

BLAZE



Venue
Information

BLAZE
THE
FIREWALKING EXPERTS

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**We love to be welcomed back to venues,
we're very protective of your property**

PREPARING THE FIRELANE

If you've never seen a Blaze Firewalk you may not know how we build our fires.

Our fires only burn for 30 minutes, and we will always have at least one member of the Blaze Team in attendance at all times.

For all areas: we add 2 layers of 3mm silicon rubber matting underneath two layers of turf. We use stadium quality turf as it is the thickest turf and best turf available.

These layers of silicon rubber and turf ensures that the ground beneath the fire is protected.



PROTECTING YOUR PROPERTY

We build the fire lane wide to protect your property from the initial flames. The flames lower after 10 minutes. It only takes 30 minutes to burn the wood to the embers that we need to walk on. Any longer is a waste of a beautiful resource as after this time embers turn to ash.



Due to the large volume of events that we provide it is not possible to do a site visit for all events due to time, distance and cost.

Let's embrace technology, take photographs and videos of potential sites and send them to us



SITING THE FIRELANE

We need an area that is a minimum of 40'X30'

The more walkers there are the bigger an area we will need to accommodate walkers and spectators

The area must be clear of hazards, e.g. parking posts, pot holes, bollards, broken glass

If the designated area is a car park, cordon off the area earlier on the day to ensure no one parks their vehicle there If you're unsure how big an area is required, cordon off a large area and the Blaze team will adjust it

Our equipment and supplies are heavy, bulky and manually lifted to the firewalk area. Due to this we need to get our van as close as possible to the area we're building the firewalk.

We won't lift our equipment over long distances, up hills or steps or over obstacles like fences



CLEANING AND CLEARING

THE FIREWALK AREA

Blaze will clean and clear up the once the firewalk is complete and all firewalkers have left the firewalking area

We will need somewhere to put the turf such as a biffa type bin, mini 2yd skip, a compost area or we can break it up and disperse it in a wilding/overgrown area

Blaze will not take the turf away

We will give the area a good scrub clean afterwards but there may be some sandy residue on hard surfaces or a sooty outline on grass



THE TRAINING ROOM

We need a **private room** for the pre-firewalk training

The training is for firewalkers only.

No spectators, photographers, videographers or anyone not taking part in the firewalk

Chairs, if available, set out in rows, theatre style please, with an extra chair for the trainer.

We don't use overhead projectors or anything that needs an electrical supply. It is the trainer and walkers that will use this room

The pre-firewalk training area cannot be an open area off or above a bar or restaurant, nor an area that is used as a cut through/shortcut to kitchens, toilets, exits etc

We have had the training in gazebos. If your event is during cold months, please can the gazebo be heated. It's difficult being heard over the sound of shivering and chattering teeth



FAQs

Do we play music? Yes, we bring a PA system to play music during the firewalk

Do you need lighting? We bring lights with us to control the brightness when we're firewalking. We never used to as we like to be able to see the glowing embers to make sure they are evenly raked without hotspots, but it made photography and videography difficult/challenging.

Do we need barriers? We bring barriers, ground to waist height barriers to keep spectators a safe distance from the fire. If you have hard metal barriers available we're happy to use those.

How is the ground protected from the fire, will there be any damage? We first lay down a 5mm silicon rubber mat, then two layers of stadium quality thick turf to protect the ground beneath and surrounding the fire. There won't be any damage to your property.

Will there be any mess left behind? We clean and clear up afterwards using the buckets of water to scrub sooty footprints left by walkers and any mud/ash that we may drop when disposing the firewalk remains. The best comment we received from a pub landlord was that he now had to sort the rest of the carpark to match how clean the firewalk area was.

Does Blaze have Public Liability Insurance? Yes we have £10,000,000 Public Liability Insurance, and we have a comprehensive risk assessment. If you don't have a copy of both of these documents, call or email Karen for copies. 07712048042 and karen@blazefirewalking.co.uk

Do we need power supply indoors or outside? No, we don't use anything technical that needs to be plugged in during the pre-firewalk area. Outside at the firewalking area we use multiple power stations for our lighting and PA system

Have we got fire extinguishers? No, we don't use them. Fire extinguishers are designed to be kept in one place. They are not meant to be loaded into the back of a van and transported around the country, then propped up inside the barriers, potentially being damaged when dropped, bumped or tipped over. We use multiple buckets of water. Anyone can pick up a bucket of water and aim it at fire if needed. Plus at the end of the firewalk we use those buckets of water to douse the fire and to clean up afterwards.

This is why we need a water tap close to the firewalk site to fill our buckets. We bring those buckets plus hoses and tap adapters.





About BLAZE

The first fundraising firewalk in the world was held by Martin Sterling on the 5th of November 1984 for his martial arts group.

The sole creator of Blaze was Martin Sterling. A career martial artist, he learnt the art and science of firewalking on a research trip into Indian martial arts in 1983. He studied the art at the feet of the masters in India for many months before returning to the UK in 1984.

Blaze has been running events involving firewalking since that time.

Blaze is now being managed by Karen Sterling

Karen and Martin were married in the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham in January 2008 before Martin went to theatre to remove a GBM brain tumour. When Martin died in November 2008 Karen had a decision to make, to return to Scotland and nursing or to remain in Nottingham to carry on the amazing legacy that Martin left with Blaze.

Karen has been firewalking for over 32 years, with Blaze since 2005 and has provided over 2700 firewalking events.

Karen was a Registered Nurse for 22 years working in Accident & Emergency, Trauma, Surgical Admissions and for 11 years was a Sister in an Intensive Care Unit. She has degrees in psychology and biochemistry. Her other interests include Human Behavioural Studies, Hypnotherapy, NLP, Havening and EFT Practitioner. She is presently trying to talk herself out of doing a Masters in Psychology!



Contact

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Head trainer

BLAZE, the Firewalking Experts

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