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19TH ANNUAL YORK CANOE RACE

Saturday 20th June 2026 Race HQ:
Millennium Bridge, YO23 ILS

Open to paddlers of all ages and abilities, families, friends and groups. Bring your own canoes, kayaks and SUPs (paddleboards), and enjoy a great day paddling York's historic city centre course when the riverside will be crowded with tourists. There is a large prizelist covering all courses and all specified categories.

This event supports HOAA a charity for people with learning disabilities.

Courses

Short: Skeldergate Bridge (2.5km)

Beginners, families, scouts & special groups

Medium: Railway Bridge (5km)

Recreational paddlers

Long: Clifton Bridge (7.5km)

Competitive paddlers

Timings:

Registration: 10.30 -12.15 pm

Briefing: 12:00pm

Race Start: 1:00pm

Presentations: 3:15pm

Entries

Adults(16 and over): £9.00 #*

Children(under 16): £4.00#*

Family entry (up to 6 persons in same craft including atleast one adult): only pay for the 2 oldest in the craft £13 to £18#*

#includes £1 per-person early bird entry discount prior to 10.05.26* + £5 British Canoeing (BC) Day Membership per person for non-BC members/ affiliate members, added at entry by BC to provide you with insurance for the event.

Yorkcanoerace@gmail.com

Toilet facilities: available 400m away in Roundtree park. Portaloos on site
Car parking: available at Butcher Terrace field near Millennium Bridge

Prizes

Following the race we have a BBQ and prize giving. There are a large range of prizes covering single and double kayaks, Canadian canoes and paddle boards, in all three race distances. There are children's medals and race certificates.

We ask for donations towards the BBQ -pay what you can afford.

Prize winners are restricted to 1 trophy only (excluding annual trophies).

Safety Regulations -IMPORTANT

Competitors must keep right of the river centre throughout the course.
All bridges must be crossed via the right hand archway (nearest to the bank).
Lookout for passing motorboats when turning.

All competitors must wear buoyancy aids.

All boats must clearly display the race bib & number.

Anyone who is a full on-the-water member of British Canoeing or is an Associate Member through membership of an Affiliated Club is insured to enter the event.

Anyone who is not covered as above will have to pay £5 for a day ticket.

3 minute time penalties will be added for any infringement of these safety regulations.

Whilst safety canoes will be in attendance and a thorough risk assessment has been carried out canoeing is an adventure sport and you take part at your own risk.

Car Parking

Car parking at Butcher Terrace field near Millennium Bridge. Please be aware that parking here is at your own risk.

We ask for a £1 donation, which goes to the Friends of Rowntree Park

Directions: Enter York on Bishopthorpe Road via A1, A64 or A19. Follow signs for York Racecourse. 400 metres further north from Terry's former factory take a right on to Butcher Terrace. The nearest postcode is YO23 1LS.

CAUTION: A gate will be opened so competitors can park on the grass near the start. This parking area is public space. Drive carefully, watch out for cyclists and pedestrians.