

Isle of Man Trip

In August 2022, 1st Ormskirk Rangers and 4th Ormskirk Guides went on a unit trip to the Isle of Man, a small, self-governing island in the Irish sea between Great Britain and Ireland.



We all met at our guide hut and jumped on a minibus to Liverpool. We then departed from Liverpool on a ferry and arrived on the island very late at night! After that, we travelled across the island in another minibus to The Venture Centre where we were staying for the next few days...

During our time at The Venture Centre, we took part in a range of interesting activities! Some of these were dry activities such as archery, night line (a blindfolded obstacle course), low ropes course and axe-throwing. Others were up-high activities such as climbing, abseiling (descending from cliffs/high places), high ropes and a long zipline going through the forest and over a field! There were lots of wet activities such as raft-building, kayaking, canoeing and paddleboarding. We also did coasteering, where we jumped into the sea and explored the base of the cliffs and took a tram to a river to do some ghyll-scrambling, where we waddled up the water and slid down rocks! Finally, we were given the opportunity to learn how to drive a speedboat and a sailboat. And of course, we had a campfire on the beach with s'mores, because how could we not!

On our last day on the Isle of Man, we visited a museum, a castle, and an ice cream parlour for a final treat! We took some time to learn all about the Isle of Man's history and appreciate the scenery and the coasts. We also learnt some fun facts along the way! Did you know that there is a breed of cat originating from the island called a 'Manx cat' which has a mutation causing them to have no tail? Fascinating! After getting ice cream, we headed back to the ferry and started our journey across the Irish sea to Liverpool. We then got the train back to Ormskirk.

Overall, the trip helped bring young members aged 11-16 out of their comfort zones and take on new challenges whilst also bonding as a unit. By the end of the trip, we all made incredible memories and gained new skills that will last us a lifetime!