

Bulletin No 2

DERWENT RIVER CRUISE

Thank you for your interest in the Cruise event to be held on Saturday 2nd May 2026.
We want you to enjoy the delights of this event and have a wonderful afternoon on the river.

Inevitably, there are many considerations with organising this type of event and we ask you to bare with us on the please do and please don'ts.

Below are further details to help you to understand how the event will operate.

Some of Bulletin No1 has been reproduced in this bulletin as a reminder to re-emphasise some key requirements.

The Cruise will set off from the River Gardens and participants will be able to paddle as far as Ambergate and back during the afternoon.

Paddle Peak will be overseeing the organisation of this event and will also be providing back up safety paddlers on the water.

Event Open To

We welcome entries to this event from Adults and Family Groups.
All under 18s must be accompanied by a competent parent or guardian or qualified paddler.

Craft: Kayaks, Canoes & Sups

All craft must be suitable designs with inherent buoyancy and recognised as river worthy and must only be propelled by paddle power.

Buoyancy Aids / PFDs

All participants must wear a suitable Buoyancy Aid or PFD both in good condition and well-fitting, at all times on the water.

Competence

All participants must have the competent skills required to take part in the cruise.
The organisers reserve the right to withdraw an entrant if they are unable to fully demonstrate competent paddling skills.

Distance & Fitness

Course distance is 7km (Ambergate is 3.5kms from The River Gardens). A good level of fitness will be required to take part. All participants should be able to swim with confidence.

Membership

In order to take part in the cruise, participants must be current members of Paddle UK or Members of a Club Affiliated to Paddle UK or take out a £5 single event membership (SEM) with Paddle UK (link on the Derwent River Cruise entry product for SEM).

Entries

All entries need to be made in advance on line and give full details of participants and type of craft to be used.

Entries cost £5 per craft.

Entries close at Midnight on Thursday 30th April

Sign in 10:00 to 12:30

Participants will be required to sign in with their craft and equipment (BAs / PFD) at 'Cruise Control' during the morning before they will receive a numbered bib once their craft and equipment has passed a suitability check.

Participants will also need to sign a waiver to agree that they are fit enough and possess competent paddling skills and can swim with confidence.

Event Timings for Participants

- 10:00 **Boat/Craft drop off** begins at car park, boats and equipment then transported to holding area next to launch point after parking up.
- 10:00 **Event 'Sign In' OPENS** at 'Cruise Control' – WITH Advance vetting of craft, safety equipment and BIB collection until 12:30
- 11:45 **Launch of Safety boats** overseeing launching
- 12:00 **Event Launching begins** – with monitoring of skills check
- 12:10 **Ambergate safety team launch** and make their way to the top section above Railway Bridge No 3
- 12:30 **Safety team No 2 Launch**
- 12:40 **Safety team No 1 Launch**
- 12:55 **All Craft gather** for (group photo)
- 13:00 **Craft wishing to take part in a 'timed event' depart in a mass start** (turning at Ambergate rail bridge)
- 13:05 **Cruise to Ambergate begins at leisure** and returns at leisure
- 13:15 Memento medals ready for distribution to paddlers after getting off water and in exchange for returned bibs
- 15:00 **Latest time that All boats at Ambergate start their return** to the River Gardens and Safety team No 3 starts their sweep.
- 16:00 **All Craft returned to River Gardens** and off water
- 16:00 **All BIBS returned** and confirm All are off water
- 16:00 Mingling and socialising at the Tea Rooms, round up and Prize Giving
- 17:00 **Onwards, Craft return from holding point to pick up at car park**

Parking

There are a number of car parks close to the River Gardens they are: pay & display or pay on exit or payment via an app. We will be operating a drop equipment and park system.

River Gardens Car Park - Pay & Display £3.20 over 4 hours, Max 3,000kg gross vehicle weight, Disabled badge holders Free. Car Park at **what3words**: explored.scorpions.outdoor
Entrance at: contacts.braved.inhabited

Strutt's Mills Car Parks - Adjacent to River Gardens - Pay on exit £4.00 per day contactless or Twin Pay App. **Entrances at**: **what3words**: alerting.miss.flooding and orchestra.blackbird.topmost

Belper Meadows Community Sports Club - 3 Minutes walk from River Gardens - £4.00 for 24 hours, No concession for Disabled badge holders. Car Park at **what3words**: funds.wiggling.coaching **Entrance at** quick.freshest.parked

On Arrival

If there are no nearby spaces in the River Gardens or Strutt's Mills Car Parks, we ask you to drop off your boat(s) at the River Gardens Car Park at the drop off point and park up in one of the other car parks. Then return with your Buoyancy Aids and take your equipment up to Cruise Control for equipment checks.

Car Park to Cruise Control and Boat and Equipment Check

Follow the path and signs alongside the river to Cruise Control and to the boat and equipment holding area. Please be aware that the general public may also be using this path so we ask you to keep to the river side of the path when walking between the car park and Control.

Boat and Equipment Check

On arrival at Cruise control you will be given a ticket for signing in, once your equipment has passed basic checks. Your river craft must be **'River Worthy'** and your Buoyancy aids must be in **good condition and suitable** in size for the wearer.

Cruise Control Sign in and Bib Collection

Once your equipment has been checked, sign in at Cruise Control and you will receive an event bib per craft. If you are racing you will receive a bib in the lower number order.

Launching

Launching will begin at 12:00 but there will be no access to the Cruise Course for any participants until 13:00 and before starting the cruise we wish to arrange a group gathering to achieve a photograph of all boats taking part.

Competencies

All entrants have been requested to be competent paddlers, if subsequently we assess that an entrant or crew are low in competency we reserve the right to ask that boat withdraw or to remain in the locality of the River Gardens basin.

The Cruise Course

Starting from the River Gardens the course is upstream as far as the Ambergate Railway Bridge and back. Ambergate is 3.5kms from the River Gardens.

Race participants will also race as far as the Ambergate Railway Bridge passing around an anchored Canadian boat and then back to the River Gardens.

No Landing

There is no landing allowed on any part of the Cruise Course.

Toilets

We have been asked **not to use the Tea Rooms toilets** but to use the **toilets situated in the River Gardens Car Park**

SUPs

Our recommendation is not to use leashes with paddleboards to avoid entanglement.

Next Bulletin

The next and final bulletin will contain further information and a map of the course and River Gardens and will be sent out in the week prior to the Event.