

# Honister Via Ferrata and Burma Bridge Risk Assessment

Reviewed by Michael Norbury

Date 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012

<b>Potential Risk / Hazard</b>	<b>Safety Measures</b>
Fall or slip from height	<p>Group is briefed before the activity on the correct way to use their cow's tails which are attached to their sit harness. Outdoor footwear and correctly fitted helmets are worn. Instructor may decide certain members of the group will be tied in pairs with a rope whilst on a climbing section. A climb is where the group pull and stand on steel rungs / staples.</p> <p>A chest harness may also be used on small children and large adults or anyone with a heavy rucksack.</p> <p>Where the Safety Cable is Looped on Ladders and the Cargo Net, Group Members are told to clip from Loop to Loop.</p>
<b>Finger trap between wire and karabiner</b>	Cables are rigged in order to avoid this hazard.
<b>Falling Rock</b>	<p>Correctly fitted helmet is worn at all times during the activity. Group is briefed and told to short below to warn others of falling rocks. Group is encouraged to warn others of any unstable rocks.</p>
<b>Heat Exhaustion</b>	Instructor will carry adequate supplies of water for the prevailing weather conditions and will encourage the use of sun cream where appropriate.
<b>Hypothermia</b>	Adequate clothing to be worn by the group. Spare fleece carried by instructor as part of first aid equipment.
<b>Banging head in tunnels</b>	Each member of the group will be provided with a Torch and Helmet. Leader warns group when the ceiling is low.

<b>Trodden fingers when climbing</b>	Group is briefed before the activity regarding this potential injury. Leader will inform the group to leave at least 2 rungs between each person and warn the group that people may reverse moves when climbing. Group told to always clip ahead of themselves on vertical sections.
<b>Minor Injuries</b>	Leader has valid first aid qualification. First aid kit and radio carried by leader at all times.
<b>Getting lost on the summit due to low cloud</b>	Instructor carries compass and map and has been trained to use the correct bearing to enable safe retreat. Alternatively, reverse the cable down the mountain on the classic route.
<b>Bad Weather (e.g: Lightening)</b>	Instructor has access to internet at Honister for up to date weather forecast, if lightening starts as group are on the wire, leader will move quickly to safe zones. Instructor has the authority to cancel or delay the outing if he/she believes that lightening may strike.
<b>Equipment Failure</b>	Regular documented equipment checks and daily visual checks by instructor.