1st Carnforth Scout Group

Off Kellet Road, Carnforth. LA5 9LN.

BASE CAMP

What Three Words locations:

Entrance off Kellet Road: dote.cautious.estimated
Entrance to BaseCamp: steams.juggles.culminate

Information Pack

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1st Carnforth Scout Group

BASE CAMP

Overview

The **1st Carnforth Scout Group *BaseCamp*** is situated in the historic North Lancashire town of Carnforth, just a mile from Junction 35 of the M6 at the head of Morecambe Bay. The town's train station was made famous by the film *Brief Encounter* (1945).
The ***BaseCamp*** site can be found next to the Lancaster Canal, and is accessed just off Kellet Road (B6254), immediately next to the road bridge over the canal. It comprises of a fully-fenced and gated area of 2 main fields and the main building.

BaseCamp is perfect for many scouting activities, small group camping and local community meetings. It has a wide variety of indoor & outdoor facilities ideal for day & evening events and overnight stays. It offers a wide range of inspiring activities for everyone.

Being next to the *Lancaster Canal*, there are many opportunities for water based activities, including raft building and canoeing.

Being close to an *Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (***AONB**), ***BaseCamp*** offers many other local opportunities for hiking, bird watching and beach activities.

… 1st Carnforth Scout Group *BaseCamp* is an EXTREMELY AFFORDABLE option for many different types of groups.

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BASE CAMP

Building & indoor facilities

The main building is at the heart of the site and is a modern steel-framed, brick construction with wooden cladding. Built in **2018** to a high specification, it is very well insulated, with the main hall having underfloor heating throughout.
The building is fully wheel-chair accessible with additional disabled facilities (e.g. hoist and height-adjustable changing shower trolley).

The building comprises:

- A small entrance hall for coats and outdoor shoes, with the fire-panel and building alarm.
- Main hall, measuring 14m x 9m.

Off the main hall is a corridor to:

- A well equipped kitchen.
- 2 unisex toilets.
- A wet-room with a shower & adapted toilet.
- A storeroom with stairs up to a separate mezzanine area.

… This is a modern, well equipped building suitable for many different activities, and at a reasonable price to hire.

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BASE CAMP

Building & indoor facilities

Main Hall

This is a large hall, measuring 14m x 9m. The Hall is large enough for many different activities and meetings.

It has underfloor heating throughout, maintaining the building at around 17C all year round. This makes it ideal for activities, meetings and even a winter sleep-over.

There are a variety of tables, benches & chairs and the floor is marked for Badminton.

At one end of the Hall is an Indoor climbing wall that can be hired if you have an authorised instructor (ropes, harnesses and climbing helmets available).

Toilet Facilities

There are two separate unisex toilets, each with a wash basin.

There is also a wet-room which includes: a shower, adapted toilet (with alarm) and fully fitted with a hoist and height-adjustable changing shower trolley.

The facilities are suitable for any day activity and also group camps of up to 40 people.

Kitchen

The kitchen is equipped with an electric range-style double oven and hob, fridge, microwave, sink (hot and cold water), kettle, bin and fire extinguisher. It comes complete with many utensils including cooking pans, plates, bowls, cups, tea-towels.

Mezzanine Floor

The Mezzanine floor contains additional equipment. It open towards the main hall and can be used by Leaders for sleeping (four camp beds are available).

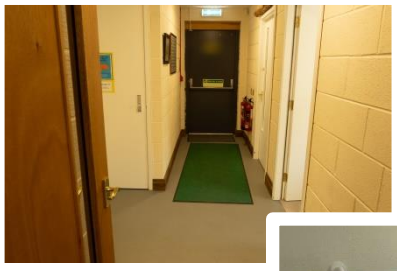
Other facilities

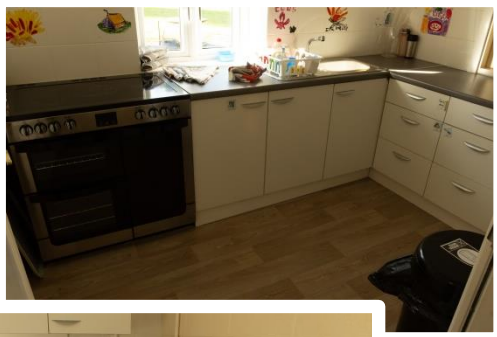
Internet is available throughout the building.

There is a Projector, laptop (with DVD player) and cables which are suitable for showing movies or formal presentations.

The store contains equipment for a variety of indoor games, including Badminton, football, and traditional Scout games.

Building & indoor facilities





Outdoor Area

BaseCamp comprises a fully-fenced and gated area of two main fields and the Scout Building.

The whole ***BaseCamp*** area is situated in an old disused quarry, originally used for the construction of the canal. As a consequence the site is very sheltered from winds. Neighbouring buildings are some distance away and typically higher than ***BaseCamp***, so any noise does not cause a disturbance.

The main field is approximately 25m x 40m, fully grassed, flat and well drained. Ideal for pitching tents.

The top-field is smaller and contains a fenced wildlife area, main camp-fire circle as well as a number of smaller individual fire-pits.

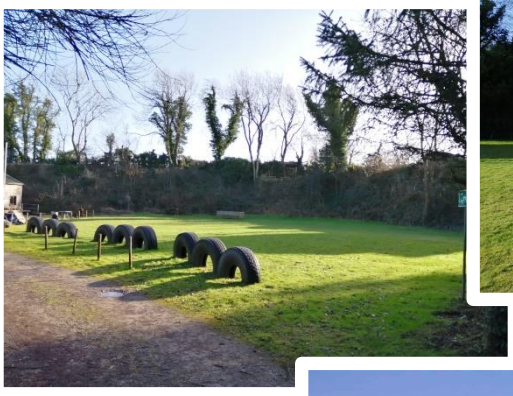
The area between the 2 fields houses a large wood-store for the camp fires, as well as a covered outdoor store for pioneering poles (1m to 5m lengths), 8 large plastic barrels for raft-building and 6, 2-man / 3-children open-top canoes.

There is a hard-stand area approx. 10m x 17m in front of the main building. This can typically be used for seating and activities. It also has a small pizza oven.

There are also two fully plumbed sinks with hot and cold water on the outside of the building under a small roofed area.

There is parking on site for between 5 and 8 vehicles (depending on size) with a turning area. For additional parking you would need to park in the areas around Kellet Road and walk back to the site.

Outdoor Area



1st Carnforth Scout Group

BASE CAMP

Available Activities

There are a wide variety of both indoor and outdoor activities at **1st Carnforth Scout *BaseCamp***.

Indoor Activities – **Main Hall**

The large hall offers scope for a wide variety of indoor activities – from sports & games to presentations & meetings. There are a variety of tables, benches & chairs that can easily be set up.

BaseCamp has a variety of activity equipment to support games and also has table football. There is a projector and laptop allowing presentations and movies to be shown. Internet is available throughout the building offering additional scope for activities.

Indoor Activities – **Overnight Visits**

The Main Hall has underfloor heating making it ideal for a winter sleep-over.

Leaders are able to sleep on the Mezzanine floor that provides both separation and also an ability to monitor what is going on in the Main Hall.

The indoor toilets and kitchen facilities also makes ***BaseCamp*** an easy option for nights away.

Indoor Activities – **Climbing Wall**

There is an impressive climbing wall in the Main Hall. Ropes, harnesses and climbing helmets are available.

Please note: *This activity requires a Scout permit. Please enquire if you require a person from 1st Carnforth with a permit as this can often be provided.*

An alternate option, without a permit, is to use the lower part of the climbing wall for a simple bouldering activity.

Outdoor Activities – **Outdoor Games**

The large flat field is ideal for all sorts of games & activities. Whether a simple game of football , cricket, or rounders to a wide variety of outdoor Scouting challenges.

Outdoor equipment is available for use on site.

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Available Activities

Outdoor Activities – **Pioneering**

The outdoor store contains a variety of pioneering poles (1m to 5m lengths), ropes, pulleys and barrels. This will allow groups to use their imaginations to build different structures such as a monkey bridge, climbing frame, or a see-saw.

Outdoor Activities – **Camp fires & outdoor cooking**

There is a main Camp fire circle and other individual smaller fire pits around the site, plus plenty of wood stocks.

Near the main building there is a small outdoor pizza oven and cooking burners & gas bottles are available for hire.

Outdoor Activities – **Water-based Activities**

There is access to the canal with a hard concrete edge for launching. Access is just across the track from ***BaseCamp*** entrance gate.

BaseCamp has six, 2-man / 3-children open-top (Canadian-style) canoes available for hire. Using the Pioneering equipment & barrels, groups are able to construct rafts also capable of going on the canal.

Please note: As the canal is shallow enough to stand at all points, no permit is required. Just suitable supervision ratios and leaders confident in leading a water-based activity.

For larger groups you can challenge half the group to canoe to a certain spot & then walk back, where the other half of the group walks to the meeting spot and canoes back.

Outdoor Activities – **Overnight Camps**

There are two fields that would support overnight camps. Group sizes up to 40 can be accommodated.

The primary limitation to larger groups is that there are only three toilets on the site.

A number if **activity Information sheets** are available for download from the website. These include **draft risk assessments**.

… if you have any other ideas on how to use the indoor & outdoor spaces please contact the *Booking Secretary*.

1st Carnforth Scout Group

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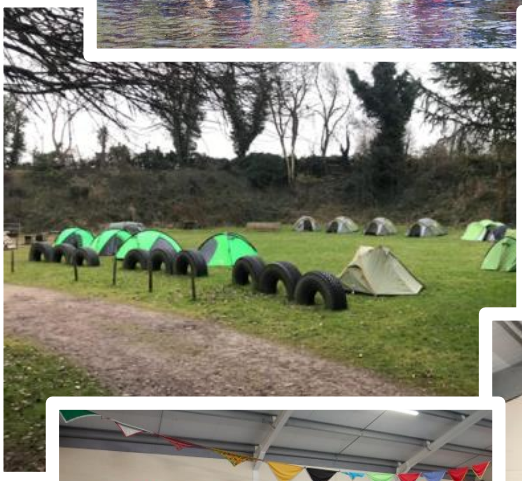
Available Activities



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Local Area Information

Carnforth Town Centre

Carnforth, while only having a population of c.6,000, is the main town in the area outside of Lancaster and Morecambe. Within a short walk from ***BaseCamp*** you can find many facilities, including a Train station, Post Office, several take-aways, hotels/pubs, pharmacy, Doctors surgery (7-days per week), together with 3 supermarkets: Aldi, Tesco and Booths.

Carnforth Train station has direct trains to many destinations including Manchester, Preston, Lancaster, Barrow-in-Furness, Skipton, Leeds.

Carnforth Historical Activities

There are various Heritage walks around Carnforth and the Morecambe Bay area. These include:

- Visit Morecambe Bay
- Wednesday Walk – The Carnforth Iron Works Trail
- Carnforth Iron Works Trail
- Carnforth Station Heritage Centre

Hiking Challenges

There are many options in the local area, whether you are looking for a two-day *Duke of Edinburgh* challenge, mixing camping at either of the Lonsdale District Activity Centres (SilverHelme & Littledale) with a hike to/from ***BaseCamp***, or combining a day's hike with an evening of games & outdoor cooking.

There are also options to walk or cycle down the canal (in either direction) or walks around nearby Warton Crag, Shore Road (head of Morecambe Bay), Morecambe Promenade or the stunning AONB around Arnside & Silverdale.

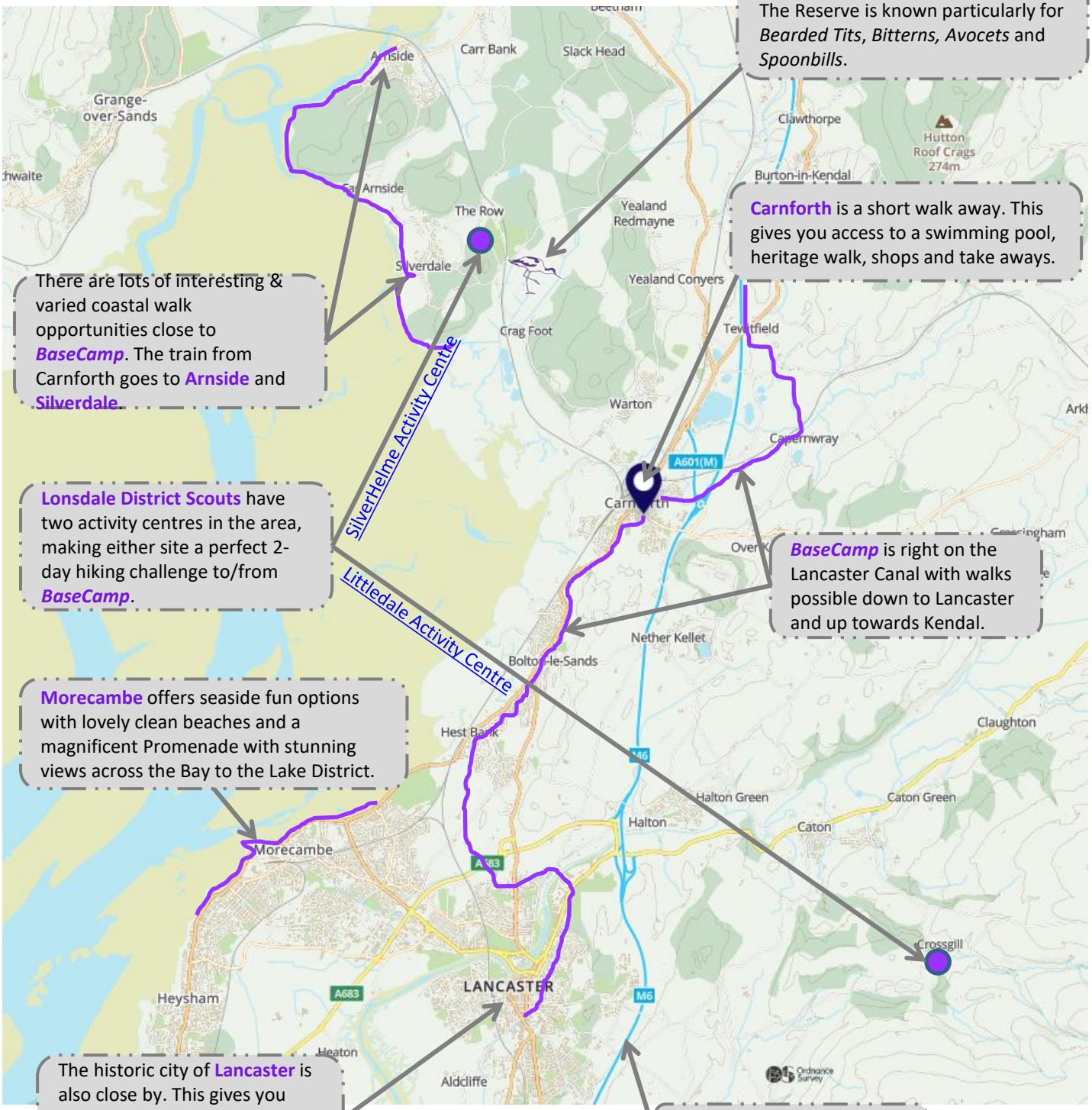
BaseCamp is also in reach of the Lake District and Yorkshire Three Peaks if you combine a night or two camping.

Other Local attractions

RSPB Leighton Moss is a short drive / train journey away, as is the historic City of Lancaster.

There are also local historic houses including Leighton Hall and Sizergh Castle.

Local Area Information



RSPB Leighton Moss is a short distance away.

The Reserve is known particularly for *Bearded Tits*, *Bitterns, Avocets* and *Spoonbills*.

Carnforth is a short walk away. This gives you access to a swimming pool, heritage walk, shops and take aways.

There are lots of interesting & varied coastal walk opportunities close to ***BaseCamp***. The train from Carnforth goes to **Arnside** and **Silverdale**.

Lonsdale District Scouts have two activity centres in the area, making either site a perfect 2-day hiking challenge to/from ***BaseCamp***.

BaseCamp is right on the Lancaster Canal with walks possible down to Lancaster and up towards Kendal.

Morecambe offers seaside fun options with lovely clean beaches and a magnificent Promenade with stunning views across the Bay to the Lake District.

The historic city of **Lancaster** is also close by. This gives you access to a variety of museums, sports centre with swimming pool, heritage walks and shops.

The M6 motorway provides easy access to ***BaseCamp***.

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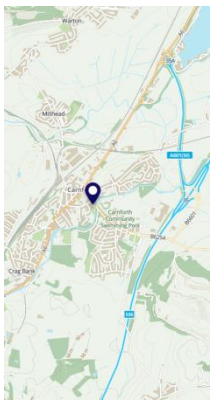
Other useful information

Location



1st Carnforth Scout *BaseCamp* (OS Ref: SD 50198 70436) is situated near to Carnforth town centre and the M6 Motorway.

The address is: ***off* Kellet Road, Carnforth. LA5 9LN.**

What Three Words locations:

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*Entrance to **BaseCamp**: steams.juggles.culminate*

The entrance off Kellet Road can take vehicles up to the size of large transit van. A track goes down a hill for c.50m, on your right is the gated entrance to ***BaseCamp***.

Risk Assessment Considerations

The ***BaseCamp*** site is mainly flat but, built in an old quarry, there are various slopes that could pose an additional risk. All groups should be made aware of the out of bounds locations as soon as the arrive on-site.

Adjacent to the site is the Lancaster Canal. Groups should only access the canal with suitable supervision.

The site has a number of mature trees around its upper perimeter. These are well managed, but care should be taken in periods of high wind, in case of falling debris..

The site does have various fire pits & outdoor cooking areas. **Do not have fires in any other location** and ensure fires are extinguish when not being supervised.

Groups should be reminded to bring torches for evening activities.

Groups should also ensure they bring their own first aid supplies.

Nearest A&E is at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary, Ashton Road, Lancaster LA1 4RP

Tel: 01524 65944

Please ensure you have considered risks & have adequate controls in place for your visit.

Click to download our draft Risk Assessments.