

A Straw Bale Building Course

At Village Farm, Brind, Near Howden, East Yorkshire, DN14 7LA
On Saturday 17th April and Sunday 18th April 2010



Stay in a straw bale cottage and learn how to build with straw!

A two day course to learn the basic theory and enjoy hands on experience of building with straw bales, lime render and clay plaster. During the course we will be working on a straw bale wall that will be used as a bird watching screen. We will cover each stage of the construction process. Practical sessions will be interspersed with illustrated theory sessions.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided on both days.

The course is suitable for all; architects and other professionals, builders, those considering self build and anyone with a general interest in sustainable building. No prior knowledge or experience is necessary as both practical and theoretical training can be tailored accordingly.

Carol and Sam Atkinson will lead the course, bringing their practical experience from the construction of the Straw Bale Cabin and the Straw Bale Cottage at Village Farm, their research into the thermal performance of straw bale buildings and stories from their travels to study straw bale building in other parts of the world.

Accommodation in the Cabin and Cottage over the weekend is optional. However, living in a straw bale house is a very special experience and will certainly add an extra dimension to the course. There are lots of natural building books, journals and photographs to muse over for those with the capacity to continue absorbing information into the evening!

Saturday 17th April

(Cost £65 – including lunch and refreshments)

9.00am – 4.00pm Meet at the Straw Bale Cottage for an introduction to straw bale building. Learn how to select, prepare, cut and re tie bales. Build the straw walls of the screen.

Sunday 18th April

(Cost £65 – including lunch and refreshments)

9.00am – 4.00pm Meet at the Straw Bale Cottage for an introduction to lime and clay plastering. Learn how to prepare the plasters and the straw walls. Apply first coat of plaster to the walls of the screen and the second coat of plaster to the children's playhouse constructed on an earlier course.

Appropriate clothing and equipment

Old work clothes are required and stout work boots, preferably with steel toe-caps. Depending on the weather, please bring a jumper or waterproof coat.

Long sleeves and gardening or thick gloves may be useful when handling straw. Strong rubber gloves and goggles are necessary when working with lime.

The following equipment will be available but please bring your own if you prefer

- A folding penknife or retractable Stanley knife (for cutting baler twine)
- A tape measure (for measuring bales)
- A claw hammer (for levelling the ends of bales)

Booking and payment

Advance booking is required to secure a place on the course and accommodation if required. Initially, please telephone (01430 410662 / 07930 212804) or e-mail (carolatkn@aol.com) to check availability.

We must have at least 6 participants for the course to be viable. If there are less than 6 applicants full refunds will be made.

Accommodation charges

		1 night	2 nights	3 nights
Straw Bale Cabin	Double room (self contained unit with kitchen and shower)	£70	£110	£140
Straw Bale Cottage	North bedroom (1 double)	£60	£85	£110
Straw Bale Cottage	South bedroom (3 singles)	£60	£85	£110
Straw Bale Cottage	Study (1 sofa bed)	£40	£60	£80

Kitchen and bathroom facilities are shared in the Cottage. For more information see www.strawcottage.co.uk. Prices for additional nights on application.

The closest alternative accommodation is the Loftsome Bridge Coaching House, approximately 2 miles away. (www.loftsomebridge-hotel.co.uk) A small, family run hotel, it offers a twin/double room at £67.50 and a single room at £52.50 per night. Please make your own arrangements here. Early booking is advised.

Directions

Village Farm, Brind, Howden, East Yorkshire, DN14 7LA

By road: off the B1228 between Howden and Bubwith

Nearest Railway station: North Howden (1 mile). Collection can be arranged

Further directions can be found at www.strawcottage.co.uk.

Straw Bale Building Course

BOOKING FORM

Name	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone	
Mobile	
E-mail	
Emergency contact	

Dates required	Course	Cost	No. of places
Sat 17 th April 2010	Building with straw	£65	
Sun 18 th April 2010	Plastering with lime and clay	£65	

Accommodation		1 night	2 nights	3 nights
Straw Bale Cabin	Double room (self contained unit with kitchen and shower)	£70	£110	£140
Straw Bale Cottage	North bedroom (1 double)	£60	£85	£110
Straw Bale Cottage	South bedroom (3 singles)	£60	£85	£110
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Please circle applicable charge and note dates here.....

Course fees	
Accommodation (if required)	
Total payable	£

Please make cheques payable to
Mrs C Atkinson and post to
Barmby Grange, Carr Lane, Eastrington, Goole, East Yorkshire, DN14 7QN

Special dietary needs	
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The course takes place at Village Farm, Brind, Howden, East Yorkshire, DN14 7LA.

To be signed by each course participant

I am attending this course at my own risk and accept that I am responsible for my own safety and that of those around me. I will listen carefully, follow instructions at all times and work responsibly to ensure a safe working environment for everyone.

Name (block capitals)

Signature