

Risk Assessment Template for Little Meadow Campsite

Little Meadow Campsite is a public campsite with toilet and shower facilities, that is used by members of the public as a base for holidays. The campsite is accessed via the A399 road between Combe Martin and Ilfracombe. The site is close to the Bristol Channel, with many adventure activities available within walking distance, for example water sports such as kayaking and yachting, walking and rock climbing.

The location of the site in close to the water, mean that an element of risk for all campers is unavoidable. However Little Meadow Campsite owners seek to reduce the risk by providing their own site specific risk assessment that can encourage members of the public to reduce these risks. We provide the template below only as a guide, and expect that each group will assess their own risks.

<i>Hazards:</i>	<i>Control measures required</i>	<i>Explanatory Notes on Hazard</i>
<i>General</i>		
<i>Injury from traffic accident on sharp corner to access road off A399</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter the campsite only approaching the site from the Ilfracombe direction if towing a caravan or driving a large motorhome. If approaching from Combe Martin, drive past the campsite entrance and use the public layby further down the road to turn around. • Leaving the campsite only turn left towards Ilfracombe and turn around either at public layby or in Hele village. 	The campsite is accessed on a sharp left hand turn as you travel from Combe Martin. This corner is dangerous, and requires special care, especially for minibuses, caravans and trucks.
<i>Hypothermia</i> particularly that induced by sudden cold wet weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check weather forecasts in advance of all activities • Ensure all campers have appropriate clothing and other equipment, including weather proof tents 	In coastal locations weather can change suddenly Northerly winds are particularly hypothermic and dangerous Please ask at the shop for weather forecast. These can change hourly.

<i>General Hazards contd:</i>	<i>Control measures required</i>	<i>Explanatory Notes on Hazard</i>
<i>Injury resulting from wind</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check weather forecasts daily during stay • When extreme weather is forecast take care that tents pegs are firmly in place and that all flaps/zips are fully done up. Site your car strategically to block the wind. Take down any gazebos and awnings. 	In windy weather parts of the campsite can suffer from gale force winds.
<i>Infection from contact with wild animals</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careful hygiene is required to ensure that hands and all cooking and eating utensils are clean, and that unnoticed contact with wild animal excrement does not lead to infection. • Use toilet and dishwashing facilities available at the campsite • Drink only water labeled as suited for drinking 	<p>Rabbits, foxes, stoats, badgers are all known to frequent the area, and North Devon District advises that infection can result where campers are not careful with hygiene.</p> <p>Farm animals including sheep, cattle and dogs do occasionally range over the campsite and can also be sources of infection</p>
<i>Burning from fire, especially camp cooking</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect the advertised distances required between tents (6m between groups, 3m between tents within one group) • Adhere to the no on ground fire rule • Do not attempt a fire bucket or barbecue during extremely windy conditions • Site camp cooking facilities carefully, ensuring they are steady and are away from inflammable material • Note the site of fire points near your camp 	<p>Campfires are not allowed on site but off ground fire buckets and barbecues are allowed. All campers must be aware of the dangers inherent in having fires outdoors, near their tents and other camping accommodation and equipment.</p> <p>Firepoints are bright red and sited around the camping area. Inside are fire extinguishers.</p>

<i>Falling injuries in dark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all group members have personal lights for use at night 	There is minimal lighting on the campsite, and only near the toilet block. Rough ground is therefore a hazard at night.
<i>Cuts from equipment, machinery</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief on avoiding touching machinery, including farm and roading machinery, • Check fields for hazards prior to setting up. 	Occasionally farm equipment and maintenance machinery may be on the campsite including tractors, JCB, dumper and mowers. On no account should children be allowed to play on such machinery
<i>Cuts from barbed wire</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief on avoidance • Check tree plantations near setting up area 	Most barbed wire has been collected and replaced with plain wire but some may still be present in certain areas.
<i>On site activities</i>		
<i>Hazards:</i>	<i>Control measures</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<i>Injury from tree climbing and play area</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All tree climbing and play equipment must only be used with supervision from an adult. • Clear briefing to all children by their parents/guardians that unsupervised activities are not allowed. • First aid 	There are a couple of climbing trees and a small wooded play area for use by our campers.

<i>Emergency Procedures</i>		
<i>First aid</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A first aid kit is kept at Reception at Little Meadow campsite and at Lydford Farm farmhouse up the track. 	The reception building is not always open, i.e. it is not always staffed.

<p>Emergency Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The campsite has no mobile phone coverage • The nearest landline is a public telephone is sited outside the Reception building • The campsite management can be contacted via phone on 01271 862222. If they are not at the campsite they are physically located at Lydford Farm farmhouse, a few hundred metres from the campsite, up the farm track. • Important numbers are as follows: Doctor: Waterside Practice Ilfracombe Phone: 01271 863840 Hospital (24 hour A&E service) North Devon District <i>(approx 12 miles, or 20 minutes by car)</i> Phone: 01271 322577 	<p>The public phone is available at all times as it is sited outside of the building.</p> <p>Where emergency helicopters are called, the top camp field would be the most suitable landing point.</p>
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Please note that this risk assessment template is an aid only, and is certainly not provided as a full risk assessment for the Little Meadow Campsite. You must identify other risks which are associated with your own planned activities and the age groups for example that you cater for. Little Meadow owners will not be held responsible for any injury that results from the lack of additional risk assessment material.