

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in our winter Mountain Leader Assessment courses dates are:

5 -9th March 2012 total cost including accommodation £383.50*(see details below)

During the course we will aim to cover all the main aspects of the syllabus (this can be downloaded from www.mltuk.org/docs/downloads.html). We hope that as well as being informative, the course will provide a realistic environment where you will be able to test your winter skills and through this experience gain realistic insight into the skills of leadership and demonstrate that you are ready to lead others in the demanding winter environment of the UK mountains.

Every day on the winter hills is unique and offers its own challenges, our choice and knowledge of venues helps us to find the best conditions available for each day as we attempt to cover the various aspects of the syllabus. The programme below gives an example of how we anticipate running the week. Conditions do sometimes dictate changes. The evening discussions and reviews aim to finish by 7pm providing you with time for reflection and refuelling in the comfortable atmosphere of Dalshian House www.dalshian.com or the bar at East Haugh - in easy walking distance of Dalshian.

An overview of - The Winter Mountain Leader Scheme

The Winter Mountain Leader Award mirrors the Summer Award in many ways so you will be familiar with the format. The notes below outline the course pre-requisites.

You will have successfully passed the summer ML, registered for the winter scheme with the Scottish Mountain Leader Training Board and attended an MLTS approved training course or gained exemption from training from MLTS (this option is open to those with a strong winter background).

You should have a minimum of **40 QMD's** and have climbed **10 named grade 1 gullies**. If you are not sure of the quality or suitability of your experience I can review your logged experience prior to your booking on the course. If you would like me to do this send or email a **copy (as a pdf or word.doc)** of your logged experience.

Course Preparation

A home paper will be sent out approximately two weeks before the start of the course. This paper will be reviewed on the first night of the course.

Please ensure that your log book is written up and up to date, it will be collected on Monday morning along with the home paper and your **original** First Aid certificate, not a photo copy.



Please read the check list below to ensure that you meet Mountain Leader Training Scotland's syllabus requirements for assessment.

- You should be minimum of 18yrs of age.
- Have attended an approved WML training course and have a training course report or letter of exemption from training. (Please bring a photo copy of you training course report).
- Please **highlight/mark** in your log book, **40 quality winter mountain** days in 3 mountain areas of the **UK**. This greatly helps me in assessing your logged experience on the Monday evening.
- You must have climbed a minimum of 10 named Grade one gullies.
- Current First Aid certificate. (bring original not a photo copy) The course must be relevant to the mountain environment and have a minimum of 16 hr tuition time. If in doubt please phone.
- Equipment for looking after a group of novices during a one day winter mountain experience.
- Note book and pen.
- Completed home papers.
- You should be comfortable moving in all directions with a single axe on Grade 1 ground in **all** snow conditions.

Equipment

You will be expected to supply you own equipment for the assessment. Remember that Scottish winter weather covers a whole host of conditions! If there are items that you have difficulty in obtaining, please feel free to speak to us to see how we can help, or if you feel you need clarification.

The steep ground day will involve the use of a rope, sling with an HMS crab (or two) and one general purpose mountaineering axe - you will not be expected to use technical equipment.

Maps areas for the week may include the following areas:

Where we go depends on conditions during the week. **Make sure you have Sheet 43 1:50 000**

Bring additional maps if you have them. OS 1:50 000 sheet 36 Grantown and Aviemore : sheet 41 Ben Nevis: sheet 42 Glen Garry: sheet 43 Braemar and Blair Atholl: sheet 51 Loch Tay.



Valley base and accommodation details.

The Pitlochry courses will be based at Dalshian House www.dalshian.com, a very comfortable traditional guest house set in its own grounds 5 minutes drive south of Pitlochry. Pitlochry is within easy access of a choice of venues such as Glen Shee, Dromochter and Ben Lawers to name several, providing options throughout the week depending on prevailing conditions.

We have negotiated a very reasonable rate of £29.50 per night which includes a superb menu choice of cooked breakfasts including full Scottish breakfast.

Most rooms are en suite with T.V and are on a shared basis. If you require a single room there is a supplement of £ 10.50 per night (subject to availability. *If no shared rooms are available the cost will be £40 per night).

The well equipped Guest House kitchen is available for you to use in the evenings up to 9pm to cook a meal or you may choose to eat out in a number of local venues. The local Co-op is nearby for supplies, open 8am - 10pm. Often the course choose to cook together which makes for a sociable evening and cost effective cooking.

Accommodation will be required for three nights, Sunday to Tuesday, as we will be on expedition Wednesday and Thursday nights. Showers will be available on our return from expedition to Dalshian where spare kit may be stored while we are away.

Booking (payment can be by cheque or online bank transfer)

When I receive your booking form and non returnable deposit of £100 I will confirm your place.

The course fee due to High Expectations is £295 on a self drive** / self catering basis. The course balance must be paid four weeks prior to the start of the course.

It will be your responsibility to book and pay for your accommodation directly with Dalshian House. Dalshian can accept debit/credit card payment.

Please call me on 01796 473916 if you need any further help or clarification. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Steve Spalding

Confirmation of your booking along with course details and invoice for the balance will be sent out to you on receipt of your booking fee. **This means course members car share rather than use a single mini bus.

