

ULSAC Trip Report Form

Please include on this form any details you think will help organise another trip to this area. Please include details of any problems encountered, or any particularly good things/places in the area, such as good or awful restaurants and pubs.

Date	20-21 September, 2003
Springs or Neaps?	Neaps
Venue	Littlehampton and Selsey
Marshal	Farez Rahman & David Ebstein (overseer)
No of people	15

Accommodation	<p>Tents</p> <p>Cornfield Close, Worthing Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN17 6LD. http://www.camping-caravaning.co.uk/ 01903 714240</p> <p>Two-man tents £8.00 per night. Four-man tents £10.00. Six- & eight-man tents £12.00. Prices above includes two adults only. Extra adults £3.00 per night. Extra cars, boats, trailers, £3.00 per night. Electric hook-up £2.00 per night. Basic but sufficient campsite. 5 minutes from town centre and launch site and about 10 minutes from the air shop (in the same direction as the launch site).</p> <p>No need to book as they have lots of space, just turn up and pitch in the tent fields. Toilets and bathrooms are in a building near the reception and it has a combination lock – get the number from reception.</p> <p>Boats and vans will have to be parked in the visitors parking area, but if you arrive REALLY late they'll let you enter the campsite and park them next to your tent so that you won't wake the neighbours up. Visitors parking area is a bit awkward shaped for trailers so park the boats first.</p> <p>There is a brand new Youth Hostel right next to the slipway (see below). In the off season the whole building is hired out instead of individual beds. This is a much more convenient and cheaper alternative to caravanning. Also very good alternative to camping for a little bit more money.</p>
---------------	--

Launch Site	<p>1. Littlehampton</p> <p>Public slipway off Pier Road, at the edge of the town centre.</p> <p>This is a wide concrete slipway that can be used at any state of the tide. It's about 5 minutes' drive from the campsite and 5 minutes' drive from the air shop. There isn't any air shop within walking distance.</p> <p>It is steep so launching from minibus or van is risky, especially when slipway is algaed out. 4x4 launching recommended.</p> <p>Launching fee is £6 per boat, payable to the harbourmaster or Absolute Marine Chandlery nearby.</p> <p>There is a car park just opposite the slipway. Parking is £5 all day per car and per trailer. Cars with foreign registration park free! Dave's Belgian plates found another advantage!</p> <p>Speed limit in the river is 6.5 knots.</p> <p>There is a tap for washing boats on the hidden side of the Lifeboat building (right side if you're looking at it from atop the slipway across the street from it). The tap doesn't have a head so may need to use pliers, or bring a detachable tap head. Park the boat in the car park behind the Lifeboat station for washing.</p> <p>This slipway is much cheaper and better than the marina and closer to the harbour entrance. Littlehampton Marina charges £25 for launch and recovery per boat, £2 per meter for mooring, is affected by tide state and shuts at 5pm.</p> <p>Absolute Marine chandlery is just 5 minute away on foot in town if you need the odd boat stuff.</p> <p>Diesel and 2-stroke marine oil can be bought at the Tesco's at the big roundabout just before entering Bridge Road (see map at end of report).</p> <p>2. Selsey</p> <p>East Beach slipway</p> <p>Narrow slopy road at the end of the car park leading down</p>
-------------	--

	<p>to a gravel beach. Bad choice for trailers. May get away with it with the squidgies but it will be back breaking work (well, when is it not?). Took about 40 minutes to get the trailer over the gravel and into the water. There were cheers from onlookers when we finally got it in so it must have looked as difficult as it was! Recovery is impossible so we had to drive RIB all the way back to Littlehampton (10 miles away) to recover it. Use this slipway only if absolutely necessary.</p> <p>The Dive Sussex book mentions another slipway at the foot of the Coast Guard tower on Selsey's West Beach. It's useless for our RIBs – it is very narrow, walled, with sharp bends, locked and has a “No launching” sign. By the way, the Coast Guard tower is not a 24-hour station in case you're thinking of turning up to ask for help.</p> <p>The guidebook also advises asking the Yacht Club at Pagham for possibility of using their slip for diving the Mulberries. We did but weren't given permission because the club was still debating the issue. Worth calling them again to see if situation's changed. However, the slipway stops short of the watermark and it looked like there was still about 15 metres of gravel to wade through before hitting the water. We also didn't see any access for trailers. The Yacht Club may be useful only for squidgies.</p> <p>Other options to investigate (not inspected):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bognor Regis (to the East) • Bracklesham (to the West) • Chichester (to the West) <p>Nearest coastguard is Solent 02392 552100</p>
--	--

Air Shop	<p>Arun Nautique Unit 2, Shipyard, Rope Walk, Littlehampton Tel: 01903 730558</p> <p>It is located opposite Littlehampton Marina so it's about 5 minutes' drive from the Public Slipway onto the West side of the river (see Littlehampton Marina on map).</p>
Pubs/Food	Where did we eat?? Was it at some Indian restaurant on one of the nights?
Van Hire	H&H in Kentish Town.

