



LighttheLakes

What is Light the Lakes?

Light the Lakes is an annual event which aims to commemorate police officers and staff who have died, whilst raising funds to help support their families.

It takes place in the Lake District at the end of June, with participants climbing the 214 "Wainwright Fells" lighting flares at each peak at 3am, just before sunrise. These flares glow across the district and are a sign of remembrance, celebration of life, and hope.

The following day, we host a group event for participants to come together and share memories and experiences, and to enjoy an afternoon of food and drink, music and entertainment in a relaxed informal setting.

How can I take part?

Light the Lakes is open to all members and supporters of the wider policing family. There is no requirement to be a serving officer or member of police staff.

Registering to take part is easy, just follow these simple steps and scan the QR code on the back of this leaflet for links for each step:

1

Book Your Peak

We charge a small fee for each peak to help encourage participation and to support our fundraising efforts. The charge is the same no matter how large your group and only needs to be paid once, not per person. Once you have booked a peak it is yours for your whole team.

2

Book Your Welcome Packs

Welcome packs are not compulsory, but most of our participants choose to purchase them. They include your flare and a t-shirt as well as other surprise goodies! Welcome packs are individual so one pack must be purchased for each member of your group who would like one.

3

Book Your Saturday Meals

Purchasing food is not compulsory and you are very welcome to join us on Saturday without doing so, and you can bring your own picnic if you prefer. However, most participants do choose to order from our hot food options, and we promise the food is delicious!

4

Purchase Additional Merch

There is no obligation to purchase anything from our shop, but we have a wide range of items available should you wish to. Our hoodies are particularly popular, and we have some new items available this year. All profits go directly to COPS to support survivor families.

5

Consider Fundraising Options

You do not have to fundraise to take part in Light the Lakes. However, many groups choose to help us raise extra funds for COPS. Each year we have an event page on Just Giving, and encourage anyone fundraising to use this platform and join our event page. There may be prizes..!

When you get to the Lake District:

1

Collect your welcome packs and any additional purchased merchandise. Collection is available from Brathay Hall from 10.00 until 22.00 on Friday. Anything not collected after this time will be available on Saturday.

2

Climb your peak overnight Friday to Saturday morning, ensuring you leave plenty of time to reach the summit and light your peak before sunrise.

3

Light your flare at 3am and see how many surrounding peaks you can spot being lit up. Pause to reflect and remember colleagues and take time to celebrate their lives and the times you shared.

4

Join us and other participants from 12pm on Saturday. This takes place at Brathay Hall where you collected your welcome pack. We will have additional merchandise on sale, as well as raffle tickets, games, and a memorial space to reflect and share memories of lost colleagues.

After the Event

After you have taken part in Light the Lakes, you can help us by:

1. Sharing your photos and videos with us! We love seeing your wonderful memories from across the two days. Please share as many as you can with us, and you may spot yourself on our social media pages. We have an annual photo and video competition so get creative with your snaps and clips during your climb.

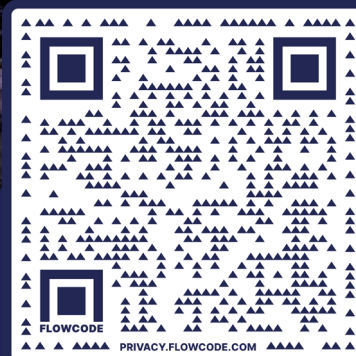
2. Spreading the word to friends and colleagues. Tell everyone you know how much you enjoyed taking part and encourage them to take part next time!

3. Booking again for next year. We love seeing people return for future events, and many participants become regular attendees. The climbing experience and view from every peak is different, so take on a different climb next year and see how it compares.





Scan for registration links



Frequently Asked Questions

How big can my group be?

Your group can be as big or small as you like. We strongly advise participants not to solo climb for safety reasons, but there is no limit as to how many people can join you. The more the merrier, and the brighter your flares will glow across the valleys!

Will our peak climb be guided?

We are not able to offer guides for Light the Lakes. Please note that when you book your peak you are booking to do this independently and must navigate yourself. We highly recommend a practice climb in daylight hours, particularly for groups who plan to complete their official climb in the dark. Some groups choose to climb in daylight hours and camp towards the summit, others choose to set off late at night or in the early hours and climb in the dark. The choice is yours! As long as you are in place to light your flare at 3am, do what feels right for you and your team.

Will other participants climb my peak?

Not officially. The Lake District National Park is publicly accessible, so we cannot stop anyone else climbing your peak. However, each peak is only bookable once, so once you have paid for a peak it is for you and your team alone and will no longer be available to book through our website. You are welcome to invite as many people as you like to join you, but you won't be officially joined by other groups. We do this to help ensure each group has as much space as possible for reflection, and to encourage coverage of as many of the 214 Wainwright Fells as we can.

I've booked a peak but can no longer make it, what should I do?

Whilst we generally cannot offer refunds for peak bookings, our ambition is always to ensure we have as many peaks as possible being lit up. If you can no longer make it, please try to let us know so that we can offer your booked peak to other participants or anybody on our waiting list!

I'm new to Light the Lakes, are all peaks difficult?

The 214 Wainwrights feature peaks suitable for various abilities. A number of peaks are well travelled with good quality footpaths. Peaks are listed on our website from highest to lowest, to help give first time participants some guidance. But do some research before booking as shortest height does not always mean easiest climb! We are happy to help answer questions where we can, and there is lots of information available online too.