



## Bountiful Baskets: A Choice of Designs

Date 6 & 7 September 2025  
10am – 4.30pm

Cost: £180 includes some great tuition, a stunning venue, tea and coffee throughout the day and a home-made tray bake. You need to bring your own packed lunch. There is a fridge and microwave if needed.

Additional material fee: Between £17- £20 (Waiting for supplier to publish 2025 prices). All equipment is provided.

If you have any special access/food or disability requirements, please contact us by email: [info@cowshedcreative.co.uk](mailto:info@cowshedcreative.co.uk)

### Course Description:

Learn a traditional rural craft and make your own timeless traditional round-based basket with a handle. This two-day course is for anyone who likes to use their hands, enjoys the smell and creaking of willow as they work on their woven basket and wants the satisfaction of creating something unique with lots of practical uses. It will equip you with the skills to make a truly original basket and provide you with the steps needed to work on further baskets at home. No previous experience required.

The slightly higher cost of the course reflects the smaller number of participants and extra assistance you will receive as well as the **wider option of weaves and handles** to choose from. These include inbuilt grip-handles, lashed-to stick handles coming out of step-rimmed sides or traditional shopper-handle. In addition to the 2 varieties of basket willow available, some foraged materials will also be offered to introduce further original elements into your basket design. Whichever design you choose, your basket will stand out and carry itself proudly!

Alongside advice on how to order and soak willow and what tools to use, you will be given advice on foraging for materials in the garden or hedgerow, and how to incorporate these into your designs.

Expect to make a shopper-sized basket of average dimensions between

16cm to max 25 cm diameter base, with height usually varying between 15cm to max 24cm. Please note big baskets like log baskets are not achievable within the remit of this course.

Students need full use of both arms and hands; people with severely strained wrists or hands might struggle with the effort it takes to weave bigger withies. Please let us know before if you need require partial help with the weave or need the project adapting in size.

**Hannah Ehlert** trained for three years in a coppice worker apprenticeship with a variety of crafts people at the Bill Hogarth Memorial Trust. She has run successful creative green wood-working courses for fifteen years, including; hazel wattle hurdles, Swedish spoons and greenwood carving and baskets and willow structures in the garden. She also runs family and adult Nature Connection courses and works as a qualified Forest School practitioner. She often brings practices from Deep Nature Connection work, which is similar in its relaxing effects as Forest Bathing.

Hannah's classes are fun and sociable, whilst also providing quiet, relaxing time, allowing you to become deeply absorbed in your own project and connecting with nature's wonders.

### **What to bring**

Material fee to be paid in cash to tutor

Please bring a pen and notebook

Glasses if you need them

Clothes that aren't precious or an apron

**A camera to document the stages of construction if you wish**