

Raffia Bag Making

Claire Richards - NEW TUTOR

9th - 10th Aug 2021

Monday to Tuesday

Make your own beautiful raffia bag during the two days. Relax with raffia, plaiting and learning the skills to make your own bag and many more for family and friends if you wish. Raffia is a lovely material to work with - natural, sustainable and very flexible, which also means forgiving(!) - these days are good for complete beginners. All materials are provided, please just bring a smile...

Description

The two days will include:

Introduction to the material, what it is, where it is from

Introduction to how the raffia can be dyed (regrettably we cannot dye the material for the two days), using natural dyes

What raffia to use or discard from your work - raffia is a natural material and there is 'rubbish' which needs to be ignored

How to plait - this is one of the longest activities on the course.

Left-handed crafters are welcome on the course

Sewing your plait to a mould to get your desired bag shape, or sewing the shapes together

Finishing touches

More raffia will be available for students who might like to make more bags, plus some literature on other projects.

Students may want to move on to a hat making class after bags, which we hope to run at Missenden Abbey

Please bring with you

A comfortable pair of scissors used for sewing or similar. Need to be sharp.

A thimble if you are comfortable using.

A couple of larger sewing needles - you are supplied with a sewing needle for the class, but you may have something at home which you prefer to use - needs to be a larger needle to get through the raffia.

Available to purchase from the tutor

The materials provided by the tutor will be:

All raffia needed to make your bag - no less than 450g raffia

All raffia for sewing your bag together

Handles for your bag - two options will be offered

Use of a mould for your bag, if you need (this is loaned from the tutor)

Sewing needle

Instruction sheet/booklet, which includes instructions for more than one bag Approximate cost of all materials to be £15.00 At the end of the workshop you may purchase more raffia, available in 1kilo hanks from the tutor.

These will be minimum £15 per kilo (my supplies are subject to regular price increases due to import duties, my apologies for not being able to be exact at this time on the cost per kilo of the raffia).

Level

Suitable for all levels, beginners definitely very welcome

Course Location:


Missenden Abbey


Great Missenden
Buckinghamshire HP16 0BD


Monday	
9am	Coffee on arrival
9.15am	Welcome and tutor introductions
9.30am-1pm	Teaching session
1-2pm	Lunch for all
2-5pm	Teaching session
6.45 for 7pm	Dinner for residents
Tuesday	
7-9.15am	Breakfast for residents
9.30am-1pm	Teaching session
1-2pm	Lunch for all
2-5pm	Last teaching session

About Claire Richards - NEW TUTOR

I began working with raffia and creating hats, bags and running classes in 1993. I then 'rested' my raffia business after my son was born in 2002 and then re-started again in 2019. Through the 90s I think I taught over 200 people to make a hat, including one gentleman and a blind lady - both of whom made great hats. I am really enjoying creating new designs (particularly bags) and kits and again running workshops. I like to make the workshops as enjoyable and relaxing as possible. Previously I have been a College Lecturer and worked for the NHS....I prefer running raffia workshops.

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