

Stoney Cove – Information

Location

Stoney Cove is located to the East of Coventry, about 1 hour from Stratford Upon Avon.

Address: Stoney Cove, Sapcote Road, Stoney Stanton, Leicester, LE9 4DW

Phone: 01455 273089

Email: diving@stoneycove.com

Website: <u>www.stoneycove.com</u>

Opening Times

Stoney cove is open from between 8:30 and 16:00 every day.

Booking

The first step is to register with Stoney Cove and open an account. Once you have an account you can book your diving space. Currently all divers are required to book in order to dive at Stoney Cove. If you head to the website, you can click on the "book now" button and it will guide you through the process.

Stoney cove runs a diver log scheme that allows you to become a member. This costs £30 for one year or £40 for two years. Entrance without the diverlog costs £27 and entry with diverlog costs £20 so if you are likely to visit Stoney Cove more than once, and as an Ocean Diver in training that is almost inevitable, it makes sense to register for the diverlog. You won't be able to benefit from Diverlog prices until they have manually processed your application. You will receive an email from them once your application has been processed and your account updated.

Parking

Stoney cove can get extremely busy. There is a good amount of free parking available near the water so if you are prepared to arrive early you will most likely get a space to park. When the lakeside car park is full, you will be directed to park in one of the overflow car parks, a 5 minute walk away. This is not desirable.

There is an option to reserve a car park space at weekends. This costs an additional £10. It is not really necessary if you are willing to get there early and wait in the queue, but on very busy days or if you are using very heavy kit like a twin set, it is worth considering.

Speak to your instructor about arrival times and planning for getting a space before you go there.

Equipment Rental

The club should have provided you with all the equipment you need for your first dives at Stoney, with the exception of a wetsuit or drysuit. If you do not have one, you can rent one from Stoney. In the summer months a good wetsuit is more than adequate. Current pricing is shown below but may vary so please call Stoney Cove to check pricing and reserve your equipment.

SEMI-DRY SUIT	£15.00
BOOTS	£3.00
HOODS	£2.00
DRY SUIT	£30.00

Other equipment is available for hire but the club can provide you with almost everything else you will need.

When you arrive to pick up your equipment you will need your instructor to show their qualification card in order to get it. Stoney Cove will not issue equipment to trainees without an instructor present.

ONE FINAL IMPORTANT POINT – The club will have issued you with regulators. Please check that they are in test before taking them to Stoney Cove. If you are in any way unsure of how to do this, please check with the equipment officer or your instructor.

Air Fills

There is an air fill station that can get busy but they are normally quite fast. If you do need to get a fill before your dive, try to arrive early enough to get this done before the planned dive time. The station is reasonably priced and can provide nitrox as your training progresses.

Other Facilities

There is a well stocked shop selling pretty much everything you could need for diving. They also do servicing for your equipment. There are changing rooms, toilets and showers although I have never seen the showers working.

Food and Drink

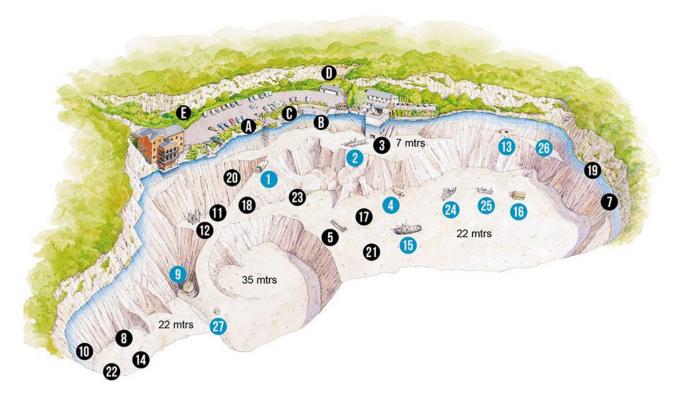
There is a pub and food hatch at Stoney Cove that serves teas, coffee, snacks and meals. You are welcome to bring your own food and drinks for use in the car park but the pub (Nemo's) will not allow you to eat your own food in there. Both the hatch and the pub take cash and card.

Rules and Regulations

Please check the website for up to date rules and regulations specific to Stoney Cove. Your instructor will cover the most important considerations during the pre dive briefing, but please do take the time to read through the rules on the website or on the notice board at Stoney Cove.

Map

A large version of this map is available on the website, but this will give you an idea of what you are jumping into.



Final Thought

Stoney Cove is a great place to learn. It offers a much richer experience than the pool and presents some very different challenges. Visibility can be low in the summer and it is very cold in the winter, but take it for what it is and enjoy the experience and more importantly, look forward to being able to use the skills you learn in the sea in the months to come.