

Loading Open Canoes – How much gear can we carry in an open canoe?

We are frequently asked how much gear folks can carry in kayaks & open canoes. These weights include the weight of all “bodies!

Purely as a guideline:-

- 3 man 17' open canoes (Colemans) have a maximum load capacity of 660 lbs. If there are 3 paddlers of approx 12 stone each they will weigh approx 504 lbs. This will leave a gear carrying capacity of 156 lbs between the 3 paddlers.
- In a 2 man 15' canoe if there are 2 paddlers of approx the same weight this will leave approx 322 lbs gear carrying capacity between 2 paddlers.
- In our 2 man 15' Symphony the load carrying capacity is 880 lbs – with 2 folks of approx 12 stone this will leave a gear capacity of 544 lbs
- Our 2 man 16' Rangers / Symphony have a load carrying capacity of 990 lbs. This will leave a gear capacity of 654 lbs.

Note : the watertight 60 litre barrels will take a tent, sleeping bag, spare clothing – plus some extras. BDH bottles are small flask type barrels which are ideal for keeping cameras, wallets & mobile phones dry.