your Cotswold Tipi Experience

What things will I need to bring when staying in a tipi?

Generally other than spare clothes and your own food and drink the answer is very little. We see it as our job to provide the things you need and make your adventure a comfortable and memorable one.

Although we provide super cosy duvets and pillow, you may wish to bring your own to give yourselves that complete personalised feeling of cosiness. See "what we provide" for more details.

Do we need to bring drinking water?

Drinking water is provided and drinking water taps are adjacent to the Tipi site.

What other activities are there available to do at the site?

As part of your experience, we include complimentary use of our pay and play boat hire, allowing you to use our canoes, kayaks or stand up paddleboards to explore the lake at your leisure (subject to availability).

Additionally we have a range of water sports for you to try your hand at as a simple from an instructed activity session, including kayaking, canoeing, stand-up paddling, windsurfing and sailing or one of our many certificated courses. You can book these at the same time as your tipi experience or enquire on the day.

What is there to do in the local area?

Your Tipi experience is located in the heart of the Cotswold Water Park, a collection of over 200 naturally occurring lakes due to many years of gravel extraction. It is an area of exceptional scenery and beauty with plenty of walks and cycle routes locally, taking in some of the nearby villages and Oldie English pubs.

As part of your welcome pack, you will also receive an information leaflet on the activities available locally from cycle hire, to wake boarding, clay pigeon shooting to fishing. There is something for everyone within 5-10 minutes of our site.

What will I find at the tipi?

Each tipi has a natural matting floor, sheepskin rugs, futon sofas (that become beds with extra thick mattresses), throws, cushions, duvets, pillows, a fire pit, a table, a kitchen area with all crockery & cooking utensils provided, lighting, a BBQ & coals, wood, water and lighting equipment.

Outside your tipi, you have access to modern toilet and shower facilities and get to wake up in the morning to an outlook of 50 acres of lake and woodland.

What sort of cooking equipment is provided?

We provide mugs, cups, cutlery, plates & bowls, kitchen utensils, a frying pan, pots and a kettle.... Crikey, we even provide the kitchen sink.

I am uncertain about doing water sports?

You do not have to take part in our water sports if you do not wish to, but they are here should you want to enjoy them as part of your experience and we would encourage you to do so.

All our canoes, sit-on kayaks and stand-up paddleboards are ideal for beginners or those looking to progress and are perfectly safe. We have instructors available who will give you an induction before you get started to ensure you are comfortable and understand what to do to guarantee your safety and make the most of your experience.

We are a British Canoe Union (BCU) and Royal Yachting Association (RYA) training centre and provide powerboat safety cover on standby to assist should you need it. Beginners are very welcome, we have a reputation for getting complete novices to set-off confidently on the lake. Everyone receives fitted buoyancy aids and a safety briefing which includes a dry land capsizing drill.

We can also provide you with water proofs, helmets and wetsuits should there be the need. If you have very young children, we can provide a double-hull Kata Kanu option, to give you extra stability and peace of mind.

How many people can fit in a canoe?

Our canoes are approximately 17' long and are designed to accommodate up to two adults and up to two small children. Kata Kanus can accommodate up to 6.

Do you allow pets?

Pets are allowed on site as long as they are kept under control but unfortunately pets are not permitted in our tipis. If you wish to bring your own dog tent, you are welcome to pitch it next to your tipi for the stay.

Is Cotswold Tipi Experience open all year?

Our season operates between March to October and some of the most memorable moments can be towards the cooler months with a frost covering the ground and a toasty fire to warm yourself around.

Are Cotswold Tipi Experience staff available during my adventure?

Your adventure has been designed so we don't appear to be in the way of your family or group experience. You will be left alone as much as you desire, but as a seven day a week operational outdoor adventure centre, the site is always manned between 9am and 5pm should you need us. You will also be provided with an

emergency contact number in your pack should you need us outside of these hours.

Things you need to know...

- Pack your own food, drink, clothes and wash kit, (and swim kit during summer months) and we'll take care of the rest. We provide all kitchen & bedding equipment, toilets, hot showers, fire wood, a BBQ, fire lighting equipment, drinking water, cleaning equipment and much more.
- You should aim to arrive between 4pm and 6pm on the day of your Tipi experience to allow time for our team to help you settle in and brief you on tipi living.
- You will be provided with a full tipi brief to ensure you know how to use and operate your tipi safely and to make your experience as pleasant as possible.
- If you are making use of your complimentary pay & play boat hire, you will have a time booked in with an instructor for your induction. Please check and confirm this at the time of booking or when you arrive.
- Stag, Hen and other single sex groups are welcome but only by prior agreement and on the understanding they occupy the complete site. (Additional Terms & Conditions apply).
- All Tipi residents MUST vacate your tipi by 1pm on the day of departure. You are welcome to stay and enjoy the other activities we offer at South Cerney Outdoor for the remainder of your day. You are responsible for all your belongings throughout your Tipi experience. Please refrain from leaving any valuables in the tipi unattended.
- When making a booking, you will need to provide:
 - your group size
 - preferred dates
 - number of Tipis (each tipi sleeps up to 6)
 - a £50 deposit or payment in full if within 6 weeks (pay over the phone)
 - We will send you a confirmation e-mail once your booking has been made

What we Provide:

- Duvets and Pillows
- Blankets
- 3 Double futons
- A table
- All pots and pans
- Cooking utensils
- Crockery & Cutlery
- Mugs, Cups & Drinking Jugs
- A Kettle
- Oven Glove
- Cool Box & Ice Packs
- Washing Up Bowls
- T-Towels & Washing up cloths
- Washing Up Liquid
- Water
- BBQ Coals
- Kindling
- Basket of Fire Logs
- Fire Lighters & Matches
- Candles & Lanterns
- Gas Burner & Gas Refills