

### **Cheddar Gorge: Climbers' Code of Conduct**

- 1.** It is the responsibility of individual climbers to ensure that before climbing here they check which crags they can climb on and when. (Log on to the BMC's website [www.thebmc.co.uk](http://www.thebmc.co.uk) and check the Regional Access Database (RAD), or contact the BMC by telephone: 0161 4456111).
- 2.** Adhere to the climbs and periods strictly as specified.
- 3.** Use the approaches and descents strictly as specified, and don't stray from them.
- 4.** Be covered by civil liability insurance, and carry, or have available to show upon request, evidence of same (e.g. BMC-affiliated Club Membership card).
- 5.** Behave responsibly in relation to the safety of all other people and their property, since pedestrians and motorists may approach a climbing zone from time to time. In particular: a) on road-level crags, advise any pedestrian who may wish to walk close to the cliff base or loiter below the crag when climbing is taking place to move back; and b) request any motorist who manages to pull under a cliff being climbed on to park in another place. On restored climbs on any road-level crag there should be sufficient room for pedestrians to pass without placing themselves under any climber or in the road.
- 6.** Act with the greatest consideration for the comfort and well-being of other persons since this is a very public place and many of the climbs will be on open view to scores or even hundreds of people at the busiest times.
- 7.** It is strongly advised that helmets are worn.
- 8.** Climbers wishing to establish new routes or restore established routes should first contact the landowner (the BMC's RAD also provides advice).
- 9.** Do not park other than in the proper car-parks, pull-ins, and lay-bys.
- 10.** Climbing access is prohibited to all 'commercial users', this being circumstances in which anyone involved either has to make a payment or is receiving a payment, including a wage or salary, for engaging in the activity. This restriction applies to all the cliffs in the gorge, on both Cheddar Gorge & Caves land and National Trust land.
- 11.** Do not interfere with the style of established climbs.
- 12.** Any matter that gives climbers cause for serious concern should, if it is likely to have an immediate impact, be reported to the office of Cheddar Gorge & Caves above Gough's Cave (tel 01934 742343), or to The National Trust (01934 844518), as applicable. Otherwise contact the BMC head office or the Local Access Representative of the BMC.