

ARE YOU CAVING TODAY?

Have you checked the following in relation to your cave?

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W

Previous weather and water conditions for preceding few days.
Ground conditions, e.g. wet, dry, frozen.

Local knowledge of both cave and catchment area. How does the cave flood, e.g. seepage or swallet/sink? Where to sit out a flood? Does it flood immediately after rain or a number of days later? How well do you know your chosen route? Have you a guidebook, survey or a party member who knows the route/cave well?

Observation What is actually happening:- is it raining? Are thunder clouds building over your catchment area? What do local cavers think? Is everybody else coming out when you are going in?

Weather forecast – Have at least two highly specific weather forecasts for your area/cave. Remember, forecasts are usually very accurate. Weather may arrive a bit later or earlier than predicted! Have a safe wet weather alternative.

IF IN DOUBT... STAY OUT!

If you are happy that the weather and cave are OK for your trip, have you...

- ? Checked your team's competency, fitness and health for *this particular trip*?
- ? Have you the appropriate personal and technical kit and the knowledge and ability to use it correctly?
- ? Have you got an emergency kit such as spare light, whistle, first aid kit, spare food and clothing, survival bag/group shelter, spare rope, knife, etc?
- ? **If it goes wrong, have you left the following details with a *responsible, knowledgeable* person?**
- ? Participants' details
- ? Cave name, grid reference, location and intended route
- ? Parking place and car registration
- ? Contact details – mobile numbers
- ? Time of entry and call out time if no contact has been made



Remember to contact the above person when you re-emerge.

WHO ARE YOU GOING TO CALL...?

Dial 999 and ask for POLICE and then CAVE RESCUE.

www.british-caving.org.uk