

# Conditions of entry...

Please read the following information before filling in the form on the opposite side of this sheet. The completion and signing of this form confirms your acceptance of the rules detailed below...

- Always follow your diver training agency's policy on safe diving practices. At no time should you undertake any dive that is beyond the level of your training or ability unless you are undergoing training or supervision from a qualified and fully insured diving instructor.
- Please note that solo diving is not allowed at Vobster Quay at any time - even if you are qualified and/or trained to do so. Any diver found to be diving solo will be asked to leave site.
- Road ways are to be kept clear at all times. Please park only in designated areas. The area in front of the quayside must be kept clear of vehicles and trailers at all times to allow access by emergency services in the event of an incident.
- Diving is not permitted outside of the site opening hours without prior arrangement with the management of Vobster Quay. Divers are required to exit the water by the following times - **4:00pm** weekdays and **4:45pm** at weekends.
- Children under 12 are not permitted at the water's edge and must be supervised by an adult at all times.
- Divers under the age of 18 must be under the direct supervision of an adult and must meet the minimum age requirements of their training agency.
- No object may be removed from the lake or the site without the express permission of the Directors of Vobster Quay.
- Barbecues are not allowed at Vobster Quay. A full range of hot food and drinks are available via the onsite catering van.
- Portable compressors are not allowed at Vobster Quay. Breathing air, enriched air nitrox and trimix fills are available at competitive rates from our filling station.
- Do not enter the water unless you have signed in and have been issued with a key tag. If you are unsure of the signing in procedure, consult a member of the site staff.
- Vobster Quay provides a number of entry points which offer a safe means to enter and exit the water. Entering or exiting the water at any point other than those designated for this purpose is not recommended.
- Always check the area you are dropping into is safe and clear of hazards before entering the water. Pay particular attention to submerged objects such as large rocks - they may be shallower than you think!
- Take precautions to minimise the risk of regulator free flows, especially during the winter months. We recommend the use of regulators specifically designed for cold water use. If in doubt, consult your regulator manufacturer.
- Even during the summer months, deeper parts of the lake can be very dark and very cold. Unless you are very confident in such conditions, we recommend that you stay away from these areas. Always use thermal protection appropriate to cold water diving, especially during the winter months.
- Do not take on any dive below 30m without an alternative air source such as a pony bottle, a rebreather 'bail out' cylinder or an isolated/independent twinset.
- Do not dive below 30m or within an overhead without a primary torch and at least one backup torch per diver. In the event of a light failure, follow your training and abort your dive.
- A detailed site plan is displayed at the main building and is also available for download from the Vobster Quay website.



- Do not enter an overhead such as the tunnel, aircraft tail or the wheelhouse unless you are properly trained to do so. Due to their confined nature, these areas can silt up very quickly and become potentially hazardous without proper training.
- We recommend that all ascents are carried out by following the side of the quarry to the surface. If you do ascend mid water, be aware of surface boat traffic and deploy a surface marker buoy to provide a stable ascent platform.
- Certain sections of the lake can be very silty and visibility can be reduced dramatically if this silt is disturbed. Avoid all contact with the lake bottom - especially with your fins - and be mindful of the 'wash' that your fins create behind you.
- Most diving attractions at Vobster Quay are marked by a buoy tied off to the attraction by a line of thick rope. If you plan to use these buoy lines for your ascent or descent, be mindful of divers that may be above or below you.
- Fresh water lakes can be very cold and very dark - always use equipment and thermal protection appropriate for such conditions. We recommend that a neoprene hood and gloves be worn at all times of the year.

## EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

### Stay safe during your visit to Vobster

In the event of an emergency, please inform a member of the Vobster Quay staff immediately. Our staff are there to assist you in such circumstances. ALL injuries - no matter how minor you think they are - must be reported to a member of our staff. Remember - we are there to help!

Vobster Quay employs a very simple diver recall signal that you should listen out for at all times when underwater. In the event of an incident that requires all divers to exit the water, a member of our staff will pound a heavy object against one of the metal ladders located at the water's edge. If you hear the diver recall signal, make a safe ascent and leave the water by the nearest safe exit.

**Please note that you are responsible for the management of your own safety whilst you are onsite. Vobster Quay staff are there to assist you but you or a member of your group must accept full responsibility for the management of any incident that may be involved in.**

## DIVE SCHOOLS, INSTRUCTORS & DIVERS 'AT WORK'

### Teaching or working at Vobster Quay?

All diving schools, instructors and divers working at the site must conform to the **Diving at Work Regulations 1997** and all other relevant standards and procedures laid down by the UK Health & Safety Executive (HSE) and the agencies they operate under.

You must have adequate insurance to cover all aspects of liability and must accept responsibility for provision of all relevant safety cover both above and below water. Our staff and facilities - including oxygen therapy units - cannot be treated as part of your emergency assistance plan.