

Activity Risk Assessment: Rock Climbing & Roped Scrambling

Adventure Hunter recognises that using suitably qualified and experienced Instructors reduces the risks of the activity. We always use instructors who are suitably trained and qualified and who are aware of the relevant emergency procedures. We also work within industry-recognised instructor-to-participant ratios for the activity.

- Instructors must hold the following qualification as a minimum requirement:
Top/Bottom Rope Sessions: Rock Climbing Instructor (RCI)
Multi-Pitch Climbing/Lead Climbing/Roped Scrambling Courses: Mountaineering & Climbing Instructor (MCI); Outdoor First Aid (2-day)
- Participants must be 18+ unless accompanied by a parent/carer
- Maximum Instructor to Participant Ratio:
(Top/Bottom Rope Sessions: 1:12); (Multi-Pitch/Lead-Climbing: 1:2); (Roped Scrambling: 1:3)

Identified Hazard	Who it effects	Unmanaged Risk	Control Measures	Managed Risk
Instructor falling from height	Group & Instructors	Possible Fatal High (6)	Instructors must protect themselves with the rope or other industry standard recognised means when working at height. Climbing around unprotected must be avoided at all times.	Unlikely Fatal Medium (3)
Participant falling from height	Group & Instructors	Possible Fatal High (6)	When top-roping session or multi-pitch climbing, group members/participants must be well briefed, managed and protected when operating near the crag edge or on belay stances. Constant vigilant observation required by instructors at all times. Rope systems must be recognised as industry standard and adequately backed up as necessary. Instructors must carry an appropriate first aid kit and mobile phone.	Unlikely Fatal Medium (3)
Lead Climbing/ Scrambling	Participants & Instructors	Possible Fatal High (6)	Lead climbing or scrambling must only be undertaken by suitably experienced and trained instructors (minimum MCI) with participants who have a full understanding of the risks involved and the necessary skills and training. Instructors must provide vigilant and uninterrupted supervision and be able to offer additional support and safety if required.	Unlikely Fatal Medium (3)

Rope burns	Group & Instructors	Possible Serious Medium (4)	Descent speed must be well controlled by belayers and monitored by instructors. Climbers must be instructed not to hold moving ropes when in descent.	Unlikely Minor Low (1)
Other major injuries or incidents	Group & Instructors	Possible Fatal High (6)	Instructors must also be aware of any pre-existing medical conditions within the group and management strategies. Instructors must have valid first aid training and carry a first aid kit and mobile phone at all times.	Unlikely Serious Low (2)
Injury from falling objects	Group, Instructors & Third Parties	Possible Fatal High (6)	Suitable venues must be chosen, and helmets must be worn throughout the duration of the activity (unless indoors). Care must be taken and alternative venues considered during or after adverse weather and if venues are excessively busy. Instructors must carry an appropriate first aid kit and mobile phone.	Unlikely Fatal Medium (3)
Injury from ill fitting equipment	Group & Instructors	Possible Serious Medium (4)	Instructor must check and allocate the correct size equipment and ensure it fits properly for all participants before the activity starts.	Unlikely Minor Low (1)
Entanglement / Entrapment	Group & Instructors	Possible Serious Medium (4)	Long hair should be tied back, and jewellery/loose clothing must be removed/taped over. Instructors brief must include correct position and technique.	Unlikely Serious Low (2)
Equipment Failure	Group & Instructors	Possible Fatal High (6)	Equipment must be checked for wear at regular intervals. Excessively worn equipment must be retired. Rope protectors should be used if necessary and rigging positioned to avoid any foreseeable damage.	Unlikely Fatal Medium (3)
Exposure related: Hypothermia/ Hyperthermia/ Sunstroke/ Dehydration	Group & Instructors	Possible Fatal High (6)	Groups must be suitably clothed and equipped. Instructors must be suitably trained and able to recognise and deal with signs of exposure. Carry spare warm clothing/group shelter for cold and wet conditions and plenty of water, and sun cream on hot and sunny days.	Unlikely Serious Low (2)
Minor trips, slips & falls	Group & Instructors	Probable Serious High (6)	Venues with suitable approaches and friendly top/base areas should be chosen by the instructors. Crags with unsupervised drops at the top and/or base should not be used with groups.	Possible Minor Low (2)
Other Users	Group, Instructors & Third Parties	Possible Serious Medium (4)	Instructors must assess the venue on arrival. If too busy or there is reason for concern, another venue should be considered. Helmets must be worn.	Unlikely Serious Low (2)