

UBES Weekend Trip

A beginner's guide to our popular hiking trips

Our weekend hikes to UK national parks are very popular with members. However, for a first-time member, it can be quite daunting with all the unknowns you may have. This leaflet tells you what we do so you can enjoy your time in the wild 😊

Common Questions

Where would I be staying?

We usually stay in a village hall although some trips might have a bunk house.

(If you're on a backpacking trip, we'd be camping in tents.)

What are the facilities?

For trips in village halls, heating is available. This usually has a large room where we sleep in sleeping bags and roll mats together. There is a kitchen that provides cooking and hot water, as well as tables and chairs for meals. There are flushing toilets and basins, but usually no showers.

When do we go to bed?

Bedtime is usually early Saturday morning (1am) and 10pm Saturday night for usual, far-destination trips like Lakes and Yorkshire. This is due to the drive to the national parks and tasks we have to complete to get a full day walking on Saturday and Sunday. If you are not a driver, sleeping in the cars is recommended – however please note some drivers may find it useful to have someone else awake and talking to them!

Common Questions

What will I be eating?

We usually have porridge for breakfast and our UBES vegan slop for dinner. On hikes, everyone gets cheese and pickle sandwiches (usually hummus and cucumber for vegans), and fruit. Every group will also have their own group chocolate and cake! We cater for all dietary options, but feel free to pack your own snacks if you'd like to.

Do we help on the trip?

Yes, members are encouraged to help with making sandwiches, washing up after meals and help with cleaning the hut after the trip. This helps to make the trip run smoothly for all involved!

What are the hikes?

We organize 5-7 hikes each day. They vary in length, time and difficulty. We will be out walking for a minimum of 6h each day, distances usually starting from 10km with 500m elevation. You'll get to pick the walks you prefer (though subject to demand!).

What happens if the weather is bad?

We do weather forecast checks the day before to keep everyone in the loop. Since mountain weather is can be unpredictable, walk leaders will ensure everyone has waterproofs. Scrambling will always be contingent on weather conditions; and walk leaders always have an escape route should there be a need to shorten the hike. However, if you're uncomfortable with hiking in inclement weather, don't be afraid to speak up, and we'll make the necessary arrangements needed.

Rough Timetable for Weekend

*Do note that this is a rough schedule J Timings are dependent on distances to national parks, traffic and many other factors

DAY	TIME	WHAT'S HAPPENING
Friday	18:00	Meet outside Bristol Students Union, registration, loading kit into the van, depart in cars
	18:30	Pick-up at Stoke Bishop halls
	20:30	Service station stop for dinner (most of us pack dinner)
	23:30	Arrive at hall, unload kit, sandwich making, Saturday walk sign-ups
	Sometime after midnight	Bed
Saturday	07:00	Wake up, breakfast
	08:30	Leave for hikes
	09:00	Start hike
	17:00	Finish hikes and return to the hall / hut
	17:30	Cook dinner and make sandwiches
	19:00	Dinner and washing up
	20:30	Sunday walk sign-ups
	21:00	Fun and games
	23:00	Bed
Sunday	07:00	Wake up and breakfast
	07:45	Pack up and clean hut
	09:00	Leave for hikes
	09:30	Start hikes
	16:30	Finish hike, drive back
	18:30	Dinner at Weatherspoon's
	23:00	Approximate arrival at Bristol Students Union (subject to distance from Bristol)

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