

Looe Island Nature Reserve – Accommodation Terms & Conditions

These Terms & Conditions apply to all bookings for accommodation on Looe Island Nature Reserve, including Smugglers Cottage and Bell Tent accommodation. By making a booking, guests agree to the following conditions.

1. About Looe Island

Looe Island is a remote, inhabited nature reserve owned and managed by Cornwall Wildlife Trust, a conservation charity. Stays on the island offer a unique experience in a protected natural environment and are subject to weather, tides, sea state and conservation requirements.

2. Accommodation

- Smugglers Cottage is designed for a maximum occupancy of 2 adults.
- Bell Tent accommodation is designed for a maximum occupancy of 2 adults.
- All accommodation is self-catering.
- Guests must bring all food, drink, and personal supplies (drinking/cooking water is provided).
- There are no shops or facilities such as a pub or cafe on the island.

3. Access to the Island

Access to Looe Island is by authorised boat service only.

All crossings are tide, sea state, and weather dependent and crossing times cannot be altered to suit individual travel plans: in some cases, plans may change by several days, not just a matter of hours.

Guests must be able to board and disembark from a small boat. Access to the island involves climbing over the side of the boat onto a small landing trolley, and care is needed when negotiating the swash of waves which can cover the trolley.

Assistance is limited. Guests should therefore be reasonably mobile and capable of boarding and disembarking in varying sea conditions. As island paths are uneven and may be steep in places, guests are responsible for ensuring the accommodation and access arrangements are suitable for their needs before booking. If necessary, please contact us to discuss access requirements before booking.

Guests are not permitted to bring or use their own boats, paddleboards, kayaks, or any other watercraft while staying on the nature reserve.

4. Weather, Sea State & Tide Conditions

Due to the exposed nature of the island, crossings may be delayed, altered, or cancelled at short notice. Bookings may need to be amended or cancelled up to 24 hours before arrival due to weather or sea conditions. The decision of Cornwall Wildlife Trust regarding safe access is final.

6. Booking & Payment

Full payment is due at time of booking.

7. Cancellation by the Guest

All cancellations must be made in writing.

Cancellation charges:

- 12–8 weeks before arrival: 50% of total booking value.
- 8–4 weeks before arrival: 75% of total booking value.
- Less than 4 weeks before arrival: 100% of total booking value.

Booking fees are non-refundable once a reservation is confirmed, as these costs are passed on to us by our booking provider.

8. Cancellation or Amendment by Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Cornwall Wildlife Trust reserves the right to cancel or amend bookings due to weather, sea state, health and safety concerns, or conservation and operational requirements. Where possible, alternative dates or refunds for nights not stayed will be offered.

9. Travel Insurance

Guests are strongly advised to take out comprehensive travel insurance that covers weather-related disruption, cancellation, and curtailment. Travel insurance is particularly important due to the remote and weather and sea state dependent nature of the island.

10. Conservation & Behaviour

Looe Island is a protected nature reserve. Guests must follow all guidance provided by staff or wardens, must not disturb wildlife and must respect the sensitive environment.

Pets (including dogs), drones and unauthorised fires are not permitted on the island. Fishing is not permitted. Guests must follow all guidance designed to minimise disturbance to wildlife and sensitive habitats.

Smoking is prohibited inside all accommodation and other island buildings. During periods of high fire risk, Cornwall Wildlife Trust may restrict smoking and the use of BBQs, braziers or other ignition sources anywhere on the island.

Commercial photography, filming, and content creation for commercial purposes must be agreed in advance with Cornwall Wildlife Trust.

11. Health & Safety

Guests are responsible for their own safety and must inform Cornwall Wildlife Trust of any relevant medical conditions at the time of booking. Emergency access to the island is limited.

12. Liability

Cornwall Wildlife Trust cannot accept responsibility for travel delays, loss or damage to personal property, or injuries not caused by negligence.

13. Right to Refuse or Terminate a Stay

Cornwall Wildlife Trust reserves the right to refuse a booking or terminate a guest's stay without refund where a guest's behaviour presents a risk to wildlife, staff, other visitors, property, or the reputation of Cornwall Wildlife Trust, or where a guest fails to comply with these Terms & Conditions or instructions provided by staff or wardens.

14. Use of Income

Income generated from accommodation on Looe Island directly supports conservation work and the long-term care of the island.

15. Acceptance of Terms

By confirming a booking, guests confirm that they have read, understood, and accepted these Terms & Conditions.