

SITE / ACTIVITY SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT

Site specific risks are unique to any given location. Equally any activity will be subject to a range of factors that prevail in that specific environment. The following is a guide to stimulate thought as to what type of risks you might find in a specific location or activity.

Sea / Lakes	Local winds, rip---currents, effect of tide, water quality, launching/landing areas, difficult access: cliffs, dense vegetation. Local creatures: crocodiles, weaver fish. Obstacles: groynes, outflow pipes, dams, sandbanks, ships. Other water users: jet skis.
Surf	Local winds, rip---currents, effect of tide. Types of break: beach, bar, reef or other. Launching/landing areas. Other water users. Obstacles: groynes, piers. Water quality: sewage outfall pipes. Local creatures: jelly fish.
White Water	Weirs, bridges, stanchions, piers. Geology type: limestone (foot entrapments). Features: angular or rounded boulders (broaching potential). Boulders, undercuts, siphons, etc. Flood characteristics of river/catchment area. Depth of water, constrictions, specific rapids. Other water users: other boaters in the Ardeche. Local creatures: hippopotamus. Launching/landing points, gorges, dense vegetation. Water quality: old mine workings leaking into the river.
River, Sea, Lake, Canal	Water quality. Pollution: trashed cars, bacteria, litter, effluent, etc. Other water users. Launching/landing areas: restrictions in canalised sections. Water obstacles. Local weather conditions. Tides and currents.
Pool	Water quality. Condition of pool. Exit/entry points, depth areas within pool. Emergency doors in the event of a fire or for paramedic access. Polo: consider the nature of the physical contact element between participants, particularly soft tissue injuries.