

4.9 Touring

Many rowers just row for the delight of the experience of moving a boat efficiently over water. Some take this further and prefer to explore more distant waters and travel to less familiar places.

Expectations

Everyone

Everyone is expected to:

- Ensure that they have the competence and are physically able to meet the stamina and fitness demands of the planned tour.
- Wear and carry clothes suitable for the weather conditions likely to be encountered during the tour.
- Know when a lifejacket or buoyancy aid should be carried and worn and be familiar with fitting it.
- Bring boats suitable for the conditions and in accordance with organiser's directions
- Bring and carry safety equipment as specified in the Safety Plan e.g. paddles, boat hook, ropes, bailers, life jackets/buoyancy aids.
- Check the boat and other equipment at the start of each day and ensure that it is in good condition.
- Take care of their own safety and that of their fellow rowers.
- Understand the Tour Safety Plan and Emergency Response Plan.
- Understand the route and any navigation hazards.
- Attend briefings as required. When acting as a "Boat Captain" cascade briefings to the crew.

Tour Organiser

Tour Organisers and Organising Committees are expected to:-

- Undertake a risk assessment prior to the tour and implement necessary controls.
- Appoint "Boat Captains" as focal points for route and safety briefings in tours where there is more than one boat.
- Ensure all participants are fully briefed on the route, likely conditions to be encountered, the clothing and equipment to carry and the Emergency Response Plan.
- Ensure the boats and equipment brought by participants are safe and suitable for the conditions likely to be encountered.
- If providing boats and equipment for participants, ensure that they are suitable and maintained in good order.

- Complete the online learning module [Introduction to Leading a Tour](#) on RowHow.
- Produce a risk assessment (see [RowSafe 4.1](#)) for the tour and ensure that all the barriers and controls are in place.
- Ensure that appropriate safety equipment, as specified in the Safety Plan, is carried. This may include a First Aid kit, a tool kit, lifejackets for each member of the tour, a means of communication (mobile phone or radio), lights and any other equipment identified in the risk assessment.
- Know how to transit through locks safely, if appropriate, and be able to explain this to the members of the tour.
- Ensure that there is sufficient food and water for the participants.
- Plan the route and be aware of any hazards and all road access points.
- Have an Emergency Response Plan (see [RowSafe 4.3](#)) and a Safety Plan (see [RowSafe 4.2](#)) based on the risk assessment.
- Ensure that the boats used are suitable for the tour.
- Ensure that the participants understand the plan for the tour.

Regional Rowing Councils

Regional Rowing Councils are expected to:

- Provide support and advice to Tour Organisers in their region on organising tours.

British Rowing

British Rowing:

- Provides guidance to clubs through RowSafe.
- Provides an [Incident Reporting System](#).
- Provides [Safety Alerts](#) and other safety communications.
- Provides safety training material on its website.
- Provides courses that include safety.

Further Information

- Introduction to Leading a Tour online learning module - rowhow.org/course/view.php?id=145
- [RowSafe 4.1](#) - Event Risk Assessment
- [RowSafe 4.2](#) - Event Safety Plans and Safety Rules
- [RowSafe 4.3](#) - Event Emergency Response Plan
- British Rowing Incident Reporting System - incidentreporting.britishrowing.org
- Safety Alert Archive - britishrowing.org/knowledge/safety/safety-alert-archive
- Touring Rowing - britishrowing.org/go-rowing/types-of-rowing/touring-rowing