

LSCC HUT BOOKING POLICY

Overview statement

LSCC huts are part of the network of accommodation available to the mountaineering community in Scotland. The huts are comfortable and ideally situated, and can be booked for reasonable rates.

The guiding principles for the LSCC huts are summarised below:

- Our huts are for the enjoyment of our members and their families and friends, people in the mountaineering community, and others who are pursuing outdoor activities or engaging with the outdoor environment.
- Members receive preferential rates, however, they do not have preferential booking rights, except for LSCC meets. Two huts have dedicated members' rooms: Blackrock Bothy throughout the year, and Milehouse Members' Room during the winter.
- The huts are expected to pay for their own annual running costs out of bednight income.
- Profiteering by people staying at the huts is not permitted, although a few, specified, commercial activities are allowed.

1 Who can book a LSCC hut

A LSCC Members - full and graduating members

- LSCC members can book outwith LSCC meets:
 - ➔ individual bednights, including guests.
 - ➔ members can only have ONE guest in Blackrock Bothy at any time of year, and ONE in Milehouse Members' Room 1 November - 30 April.
 - ➔ exclusive booking for private use with friends and family, who can all be guests. The LSCC members rate applies to the whole booking.
 - ➔ official meet of another club they belong to (if that club meets criteria for "OTHER" below). Only the LSCC member is eligible for the LSCC rate, the remainder are booked at the relevant non-LSCC member rate.
- With the exception of Blackrock Bothy and the Milehouse Members' Room, terms of booking apply to members as they do for non-member bookings.
- Guests cannot stay without a LSCC member.

B Reciprocal Rights (RR) - the LSCC has kindred agreements with five clubs:

1. Scottish Mountaineering Club (**SMC**)
2. Junior Mountaineering Club Scotland (**JMCS**) -
note there are 5 sections: Edinburgh, Glasgow, Lochaber, Perth and London.

3. Pinnacle Club
4. Fell & Rock Climbing Club (**FRCC**)
5. Midland Association of Mountaineers (**MAM**).

These clubs can book the hut for official club meets and members of these clubs can make individual bookings outwith their club's meets programme. This can be either exclusive bookings or bednights. They can bring guests on the same basis as LSCC members.

Bednight charges for RR clubs are discounted, and the LSCC has corresponding arrangements for use of their huts by agreement of the clubs' respective committees.

The SMC has its own particular arrangement, whereby its members stay for free in LSCC huts, and vice versa. However, to prevent SMC members making a booking for exclusive use for friends and family and effectively getting it free, the exclusive LSCC rate is applied to a booking with a discount for every SMC member attending.

C Other Guests (G)

There are 3 categories of 'Other', each of which pays the Guest rate:

1. Other mountaineering/climbing/hiking clubs - official meets of clubs affiliated to Mountaineering Scotland or British Mountaineering Council.

- LSCC communication will be with the club's Meets Secretary.
- Individual members of an 'Other' club cannot make a private booking outwith the club's official meet programme.

2. Other groups

- Groups should be formally constituted with a committee and/or be affiliated to an organisation or institution e.g. a university climbing club, a school or college, a Duke of Edinburgh group.
- The group must be staying at the hut to partake in outdoor activities e.g. walking, kayaking, cycling, skiing, orienteering.
- The booking must be for a club meet.

3. Informal groups and individuals on club business

- The LSCC has legacy arrangements with two specific groups.
- No new arrangements will be entered into, unless with the agreement of the Hut Sub-Committee members (HSC). Agreements will be in writing and are not in perpetuity.
- Specific non-members deputising for the Hut Custodian (HC) if booked in by the HC.
- Specific non-members providing support to the Main Committee (MC).

NB: Individuals that have membership of Mountaineering Scotland or the British Mountaineering Council cannot make a personal booking at any LSCC hut.

2 Number of beds available:

	Blackrock	Milehouse	Ronnan
General	10 in main cottage in 3 rooms: 8 single beds 2 bunkbeds	17 in total in 2 rooms 12 places in two-tier alpine dorm 5 in the Members' Room (2 bunkbeds and 1 single bed)	8 single beds in 3 bedrooms
Members only	4 in Bothy in a 2-tier alpine bunk	5 in Members' Room (reserved for LSCC only 1 November to 30 April)	n/a

- For any club's meet, the huts can be booked on an exclusive basis, or a set number of beds.
- Milehouse exclusive use (17 beds) is only available during the summer season from 1 May to 31 October.
- During the winter season, 1 November to 30 April, the Milehouse Members' room is reserved for LSCC members only.
- If the booking is not for exclusive use, the other beds are available for other bookings.
- For private bookings outwith official meets, the huts can only be booked by LSCC and RR members. This can be on either exclusive use or individual bednight basis.

3 Use of Campervans and tents at huts

Total occupancy must not be exceeded for insurance purposes.

People staying in campervans or tents count towards the total number staying, and must pay the corresponding rate.

Campervans must not use electricity from huts, nor empty chemical toilets in the huts.

Blackrock – sleeping in campervans permitted; no tents.

Milehouse - up to a maximum of 6 people in tents or campervans.

Ronnan – no sleeping in tents or campervans .

4 **Bookings with Children**

- Blackrock - children between the ages of 8 and 15 are only allowed on exclusive use bookings due to the layout of the hut. Parties bringing children will be charged on a per person per night basis. Children under the age of 8 are not permitted. Fees are based on the adult making the exclusive use booking at the relevant rate based on their affiliation.
- Milehouse and Ronnan - children up to the age of 15 are only allowed on an exclusive use basis. This can either be exclusive use of the whole hut, or if the family can be accommodated in one bedroom, this can be booked as exclusive use. Parties bringing children will be charged on a per person per night basis. Fees are based on the adult making the exclusive use booking at the relevant rate based on their affiliation.
- No unaccompanied children allowed of any age.

Young people aged 16 and over are considered adults and must pay the full adult fee.

Young people aged 16 and over can attend LSCC club meets.

Age limits for official meets of RR and OTHER clubs apply as per their own policies.

The adult making a booking including children will be sent the LSCC Children in Huts policy at the time of booking.

5 **Fees – 2025/2026**

The same bednight fees apply across the 3 huts, with different rates for exclusive use due to their differing total occupancy.

Cost for

- Exclusive use = total number of beds x individual bednight fee
- Bookings for more than one night = relevant bednight rate x number of nights.

Fees will be reviewed annually by the HSC at the September HSC meeting. Increases will be recommended on the basis of whether the fees cover the operating costs of the huts.

Any proposals for changes will be taken by the HSC Convenor to the Main Committee meeting. If approved by the Main Committee the proposed fee increases will be put to the Membership at the next AGM for approval.

User category	Individual bednight rate	Exclusive use only available 1 May to 31 October at BR & MH, year-round at RN		
	All huts & MH members room	Blackrock (10 beds)	Milehouse (17 beds)	Ronnan (8 beds)
LSCC mem- ber	£6	£60	£102	£48
Reciprocal Rights (RR)	£12	£120	£204	£96
Other	£15	£150	£255	£120
SMC	Free	LSCC rate minus £6 per SMC member	LSCC rate minus £6 per SMC member	LSCC rate minus £6 per SMC member
Children - 15 years and un- der	£5	£5	£5	£5

Blackrock Bothy:

LSCC member	£5
Guest with LSCC member	£8
SMC	Free

6 Length of stay / frequency of bookings

Huts are open to bookings up to 18 months in advance (e.g. taking bookings in March 2025 until Oct 2026).

The maximum stay is 7 nights.

Repeat block bookings for the same weekend can only be made for TWO consecutive years.

There is no discount for midweek bookings

7 Making a booking

Availability is shown for each hut on the external website.

Email the relevant Booking and Finance Secretary (BFS) with dates, number of beds, number and age of any children and name of the club.

If the request is possible, the BFS provides details for the bank transfer of a £50 deposit to secure the booking. Once received, the booking confirmation is sent out.

Balance of payment normally due between 3 and 5 weeks prior to stay.

Once the balance is paid, the BFS will send the keycode and the Hut Information Sheet.

8 Refunds and cancellations

If the booking is cancelled with more than two weeks notice either a full refund, or to reschedule the meet will be offered.

If less than two weeks notice the deposit of £50 will be retained and either a refund of the balance, or to reschedule will be offered.

If cancelled with less than 2 weeks notice due to an unavoidable issue (eg. illness, hazardous weather and/or road conditions) either a full refund, or to reschedule the meet will be offered.

If booked on an exclusive use basis there is no refund on unused beds.

If booked on an exclusive use basis individual bed nights can to be added either side of the official meet by prior agreement with the BFS. This cannot be used to offset any unused beds during the core meet

9 Dogs in huts

Dogs are not allowed in huts, other than guide or assistance dogs.

10 Commercial use

LSCC huts are not to be used to generate income from commercial activities, except in the following limited circumstances:

- Commercial photography and filming at Blackrock, where the contract with the Blackmount Estate includes the use of Blackrock.
- A professional instructor hired for a LSCC training meet who conducts some or all of the course at the hut. NB – offering accommodation to the instructor is not considered a commercial activity.
- Trades people undertaking work can stay overnight where it is required for the work, and the HC and BFS agree.

The LSCC is not covered under the huts' insurance policy for injury to persons or damage to the huts during any commercial activity. In the above accepted commercial circumstances, the parties must be covered by public liability insurance for their activities.

11 Charging electric vehicles and bikes

Not allowed.

12 Complaints

Where the hut has been left dirty or damaged, the BFS will complain to the booker and seek recompense as applicable.

If this group repeatedly causes problems then, after discussion with the HSC, the LSCC can decline to take future bookings from the club across all 3 huts.