

Malham Tarn Field Centre

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND GROUP LEADERS



Malham Tarn Field Centre is one of seventeen residential Centres in the UK managed by the Field Studies Council, an independent educational charity that promotes a better understanding of our environment. The Centre provides a wide range of environmental education courses and facilities for residential or day visits, working with schools, colleges, universities and other organisations nationwide.

The Centre specialises in Biology, Geography and Geology courses. Environmental courses for schools cover all key stages and touch on most areas of the National Curriculum. Courses are developed specifically for each visiting group. School groups are also able to use the Centre as a residential base for their own courses.

The Centre acts as a venue for university and corporate groups conducting their own study or meetings. Leisure Learning courses are run for adults which range from

specialist ecology to general interest art, heritage and family courses. Details are available from the Centre or on the FSC web site. A mixture of types of group may be in the Centre at any time.

The Centre is situated on the north shore of Malham Tarn, at an altitude of 381m, set in the magnificent limestone scenery of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The estate is owned by the National Trust who lease the buildings to the FSC.

Accommodation

The Centre can cater for up to 85 residential guests. This number may be reduced when there is more than one group in the Centre at the same time. Accommodation is in three blocks, Tarn House, North Wing and High Stables. Bedrooms are for 2-6 people and many have en-suite facilities.

Bed linen is provided for visitors to make up their own beds.

Catering

7.45-9.30am	Packed lunch making
8.30am	Breakfast
6.00pm	Evening Meal

- Our catering team are pleased to help those with special diets and allergies if informed in advance.
- Facilities for making hot and cold drinks are available at all times in Tarn House.
- Visitors are asked to assist the kitchen staff during meals by stacking their crockery onto the trolleys provided in the dining room.
- We aim to provide wholesome and hearty home cooked meals. The menu is published in advance with an option to choose an alternative meal.

Teaching facilities

There are four well-equipped teaching/study rooms and a small computer suite of networked PC's. There is also a library and periodicals room, built up over the years to complement the courses on offer at the Centre.

A range of fieldwork equipment is available for use during courses as is the chemical/soils laboratory.

Facilities

- Common room / TV lounges in Tarn House and High Stables. Students may like to bring suitable DVDs to watch during their stay.
- Pool table, table football and other board games. A returnable £10 deposit is required for the hire of pool cues. The tables take 2x20p pieces.
- The Centre shop, open from 9.00 - 9.15am daily, sells a range of confectionery & drinks, toiletries, stationary, postcards and souvenirs.
- The Publications shop sells a range of relevant FSC and YDNP publications. Please enquire at the Office
- Telephones are available for students in Tarn House and High Stables. These take 10p, 20p, 50p and £1 coins. Students may receive incoming calls on 01729-830450.
- NB Mobile phone reception is not particularly good, but does work in places!
- Post is collected daily (except Sunday) at around 10.30am - outgoing mail should be placed in the 'Letters' box on the chest in the main hallway.
- Recycling bins for paper, cans, plastic bottles and glass are located around the Centre as appropriate. Please recycle as much as possible and do not use these bins for general rubbish.
- Bar available for adult visitors.

Student Behaviour

Suitable behaviour by all students is required at all times in the Centre, its grounds and when undertaking activities in the field. This is for the safety and comfort of everyone at the Centre. For the same reasons it is essential that students respond to any instructions of the FSC and accompanying staff.

The Centre requests that students and parents are informed of this requirement and that inappropriate behaviour may result in students being sent home.

Health & Safety in the Field

All the permanent teaching staff are trained in risk assessment, advanced first aid and carry a 'safety sack' while in the field. Staff follow the FSC's Operational Codes of Practice at all times.

The upland climate that is experienced can be cold, windy and wet at any time of year. As well as a drying room, a waterproof hire service is available. The outdoor, practical nature of fieldwork means it is advisable that all students have up to date tetanus vaccinations.

Security

All Centre staff are identified by uniform and/or name badges. A member of Centre staff will be on duty each evening from 6.30pm onwards. The name and location of this person are given on the duty notice board, in Tarn House. The duty member of staff will lock (keypad locks) all external doors at 11pm and be on-call throughout the night in case of emergencies. The doors are unlocked around 7.30am.

There are keypad locks on all bedroom doors. Make sure you make a note of the code!

Health and Safety

- Alcohol and drugs are not permitted in the Centre.
- Swimming in the Tarn is not allowed.
- Climbing is not allowed on the scars and rock faces on the estate.
- Smoking is not allowed in any of the buildings. The smoking area is on the veranda of Tarn House. All Centre rooms contain smoke detectors.
- In the event of a fire visitors will have been instructed what to do by Centre staff in their introductory talk. Residential rooms have a fire action plan on the door, please take time to read these.
- Students are not permitted on the Fen or Moss without prior permission from a member of Centre staff. Students are asked to keep to the boardwalk for safety reasons and to reduce environmental damage.
- Students are asked to be in their rooms by 10.45pm and quiet by 11pm, and to remain quiet until 7am.

Things to Bring

The Field Centre lies at 381m above sea level and experiences an upland climate. At any time of the year it may be bright and fine, but equally it can be cold, windy and wet. This is not a problem as long as students are prepared for it!

It is essential to bring lots of warm clothing and strong footwear. Light shower-proof anoraks are not suitable. It

is a good idea to have clothes that can be worn in layers. The area around the Centre buildings is uneven in places and may be slippery when wet. High-heeled shoes are not suitable.

The Centre is located 7 miles from the nearest town. It is important that students bring everything they need for their field course.

Essential Items <i>(you must bring these items)</i>	Important Items <i>(Very useful if you have them)</i>	Clothing
Towel and soap etc	**Packed lunch box	Warm clothing
Money for drinks etc	Thermos flask or drinks bottle	Pair of thick socks
Any medicines etc	Small rucksack	*Walking boots
	Torch and spare batteries	* Anorak or cagoule with hood * Waterproof Overtrousers
	Sun Cream (!?)	* Wellington Boots
	Camera	Gloves, scarf and hat

*Essential waterproof items and boots can be hired from the at a cost of £2.00 per item

**Packed lunch boxes and drinks bottles may be hired from the Centre

Getting Here

For groups arriving in time for evening meal please try to arrive between 4.00 and 5.30pm. Whatever your means of arrival, you are requested to inform the Centre of your arrival and departure times so that we can make arrangements.

- **By Rail:** The nearest stations are Settle and Giggleswick. Connections can be made for Leeds and Lancaster (South) or Carlisle (North). We can meet you at the station with Centre minibuses.
- **By Coach:** Large coaches cannot reach the Centre. However, we can arrange to meet your group at the end of the drive or in Malham village and transfer them to the Centre by minibus. If you are travelling by coach it is essential you contact us to arrange an appropriate meeting point for the size of your vehicle.
- **By Minibus or Car:** for those travelling by car or their own minibus.

(If students from a school are using private cars, they will not be able to use their vehicles except for course related purposes).