



National
Trust

National Trust, Lake District Event Permit FAQs

Question	Answer
Why Do I need an Event Permit to use National Trust Land?	
Why do I need permission to run my event?	Any event requires the permission from the land owner to use the land, whether that might be The National Trust, The National Park, a private landowner or a utilities company. An event is defined as being organised by a professional organisation and/or is an organised game or competition for more than 25 people. All events must obtain permission of the land owner to run an event, even on 'open access' land.
Who needs a permit to run an event on National Trust land?	Any group or professional organisation wanting to run an organised game or competition for more than 25 people. If you want to go for a run, take the dog out for a walk, take your kids or a group out for a picnic and to fly kites, access to National Trust land is free. If you want to organise an event which will make or raise money, you require an event permit to use the land. We also ask for a donation so that your commercial use of the land gives a little back to maintain and repair the land.
Why do I need to apply to the National Trust for an event permit?	In the Lake District people enjoy open spaces to walk, run, climb, cycle and the freedom to roam. It's the role of the National Trust, as land managers of approximately 20% of The Lake District, to look after these spaces for the enjoyment of everyone, and for future generations. Rights of Way and Open Access land are really intended for individuals to get out and explore. Professionally run events and organised games are exempt from the CROW act. Stating that organisers of these kind of activities need to seek Landowners permission to run their activity on that land.
Do charities organising events as well as professional event companies need to get permission from land owners.	Yes, permission from landowners is required by any type of organisation or group intending to run an event for over 25 people. The National Trust is a charity - if it financially supported or subsidised other charities its charitable status could be jeopardised.
My event will be run on 'open access' land so I believe that I don't need permission from anyone to run my event.	That's not correct; this is misunderstood by many event organisers. All events must obtain permission from the land owner to run an event, even on 'open access' land.
My event crosses your land on Rights of Way, do I still need to ask permission?	The Rights of Way are a public highway that is available for use by all. They have their own regulations relating to what they can and can't be used for. For example you can't mountain bike on a footpath. Consent for an event that stays within a Public Right of Way will be granted by the Local Highway Authority. However you will still need National Trust consent for those events which stray beyond the width of a public Right of Way. We are happy to consider granting you a Licence for those events which extend onto the 'spreading room' on National Trust land, either side of the Right of Way.
My event will only run once and there will only be around 50 participants – do I still need permission?	Yes you will need permission. An event is when there are more than 25 people, and when there is a competitive element to the event or it is being organised by a professional organisation.
We have held events on NT land before and we didn't need a permit, so why do we need one now?	People are now enjoying events in the outdoors more than ever - and that's great. But with that enjoyment comes, inevitably, more erosion and damage and the need for more repair and protection. It is the role of The National Trust to protect areas of land that can't sustain events, protect event providers from liabilities of prosecution for environmental impact, support tenants and remove the risk of multiple events sharing the same venues. To help us achieve this we have introduced an event application scheme that ensures that event organisers are given the right guidance and awards them with an event permit to use the land once they can demonstrate that the event will not present a risk to the land, community and environment. The National Trust is a conservation charity with no government funding. Permit fees will help National Trust Rangers give event organisers advice and support. We are also asking for a small donation from event organisers to help cover repair and conservation work. We hope you'll understand and can support us to look after areas of The Lake District in a sustainable way.



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Timings & Advice	
How long will it take to obtain an event permit	Most successful event organisers start planning their event at least 12 months in advance so that they get the best date and location booked in. We recommend new event organisers to contact us as far in advance as possible to discuss your event so that you have sufficient time to organise the event properly. Once we receive your completed online application, if all the information is provided we aim to issue a permit within 6 weeks. If you need consent from Natural England we will handle the application for you at no extra expense but this could take up to 4 months.
How will I know if I also need permission from Natural England?	During your initial contact with the National Trust Ranger, they will let you know if you need to get permission from Natural England and will apply for permission for you. The purpose of this is to ensure that areas with special habitats (SSSIs) are adequately protected and event providers are protected from liabilities of prosecution for environmental impact. See downloads section for more information on Natural England consent.
Can I start marketing my event once I've spoken with the NT Ranger and applied for my event permit?	No, you should not market your event until you receive your event permit giving approval from the land owner to use the land, and if applicable, you have been given consent from Natural England.
Do I need to apply separately to Cumbria County Council's Event Advisors Group with an EAG1 Form?	Yes, when you receive your NT event permit you can then submit the EAG1 form to Cumbria County Council to inform all stakeholders including emergency services of your event.
Can I speak with someone first before paying £50 and going through the application process to find out if it's possible to hold my event on NT land?	Yes, we would encourage you to make contact with us first before applying. Use the contacts link on the home page to make contact with a central point of contact with NT, they will then link you to the relevant local Ranger who can help you plan your event before you apply for the permit. Email: sporteventslakes@nationaltrust.org.uk There is a contact link on the website.
Costs	
What's the £50 permit application fee for?	The National Trust is a charity so this fee covers the costs incurred by the NT Ranger to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check that your event is feasible to go ahead on the proposed land – this could be a phone call or a meeting with a Ranger. • Advise re parking and facilities suitable for your event and provide best practice tips and years of experience of working in the area • Issue your event permit to use National Trust land • Apply to Natural England if the land includes a SSSI (mandatory), for consent to use the land for an event • Highlight other land owners eg National Park, Utilities
Why is the National Trust asking for a 3% donation for events to be held on their land?	The National Trust is a conservation charity that will be here forever, for everyone, looking after these places we all love so they can be enjoyed for generations to come. Looking after The Lakes is our key role and our team of Rangers help to maintain and repair the land – it's a big job with 40 millions of visitors every year. As a charity, dependent upon membership and donations, we need help – so we are asking event organisers to donate a very small part of their entry fees, only 3%, to help us keep on top of this huge task - eg 90p will be donated from a £30 event entry fee, 15p from a £5 entry fee - it's not a lot to give back to help us keep it looking great.
What will the 3% donation from entry fees used for?	As a charity, dependent upon membership and donations, the National Trust is thankful for any donations to help pay for some of the on-going maintenance of these special places. We've set up some projects with our partners, such as Fix the Fells, which helps to repair footpaths. This job alone is huge - 4,000 tonnes of stone is needed per year for the next ten years to repair 2,000 km of upland footpaths in the Lake District. Here are some of the costs involved this work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £10 - for 1 metre of revegetation alongside a path • £25 – to plant and protecting five native trees • £50 – to repair nearly two metres of dry stone walls across our countryside • £100 – to repair 1 metre of stone path • £600 - for 1 hour of helicopter flying time to move stone
Does The National Trust make a profit out of events?	No. The National Trust is a conservation charity and our permit application fee to cover admin costs, charged to commercial and charity groups making money from using National Trust land, are in line with those charged by many other landowners, large and small.



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	To help us with upkeep of the land and damage repair we ask for a donation that is fair for all events, 3% of the event participant fees. This contributes towards the future conservation of our special places forever, for everyone.
We run our event to raise funds for charity – we don't see why we should pay for an event permit. Can this be reflected in NT permit fees?	We do appreciate some events are run by registered charities, so we've kept the permit fee to a minimum to help us provide support and guidance required. The National Trust is a charity which means that we are not allowed to subsidise another charity so we are unable to reduce/change costs.
I can't afford to donate a % age of entry fees until I know how many people have entered my event.	Don't worry, there is no upfront donation required apart from the £50 permit application fee to cover the Ranger's admin costs. We'll be pleased to receive your donation, 3 % of entry fees, after your event.
Can we choose our own donation amount, rather than % of each participant's entry fee?	Event organisers we have worked with for many years have told us that a donation per participant is the fairest way to cover the largest to smallest events. Any donation to our countryside conservation work, however small or large, is welcome. Event organisers suggested 3% felt like the right amount and if given after the event, meant there is less risk to them. By asking event organisers to donate 3%, a small part of their entry fees, they will be helping us to keep on top of the huge task of conserving and caring for The Lakes for generations of events to come.
Are there additional charges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the use of National Trust car parks and toilet facilities? If I want to erect a tent or marquee? 	Yes, we can provide additional facilities such as car parking and toilets if required – further details can be found on the costs download at the side of the homepage. If you are using a National Trust tenants' land then we will pass on these costs to the tenant – you won't need to pay twice.
I want to use land that is managed by a National Trust tenant – should I contact them for a permit?	In the first instance please contact us via the local National Trust Ranger who will advise you regarding your event and process your permit application, as it is only NT that can give permission for the event. If required, we will deal directly with the tenant on your behalf and seek their agreement for the use of the land.
Applying for Your Permit	
How long does it take to get a permit?	We advise you to start planning your event and meeting with the NT at least 12 months before your preferred date so that you have the best chance to secure the date and venue of your choice. Once we receive your completed online application, if all the information is provided we aim to issue a permit within 6 weeks. If you need consent from Natural England we will handle the application for you at no extra expense but this could take up to 4 months.
My event is new - I'd like to speak to someone for advice before I apply.	Yes, we would encourage you to make contact with us first before applying. Use the contacts link on the home page to make contact with a central point of contact with NT, they will then link you to the relevant local Ranger who can help you plan your event before you apply for the permit. Contact us via email: sporteventslakes@nationaltrust.org.uk . Further contact details are given on the website.
Who will advise and help me from the National Trust	One of the NT Rangers will be assigned to your event, to discuss the specifics of your events and assess if it is suitable to hold it on NT land. Once assigned, the same Ranger will be your point of contact throughout your planning until the event, even when the event goes beyond their area. A team of 5 Rangers cover The Lake District. If your event specifically uses Fell Foot or Ennerdale then there is an option in application for these areas. Please see the website for further contact details.
How do I apply for an event permit?	Apply online via the NT events site: www.ntlakesoutdoors.org.uk/event-permission
What happens if I don't want to apply online?	Please use the contacts link on the main page and we will work with you to get permission sorted, or Email: sporteventslakes@nationaltrust.org.uk
Which documents do I need to submit with my permit application?	Your NT Ranger will go through all of this in your initial discussion and the online application outlines everything that needs to be included. Important documents to have ready to attach are: a copy of your 3 rd Party insurance documents (£10m public liability), an outline of your Risks to Health, Safety & Management of staff, public and the environment. A guidance document is available on the web site outlining all the required information to completing the application.
What happens if I don't have all the documentation you are requesting?	Use the contacts link on the main page and we will talk with you about what is missing.



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What if the expiry date of my insurance is before the event?	Explain this when you discuss your event with a Ranger, we can still give permission for the event, but will need to see a current insurance document before your event.
When I get my event permit will my event be able to use the National Trust logo on marketing materials?	The event permit gives approval to use the specified land. Use of the NT brand is not allowed once permission has been approved for your event. The development of a partnership running events may be considered for specific events. We strongly advise that events are not marketed until an event permit is received.
Do I need to renew my event permit each year if I am intending to hold the event in the same place on NT land?	Yes, you will need to apply for each event. If you have applied before online, you can input in your previous permission number and it will auto populate the information for you.