

## **Mill Cottage Booking Conditions**

### **This should be read and agreed in conjunction with the booking form**

Bookings are accepted for accommodation at Mill Cottage on the following conditions:

1. Those booking the hut must be members of the BMC or Mountaineering Scotland, either as individuals or through affiliated (including international) clubs.
2. Payment should be made by online transfer where possible. Please inform the booking secretary by email or telephone when this has been done to ensure that the keycode is sent out
3. The names of all hut users must be written in the hut register on arrival, along with the identity of the club or group involved. It is essential for the caretaker to know who has been staying when he makes his weekly visit.
4. The individual making the booking agrees to the conditions and is responsible for complying with the hut rules (as displayed in the hut) and for any damage to the building and its contents. He/she (or identified member of the group) should be familiar with the fire instructions as displayed in the hut.
5. Bookings made online are provisional only until confirmed by the bookings secretary. The full balance NON-Refundable is payable 12 weeks before date of arrival. If not paid, accommodation becomes available to others.
6. Bookings may only be made 12 months in advance.
7. Current cost is £15 per person/night; under 16s £10 per person/night, camping/campervans £10 per person/night with use of hut facilities.
8. Bookings may be received at short notice through booking secretary when space is available. Usual booking rules apply.
9. Entry is by opening a key box situated beside the door. Codes will be provided by email prior to arrival provided that full payment has been received. Make sure that the key is put back and the code cancelled when leaving.
10. Members wishing to bring anyone under the age of 18 need to comply with the guidelines on Child Protection (see Mountaineering Scotland website).
11. Maximum number in the hut is 14 and maximum number camping is 8.
12. No animals other than guide dogs are allowed in the hut.
13. No smoking please in the Hut nor in the grounds.
14. Park carefully, trying not to damage the grass.
15. There is no rubbish collection at Mill Cottage. All rubbish must be taken away and disposed of responsibly.

### **Additional Information on Mill Cottage**

Mill Cottage is run by an independent charity with close links to Mountaineering Scotland. Those using the Cottage are usually members of Mountaineering Scotland or the BMC or similar international mountaineering organisations.

The Cottage opened in 1990 after fund raising in memory of the Bell Brothers who died in the winter of 1984 in the Cairngorms when on a climb with the Heriot Watt University MC. Any profit from the running of the Cottage is donated to fund mountain safety initiatives and accommodation is free for those running safety courses.

### **Access**

Using sat/nav is not advised as it directs you through the estate to the south. If coming from the north, on the side road from Aviemore through Inshriach, cross the Feshiebridge. Take the first

right after about 300m. marked Forest Car Park. Keep left towards Sculpture Park and then right (marked Mill Cottage) downhill. In the event of snowy or icy conditions it may not be possible to drive down the final section of track. Permission has been given to use the main forestry car park which is slightly easier to reach, but please do not use the disabled car park for the sculpture trail.

### **Fire prevention**

Please observe the various signs throughout the building. In particular, do not leave gear obstructing the door, keep fire doors closed and ensure adequate lighting maintained at night for safe use of the steep stairs.

Take care when using the stove to keep the area free of flammable material. The stove should not be alight when no one in the building.

In the event of a fire, call the Fire Brigade (999) using mobile phones (even when reception seems poor). Quote post code and or map coordinates which are posted in the Cottage. Address is Mill Cottage, Feshiebridge by Kinncraig.

### **Electricity**

There are two contact breaker boxes. The left most switch in each has to be moved upwards to switch on the power. Now that there is emergency lighting in the entrance area the boxes are easily found.

There are other boxes for emergency lighting and for the heaters in the areas of the cottage where there is water....none of these should be interfered with.

When leaving the hut for the day please switch off all heaters to conserve energy.

### **Kitchen**

The kitchen is fully equipped for cooking and storage of food. There are no recycling facilities or refuse collection on site so it is necessary to take all black bags, glass etc with you on leaving. It is helpful if you bring and remove your own tea towels.

Cooking is all electric with two hobs and two microwave ovens. There are two fridges plus a fridge freezer.

### **Sleeping**

There are 3 rooms, 1 with alpine style platforms and 2 upstairs with individual bunks. Sleeping bags are necessary. All the mattresses and pillows should be wiped with a mild antiseptic when leaving.

As the stairs are very steep, the ground floor room should be available for those who would find the stairs difficult at night or in an emergency.

Visiting club groups may camp in the area east of the Cottage. Up to 8 persons may camp and use the facilities.

### **Stove**

Kindling and coal is available for the stove. Bringing your own kindling and firelighters would be helpful. Hot ash should be placed in the metal bucket and deposited around the BBQ area when cold. BBQ may be used if you bring your own charcoal and don't mind midges.

### **Wildlife**

It is a popular area for midges and in May birch flies are a particular (and painful) hazard. A herd of cattle moves through the forest at times. Damage to cars is not unknown. Chase the cattle away with care. Do not leave food uncovered to encourage the mice.

### **Damage to Cottage**

Please let us know if you damage any fixtures or fittings or have significant breakages. We would expect you to pay for any such damage as you would visitors to your own house. There have been several episodes of damage to shower fittings, only discovered later. These have been expensive to replace/repair.

### **Contacts**

Local custodian (in emergency only): Roger Gaff 01540 651245 [roger.gaff@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.gaff@btinternet.com)

Bookings Secretary: Gordon Stewart [millcottage@yahoo.com](mailto:millcottage@yahoo.com)

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