

Risk Assessment on Stort Daybreak

Many organisations will need to conduct their own risk assessment in order to ensure that their particular criteria are met.

Access to Stort Daybreak for this purpose can be arranged at no cost.

The following is offered not as an all encompassing Risk Assessment but simply as a starting point.

'Practice' column identifies the project's current practice to minimise the risk. Application is through training, pre-trip talk, code of practice & appropriate supervision.

| Hazard(s) | Potential Risk(s) | Level of risk (compared to 'normal') | Practice |
|---|---|---|--|
| General:- applicable to all those on board | | | |
| Galley:- hot surfaces & foods; sharp knives, glasses etc. | burns and/or scalds; cuts to hands | normal | normal level of care/supervision |
| Badly stored or prepared food, dirty utensils, crockery etc. | food poisoning | slightly higher | refrigerator protocols, careful washing up etc. |
| Unfamiliar surroundings | everyday bumps, trips, falls etc. | slightly higher | keep walkways & access areas clear |
| Embarkation & disembarkation | trips & falls | slightly higher | secure mooring, use of ramps etc. |
| Falling overboard while under way | injury from boat, swallowing river water, drowning | slightly higher for the inexperienced | no walking along gunwales no deliberate jumping in or pushing in |
| Crush between boat & bridges, locks, tunnels | bruising & crush injury | slightly higher for the inexperienced | no use of gunwales, or legs/arms over side |
| Wet floors (inevitable in wet weather) | slips & falls | normal - floor covering is anti-slip | no running, mopping as necessary |
| Skippers and Crew:- whether project volunteers or user group members | | | |
| Frequent alighting & embarking at locks etc. | trips, slips & falls; crush between boat & bank | slightly higher for the inexperienced | step on/off stationary boat if possible use stern or bow deck rather than gunwales |
| Operating lock gates | strains, back injury | slightly higher for the inexperienced | use correct technique |
| Falling in while operating locks | crush between boat & lock, swallowing river water, being flushed into sluices, drowning | slightly higher for the inexperienced | no running, higher level of care/supervision |
| Operating lock paddles | injury to hands | slightly higher for the inexperienced | always use safety catches |
| Using wet lock ladders | injury from spinning (or flying) windlass | slightly higher for the inexperienced | always remove windlass when not in use |
| | slips & falls; crush between boat & bank | slightly higher for the inexperienced | position boat with stern deck below ladder only allow capable, confident crew to use if in doubt, bring boat in to landing stage |
| Falling overboard while pulling on ropes | crush between boat and bank, swallowing river water | slightly higher for the inexperienced | always pull against fixed point (e.g. 'T' stud) |
| Clearing rubbish from propeller | injury from propeller if allowed to turn | slightly higher for the inexperienced | always stop engine and remove key |
| | injury from sharp objects, fishing hooks etc. | slightly higher | use tools provided (rather than just hands) |
| Carers:- applicable specifically to those caring for others | | | |
| Lifting disabled people e.g. onto toilet or bunk | strains, back injury | normal | assistance available, hoist available |
| Lifting people after falls etc. | strains, back injury | normal | assistance available, hoist available |
| Embarkation & disembarkation with wheelchairs | strains, back injury | normal | assistance available, hoist available |
| Operating lift from above | falls | slightly higher | close doors before lowering lift keep doors closed until lift raised |
| Major Incidents:- | | | |
| Collisions with other boats, bank, bridges etc. | falls, injury from movement of unsecured objects | low - collisions invariably at low speed | always supervise inexperienced steerers |
| Fire | burns, trips and falls as a result of panic behaviour | low - no gas or 'burners' inside cabin | controlled evacuation procedure (to bank) |
| | injuries associated with falling in | | |
| Sinking while operating locks | crush between boat & lock, swallowing river water, being flushed into sluices, drowning | very low - always results from multiple, major errors | careful supervision and strict adherence to code of practice |