



PADI OPEN WATER COURSES

Get qualified to Dive Anywhere Around the World



Dear Diver,

Thank you for signing up to your open water dives with us at our exclusive lake at Mercers Park.

You have now completed your theory and pool skills and it's time to put your new skills into practice with four open-water training dives. These are normally split over 2 days.

Completed your pool session with Oyster?

If you have completed your Open water dives with Oyster we will have your record file ready at the lake when you arrive with all of your forms from the pool.

Completed your pool session with another dive school?

If you are joining us from another dive school, you will need to send a copy of your open water referral form and "eRecord" to us by email before coming to the lake. This allows us to check you have completed the prerequisites to completing the open water dives. If you don't have these forms, then under PADI standards, we aren't allowed to let you do the dives. You will also need to fill in the [PADI Liability forms, Statement of Safe Diving Practices and PADI Medical Forms](#) and bring them with you on the day.

If you have done Part A with us, then you do not need to fill in these forms again, unless you have had a change in medical circumstances.

Location

Mercers Country Park
Nutfield Marsh Road,
Merstham,
Redhill,
Surrey,
RH1 4EU.

Nearest Rail Stations: Merstham or Redhill (direct from London Victoria)

Bus: Take to 430 from Redhill bus station Platform 4 to Mill Lane in Merstham (opposite Watercolours Housing) then it's a 12-minute walk around the lake.

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Approximate Timings:

09:30 – Registration at the café

10:00 to 12:00 – Dive 1

12:00 to 12:30 – Refreshment and comfort break

12:30 to 14:30 – Dive 2

**'Oyster Diving' is the trading name of:
Oyster Luxury Travel and Diving Ltd**

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14:30 to 15:30 – Log book completion with the instructor, food and a chance to talk to your instructor about your future diving plans

If you need to change your course dates please give us 7 working days notice. If you change within 3 – 6 working days, you will be charged a £75 rebooking fee. If you provide less than 2 working days' notice, then you will be charged a £150 rebooking fee as we are unable to either cancel your instructor or fill your space.

What to bring:

- £18 Entry fee each day. Card only
- £20 for 3 additional tank air fills to cover both days (or £7 each if you prefer to pay as you go) – cash or card
- Logbook from the pool session
- Swimwear and change of clothes
- Towel
- Money for snacks from the café or packed lunch
- Hat and Suncream on sunny days / warm clothes in winter

If you have opted to do the dry suit speciality course at the same time then you will do an extra dive. Please bring along some warm & thin clothes to wear underneath. We will also provide you with an undersuit to help keep you nice and toasty.

Please be advised that you will not be allowed to dive if you have not completed all of the theory and pool skills.

Once certified you will be qualified to dive to a maximum depth of 18 metres. You will need to download the PADI App on your phone as your e-card will be sent by PADI and stored on your phone and other IOS and Android devices. The e-card can be shown to any PADI dive centre as proof of your certification. As a backup PADI keep details of your certification on their global database which can be accessed by any PADI dive centre around the world. If you prefer to have a physical card then this can be ordered through www.padi.com after the course.

Best wishes,

The Team at Oyster Diving

The UK's premier PADI Diving and Travel Centre

T: 0800 699 0243

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www.oysterdiving.com

www.oysterdivingshop.com

www.facebook.com/oysterdiving

www.instagram.com/oysterdiving



Keep up to date with our free WhatsApp group where you can ask others diving questions, hear about our latest offers, trips and holidays. Just scan the QR code below.



Mercers Lake



Mercers Country Park,
Nutfield Marsh Road,
Merstham,
Redhill,
Surrey,
RH1 4EU.

Facilities

- **Cafe** - serving toasties, hot & cold drinks and snacks. You are welcome to bring your food if you like. (Please note that the café is extremely limited due to the Covid pandemic.)
- **Toilets**
- **Changing facilities with showers** (please note that these are currently closed due to the Covid pandemic). If you have a long robe then please use this.
- **Classroom**
- **Entry Fee & Parking** - £15 (payable on entry). Please park in the visitor's area and you will see our van there!

Air to fill scuba tank - £5 per fill, please pay your instructor in cash who will arrange your next tank.

Don't forget – a swimming costume, towel, warm clothes and money.

FAQ's

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to Buy My Own Dive Gear?

It's not necessary as all of the equipment is provided with your course, but we do recommend purchasing your own mask & snorkel, as rental masks around the world tend to not fit not very well and leak. These are available through our [dive shop](#) and can be bought along to the lake. Many of our students also choose to purchase a [dive computer](#) these days as this makes your diving much safer and is required by law in many countries. If you would like to know more then read our blog '[Should I Purchase My Own Equipment?](#)'

What Happens After The Course?

Once you have completed the course then we process your certification typically within 3-5 days, if you need it sooner then please just [drop us a quick e-mail](#).

How Do I Carry On Diving

Once certified then you don't need to worry about doing mask skills etc, so we suggest that you do some 'fun dives' so you can enjoy some dives where you can concentrate on the marine life.

If you are interested in hearing about any trips we are running, or special offers, or would like to keep in touch then please like our [Facebook page](#), [Instagram Page](#), or visit the [dive club page](#) on our website.

If you would like to qualify to dive deeper (30m) then you can talk to us or your instructor about our [Advanced Open Water courses](#).

Once you are qualified you may also be interested in joining some of our [UK trips](#) and [overseas holidays](#) to destinations such as Malta, Red Sea and Maldives.

Can I bring the family?

Please do! Even if you aren't going on the water, Mercer's Park is a wonderful escape, with a close-to-nature feeling. It's a great place to relax while other family members are on the water.

Is there a walk around the lake?

Yes, there is. You can walk right round the lake, through woodland with a wild-at-heart feel. It takes about 20 minutes and the lakeside is a popular dog walk. The area is teeming with wildlife and we're often visited by keen bird watchers, especially in migration seasons. If you visit early morning in the Summer, you will be lucky enough to catch sight of our local kingfishers. Or you may see one of our very long-standing turtle residents basking on an old tree branch. Although not native to the lake, we think they may have been unwanted pets. Check-in with us for tips on the best and safest vantage points. And why not drop by for a Barista coffee at our Lakeview cafe when you're done?

What does the café sell?



The Cafe is inside the centre with the same opening times. There is a sunny terrace and dry lounge, offering the finest Barista-style coffee, teas of many descriptions, snacks and cold drinks, hot chocolate for the less sunny days, plus toasties in season.

What is the weather going to be like?

We dive all year round and underwater it doesn't matter what the weather is doing. [Here](#) is a link to the usual forecast that we use but we can dive into all conditions. But the lake often has its little microclimate and different local effects may affect the actual conditions so feel free to give us a call for a free weather check and our team of experienced instructors can help provide you with a current assessment of the conditions.