

Letterboxing 101

by **MO UR4Me**



LETTERBOXING IS...

1. A letterbox is a **hidden** container somewhere in a public place. It is often in a scenic area or a place with historical significance. It's good way to see new places and even make new friends! And it's cheap entertainment!
2. A letterbox contains a **rubber stamp** and a **logbook**.
3. Letterboxers use a **trailname**.
4. **Clues** are found at www.AtlasQuest.com (AQ) or www.letterboxing.org (LBNA).
5. Check to see if it has been **found** recently. (On AQ click "Show Finds"; on LBNA log in and click green flag.)
6. **Read** the clues first, just in case there is something else you need before you go.
7. When you go hunt for a letterbox, you need to bring your:
 - a) clues
 - b) signature stamp
 - c) ink pad or markers
 - d) personal logbook
 - e) pen
 - f) hiking gear: water bottle, bug spray, snack, cell phone, first aid kit, etc.
 - g) compass
 - h) paper towel

FINDING LETTERBOXES

RULES ("Code of Conduct")

SAFETY – poison ivy, snakes, spiders, using sticks, partner, cell phone

STEALTH – move away, pretend to take a photo, tie your shoe, have a snack, use phone

RESPECT – for nature: leave the area better than you found it: DONT disturb nature by: littering, leaving a trail to the box, breaking the sod, removing native vegetation, disturbing natural rock formations, taking apart rock walls or interfering with animals or their habitats.

for people: reseal and rehide well, replacing it exactly as you found it, report your find.

8. A "pace" equals **two steps**.
9. Only one person from your group should **leave the trail** so that new social trails aren't made.
10. Don't let any **muggles** see you!
11. When you find the letterbox, you stamp:
 - a) YOUR stamp in the BOX's logbook, with your trailname, the date & where you're from.
Try not to use up an entire page, please!
 - b) the LETTERBOX stamp in YOUR logbook, with the date found and the planter's trailname.
12. Don't clean off a stamp with a **baby wipe**; it can ruin the stamp.
13. You might find a **hitchhiker**! (Learn more about them on AtlasQuest.com. Don't take it unless you can move it on.)
14. Check for bonus clues in **the back of the book**. Not many have extra clues, but some do.
15. Make sure to **rehide** it very well, just like you found it. Sealed, right-side up, covered up.
16. PLEASE **log** your find online; this helps planter know it's OK and future finders to know it's still there!