

NORFOLK WHERRY TRUST

Risk assessment summary for School and Youth Groups on board Albion

The Wherry Albion is a wooden sailing barge over 120 years old. She was a working craft and has been preserved in as authentic condition as possible. Such a historic craft is bound to have inherent risk. We know that working Wherries were crewed by children as young as six and skippered by fifteen year olds. The Trust carry out regular assessments and adopts new safety procedures and equipment where necessary. The crew are trained in First Aid and Man Overboard Recovery Procedures as well as aspects of Fire Safety. The safety of juvenile passengers on Albion is their own responsibility and of their teachers or adult leaders, who are also responsible for discipline. The party must follow the advice of the crew at all times. All passengers will be given a **comprehensive safety briefing** before sailing and are expected to comply with the advice given. In the event of persistent bad behaviours or refusal to follow advice the Trust reserves the right to put the offender ashore or cancel the cruise, at any point, without refund.

The trust is licensed by the Adventurous Activities Licensing Association (Tel 0292 075 5715) for the provision of sailing activities for school and youth groups over the age of 14.

The full risk assessment for the chartering of Albion can be made available to interested groups. However there follows a summary of potential problems that could occur and what action we take – and expect passengers to take – to avoid them or minimise any effect.

Potential Problem	Advice
Moving about the craft	Narrow walkway. Wear lifejacket. Lean inboard using hand for support if necessary. Do not run.
Person fallen overboard	Mandatory wearing of lifejackets when on deck. Lifejackets are regularly serviced and frequently checked
Recovery of person overboard	We carry lifebelts and throw lines. We have a motorised tender equipped with ladders and the crew are trained in bringing people into the tender and onto Albion.
Imminent collision	The Broads are shallow and sometimes congested waters. Any natural instinct to fend off or otherwise intervene is to be avoided. The crew will advise action to be taken.
People coming aft – blocks and ropes	This is a dangerous space – no one is to come aft without the express invitation of the skipper.

Sitting on hatch covers	This is ok but only forward of the hatch – never towards the stern
Mast	The mast moves in its housing – do not get fingers trapped
Hoisting Sail	Only under close supervision. This involves using a winch: beware of fingers , long hair, or loose clothing getting caught up
Quanting	Only under close supervision. This involves propelling the craft with a long wooden pole called a quant
Raising or lowering mast or sail	This is a potentially hazardous procedure and passengers are to comply with crew instructions
Tripping on quants – ropes and mudweights	Always keep the boat tidy and eyes open for self and others
Fire	We have a Gas Stove. Only a nominated adult may use this after instruction. Smoking or the carrying of matches etc is banned onboard. We carry fire extinguishers and fire blanket. A smoke alarm and a CO alarm are fitted in the hold
Inappropriate clothing	The Broads is susceptible to rapid changes in weather conditions. Bring clothing suitable for all weathers and non slip footwear as the decks get wet.
Injury or illness	Crew have First Aid Training –A First Aid Kit is carried – A Mobile phone is carried to summon assistance if needed.
Sun burn	Although we have a hold for people to retreat to, your group will spend most of the day exposed to the elements. Bring suitable creams.

Reviewed 10/02/2021/MH