



Raku Pottery – 2 day course

Date 2 & 9 July 2025
10am – 4pm

Cost: £175 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 for glaze/stains and both biscuit and gas firing £15
Clay is charged by unfired weight: £1 per Kg

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

Course Description:

Raku is a really amazing process that includes firing your own pots outside in a custom made 'open' kiln to create unique patterns and designs on your pieces. Raku firing is one of the most dramatic and daring ways to fire pottery. It was developed in Japan in the early 1550s by Zen Buddhists to create ceramics for the Japanese tea ceremony.

The first day you will develop hand-building skills to create a range of pots or models. These will be dried and biscuit fired ready for you to experiment with glazes and oxides the following week. Chris will guide you through the stages.

The following week, prepare for an exciting session working with an outdoor kiln with controlled use of fire and smoke! 'Raku' loosely means 'happiness in the unexpected'. The effects you can achieve can be stunning.

No prior experience needed but those with experience will have lots of opportunities to develop their skills.

Chris Barnes is a renowned professional potter from the Borders who exhibits across the UK and in Germany. He has taught both adults and young people for many years alongside his own creative practice. His teaching combines hands on practical work with demonstrations and useful expert tips.

What to bring

Please bring an apron and wear old clothes when firing
A pen/ pencil and notebook are useful

Material fee to be paid in cash to tutor at the end of the first day