



# NORTH WESSEX DOWNS WALKING FESTIVAL 8-23 JUNE 2019



## Announcing the First North Wessex Downs Walking Festival

8<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2019

Get outdoors during the very first North Wessex Downs Walking Festival this June. With over a dozen walks across the region - from Avebury to Marlborough as well as further afield to Goring, Wantage and Facombe, the walking festival presents the perfect opportunity to breathe deeply, stretch your legs and take in the views of the gorgeous countryside on our doorstep.

Running from 8<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> June, many of the walks are free of charge and range from a pushchair-friendly stroll around the lovely lanes of Huish in the Pewsey Vale to a navigation skills workshop starting from Avebury. There are fascinating wildlife walks on offer at Stonebridge Wild River Reserve with ARK at Marlborough as well as Letcombe Brook in Wantage and Freemans Marsh in Hungerford. Or simply let your walk leader tell you about the history and landscape as you pass through some of the lesser-known areas of the AONB.

Go to the North Wessex Downs website for detailed information about all the walks and to book.

[www.northwessexdowns.org.uk/walkingfestival](http://www.northwessexdowns.org.uk/walkingfestival)

### Calendar of Events

Saturday, 8th June 2019 9.30am	A 'Venerable' Nordic Walk from Blewbury – exploring the historic villages & landscape of the Downs. 11 miles (6 hours). Strenuous. Pay on day - £8
Sunday, 9th June 2019 10.30am	Facca's Valley: The woods, hills & valleys of the Facombe Estate – a peaceful walk with plenty of wildlife, wildflowers and views. 3 miles (2 hours). Moderate. Free
Monday, 10th June 2019 10am	Navigation Skills Workshop from Avebury – improve your skills and techniques to increase personal confidence. 10 miles (5.5 hours). Moderate. £8.50
Tuesday, 11th June 2019 10am	A Guided Walk from Goring: Poets & Giants – discover giants and walk in the ancient footsteps of wayfarers and poets. 12 miles (7 hours). Strenuous. £5.50

Wednesday, 12th June 2019 10am	The Setting of Ashdown House – take in the magnificent setting of the house in a little valley just north of Lambourn. 4 miles (2 hours). Moderate. Free
Wednesday, 12th June 2019 5pm	An Early Evening Stroll from Huish – a family friendly wander through lovely lanes with various start points. Up to 3 miles (1 hour). Easy. Free
Thursday, 13th June 2019 2pm	Discovering Aston Tirrold's History & Wildlife – landscape, wildlife and history. 3 miles (2 hours). Easy. Free
Friday, 14th June 2019 10.30am	Bedwyn Brail, Wilton & Crofton: A rail-friendly walk – a tranquil walk through Bedwyn's local history 5 miles (2 & <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> hours). Easy. £2.00
Saturday, 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2019 2pm	Saturday Afternoon Hike at Alton Barnes White Horse – a sociable and fun walk. 6 miles (2 hours). Moderate. £9.00
Sunday, 16th June 2019 10am	Letcombe Brook Wildlife Walk – a family friendly wildlife walk along the route of the brook 4.5 miles (up to 3 hours). Easy. Free
Wednesday, 19th June 2019 7pm	Exploring Freeman's Marsh in Hungerford – visit and investigate the plants and creatures of this beautiful green space ½ mile (up to 2 hours). Easy. Free
Thursday, 20th June 2019 10.30am	Big Skies & Hidden Valleys: The Manors of Vernham Dean – walk up onto the roof of this hidden corner of the landscape. 4 ½ miles (up to 2 ½ hours). Moderate. Free
Friday, 21st June 2019 10am	A Wildlife Walk Around Stonebridge Wild River Reserve with ARK – with Action for River Kennet's project officer, Anna Forbes. 1 mile (2 hours). Easy. £5.00
Sunday, 23rd June 2019 10am	One Lump or Two: Ladle Hill and Beacon Hill – two walks in one, choose to do one or both of these “aller et retour” routes. 5 miles minimum (2 ¼ hours min). Moderate/Strenuous. Free

For more information either visit the website or email [info@northwesexdowns.org.uk](mailto:info@northwesexdowns.org.uk)