

MCU-KTN Kayaking - All You Need To Know

Once a month we host an official Mountain Club of Uganda - Kayak the Nile weekend based out of Nile River Explorers campsite, Bujagali.

MCU members can get:

- A single lesson at \$90pp (standard rate \$125)
 - Minimum 2 people.
- A bundle of 5 lessons at \$350pp (standard rate \$555)
 - Minimum 4 people for this price
 - In a group of 3 there is a \$10 per person daily supplement
 - In a group of 2 there is a \$20 per person daily supplement
 - Sometimes people want to do their first day before they commit to the five lessons. You are welcome to pay just one day (90\$) and then if you enjoy it, top up at the end of the day with the remaining 260\$. You cannot backdate previous lessons.
- A 2hr Bujagali Instruction lesson at \$20.
 - Minimum 2 people
 - Only available to people who have done at least one full day
 - Only available immediately from the kayak the Nile office, not elsewhere on the river. No transport is included.

You can take these lessons on our monthly MCU weekend, or at anytime by arrangement with Kayak the Nile.

The MCU weekends facilitate getting enough people for each ability level into a group of 4 to qualify for the biggest MCU discount, there is no guarantee 4 people sign up for each level every weekend

If there are less than 4 people in your ability group, you can still take a lesson, but will have to pay a little extra per person:

\$10 supplement per person for a group of 3

\$20 supplement per person for a group of 2
\$60 for a 1-on-1 lesson

Should this happen, then we inform the people affected of their options after booking have closed, generally on Friday morning.

What happens after the bundle?

Once you've finished your 5-lesson bundle you can pay \$70 per lesson without the need to buy another bundle (same group limitations apply)

What's Included?

- Expert coaching and guiding
- All necessary safety and kayak equipment
- A packed lunch
- Cold drinks and water
- Transport to and from the river from our base at Bujagali
- Access to the Nile River Explorers Kampala-Jinja rafting shuttle
(more details below)

We begin at our office at 9.30am and usually finish around 4:30-5:30pm. Please be at the office at 9:15am to register.

Membership:

If you are new to MCU, you can sign up [here](#) and pay either using Mobile Money or the kayaking coordinator on the day. The yearly membership fee is 100,000ugx for non-nationals, 20,000ugx for students at a Ugandan institution or 150,000ugx for families and allows you to participate in all MCU activities.

Booking:

To book your place please fill out the [MCU booking form](#)

Spaces are limited and in high demand so please book your place as soon as possible in order not to be disappointed.

Booking closes at 6pm on the Thursday prior to the weekend so that we can get everything ready.

An email with all the details will generally be sent out on the Wednesday before the weekend, so if you haven't heard anything before then don't worry.

Cancellation:

There will be a fixed \$25 cancellation fee if you cancel after 9am the day before the lesson.

The cancellation fee is payable to MCU and in return MCU will cover any extra top up charges your group members occur due to your cancellation. You will not be allowed to participate in any MCU activities until the cancellation fee has been paid. The cancellation fee does not apply if you cancel because you're notified the day before that you would have to pay a top up fee as there is no suitable group of 4 for you.

Bundles are non-transferable and non-refundable.

Payment:

Payment for the lessons you have booked is required on your arrival prior to the start of your lessons.

We accept US dollars, Ugandan shillings, British sterling and Euros.

Please be aware that VISA payments incur a 5% surcharge.

If you are booked into lessons on Saturday and Sunday payment for both lessons will be required on Saturday morning. There will be no refunds for cancellations after this time.

Transport to and from Kampala

Our usual shuttle service has been disrupted by the covid crisis. We can arrange private vehicles to and from Kampala, there is usually a need for a contribution towards the cost. If there is a big group Kayak the Nile will try and absorb the cost if we can.

Driving:

We encourage lift sharing and sharing transport with other MCU members to and from Kampala - The MCU Facebook page is where this organisation happens. If someone offers you a lift please make sure to contribute to petrol. The meet time at the Kayak the Nile office, unless arranged otherwise, is 9.30am. Remember that you being late also disrupts others that are sharing the lesson with you, so please try and leave Kampala in good time.

Please park your car neatly at the end of the car park NRE (closer to the bar end of the campsite but not in front of the office or the overland truck bays). This allows other users of the camp to function.

If you're staying at (Nile River Camp) NRC or elsewhere overnight please use their car park overnight. However, there is no problem in parking your car at NRE during the day whilst you go paddling.

Other transport options:

Coaster buses and public transport vehicles are easily available from Jinja and we can help point you in the direction of getting these if you want. It's not usually possible to do this from Kampala to Jinja in the morning of the lesson.

More information:

[Get in touch](#)

[More about us](#)

Frequency asked questions:

I've done some whitewater kayaking before, is there something I can do or is this just for beginners?

We can cater for all abilities here on the Nile and on most MCU weekends we have a whole range of paddlers attending.

What do I need to bring?

We provide all of the equipment, apart from nose clips which you can borrow in exchange of a deposit from the office.

You should bring normal sports clothes, which preferably dry quickly. T-shirt and shorts/leggings are the preferred option, but if you burn easily, you might want to consider a long-sleeve top. The sun is very strong therefore bring plenty of sunscreen to refresh during the day.

Also bring a water bottle that you can fill up at the office before you go kayaking.

My friend is visiting and would like to join in but they aren't an MCU member, can they still kayak with us?

Yes, they can join for standard rates (one lesson is \$125).

Do you provide accommodation?

No, but we're based the [Nile River Explorers campsite](#). They have space for camping and several options for dormitory or private accommodation. Please note that you have to book your own accommodation.

I've taken 3 lesson at the single rate of \$90, can I just pay the difference between that and the 5 lesson bundle and have 2 more lessons?

No.

We offer 'pay-as-you-go' at \$90 per lesson or the 5 lesson bundle for \$350. Once you've taken a lesson with us at \$90 you can upgrade for \$260 at the end of that lesson.

This retrospective discounting only applies to one lesson. In this example you could either take 2 more lessons at \$90 each, or 4 more for \$260.

I'm not sure I will have time to take my last lesson, can I give it to someone else?

No. Lessons/packages are non-transferable and non-refundable. If you are not sure best is to take one session at a time.

I woke up late and missed my ride to Kampala!

Please contact us as soon as you are aware that you will miss your lesson. You'll be required to pay a \$25 cancellation fee as your cancellation causes MCU to lose some of its group discount.

Please only sign up if you can commit to attending!