

Magdalen



Introduction to Poultry

Interested in keeping a few chickens and wondering where to start? This introductory session covers both theoretical and practical sessions on sourcing your chickens; general husbandry; feed and range management; chicken behaviour and welfare and animal handling.

This course can be adapted to suit those interested in larger scale poultry production on a more commercial basis.

Minimum Group Size: 4

Maximum Group Size: 8

Cost: £69 per person

Includes: Notes, light refreshments and simple homemade lunch.

Course Format: This course is based in the classroom but also out with The Magdalen Project Flock. Several special breeds will also be available and you will be expected to handle the birds so it is advised that attendees wear suitable outdoor clothing & footwear.

Tutor Details: Paul Thompson

Paul started an interest in fowl by owning and caring for a rare breed Golden Pheasant when he was 7 years old. This passion developed over the years and now Paul specializes in rearing all varieties of fowl but mainly rare breed poultry. He has extensive knowledge of commercially rearing poultry and egg production and has won a number of awards for his birds.



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AGENDA & COURSE CONTENT

- 10.00am **Meet group**
- Introductions
Brief potted history of tutors experience & where we are now
Find out a little about group - what experience each attendee has
What specifically each attendee wants from the course
- Poultry & the Law**
Questions
- 11.00am Coffee / informal chat
- 11.30am **Bird Health**
- Common ailments How to recognise
 How to minimize
 How to treat
- Parasites Worms
 Lice
 Mites
- Vermin Control Rats, Mice, Wild birds
- What to feed & How much
Questions
- 1.00pm Lunch
- 2.00pm **Housing / Equipment**
- 3.00pm **Hands On** – Magdalen Flock recognise potential problems
How to hold
How to handle / Calm
Check birds for parasites / housing for red mites
- Breeds** Types of Bird
 How to choose which is right for you
 What to look for when purchasing
 Where to buy from – auctions, breeders,
dealers
- 4.00pm **Questions & Finish**