



Natural Beekeeping at Boglands

What to expect

bees.boglands.ie · bees@boglands.ie

Boglands Bees is a small apiary at Boglands Hideaway in County Offaly. We keep Irish black bees in traditional Warré hives using gentle, low-intervention methods that support healthy, resilient colonies.

Who it is for

Whether you are completely new to beekeeping or already keep bees and want to explore a more natural approach, our courses offer a thoughtful and grounded introduction to working with bees.

Hands-on day courses

- **A full day** – 10am to 4pm at the Boglands apiary.
- **Small groups** – no more than eight people, for a calm, personal day with plenty of time for observation and questions.
- **Included** – lunch, tools and protective gear.

What you will learn

- The philosophy and principles of natural Warré beekeeping.
- How to work with the bees' natural behaviour rather than managing them intensively.
- The design and management of Warré hives.
- Seasonal observations and gentle hive inspections.
- Building and maintaining hives from locally sourced materials.

Our bees and hives

- Boglands Bees began when a wild colony of Irish black bees chose to settle in an old building on the land. We now keep five Warré hives.
- Each hive is built by hand from locally sourced spruce, with a quilt box above the colony to help with moisture and insulation. Space is added from below (nadirring), so the bees build their own natural comb.
- The wellbeing of the bees comes first. We currently don't take honey.

Before you come

- **Free Academy taster** – Start with the free Natural Warré Beekeeping taster course on Boglands Academy (learn.boglands.ie): short online lessons you can do at home, at your own pace.
- **Read Bee Natural** – our free guide to keeping bees the Warré way in the Irish climate, online chapter by chapter at bees.boglands.ie.

Dates, booking and questions

Course dates and booking: boglands.ie/book/natural-beekeeping-courses/ · Email bees@boglands.ie · Gift vouchers (emailed within 24 hours, valid for 5 years): [vouchers.boglands.ie](https://boglands.ie/vouchers)

