

Bronze Navigator Award Syllabus

Minimum course duration is 2 days with at least 12 hours of tutor contact time. Additional time may be required for inexperienced candidates.

Maximum tutor/student ratio for training and assessment is 1:6.

The Learning Outcomes

On completion of the award participants will be able to plan and safely follow walks in the countryside, primarily on paths and tracks, through being able to:

- Navigate using a variety of maps and scales.
- Use 4 and 6 figure grid references with worded descriptions to define the position of a map feature and to locate a feature on the ground.
- Orientate the map using handrails, obvious point features and major landforms.
- Use linear features (e.g. paths, tracks, clear boundaries) as handrails in simple navigation exercises.
- Relate prominent landforms such as large hills and valleys to corresponding contour information on the map.
- Orientate the map by aligning a compass needle against grid north and be aware that magnetic variation causes an inaccuracy.
- Use an orientated map to confirm direction of travel.
- Use clearly identifiable features to confirm position along the route and to recognise when the target has been overshot.
- Measure horizontal distance on the map and estimate distance on the ground using timing, pacing and simple visual judgements e.g.100m.
- Plan and implement simple routes and navigation strategies based on the above skills.
- Recognise a navigation error within a few minutes and apply simple relocation techniques using handrails and prominent features.
- Demonstrate an awareness of local and national access issues, access legislation, personal responsibilities and the Countryside Code.
- Demonstrate appropriate knowledge of walking equipment, safety equipment and emergency procedures.

Assessment Guidance Notes

- Assessment may take place immediately after training or on a separate occasion depending on the experience of the course members.
- Practical assessment should take place over a distance of 3 to 5km depending on terrain.
- The route used should preferably have frequent changes in direction to assess map orientation skills and route following decisions.
- The route used should preferably facilitate the identification of obvious adjacent point features and prominent landforms.
- Candidates should be assessed on their ability to navigate using a variety of simple line features in open countryside and/or woodland.
- Candidates should plan a safe walk of appropriate distance, explain the issues involved and estimate the time needed for a specific leg.
- Candidates should demonstrate an acceptable level of knowledge of the Countryside code.