

Walk the Moorlands Spring Summer Programme 2025

Please join us to explore the wonderful countryside of the Staffordshire Moorlands, Peak District and borders of the neighbouring counties and districts on one of our fantastic free walks led by experienced walkers.

There are normally 2 Sunday walks a month, one short, one longer and the occasional non-Sunday walk. Simply let us know you're coming by using the form at <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/walk-the-moorlands-walks-programme-299489>. Walks normally go live for booking about 4 weeks in advance.

SUNDAY SAUNTERS

Normally on the last Sunday of each month there will be a short, easy paced walk lasting about 2 to 2.5 hours of about 6 km / 4 miles. They usually start at 10.30am, be ready to walk 10 minutes in advance. For each walk you should bring a snack and drink for the walk as well as having stout footwear and appropriate clothing.

LONGER WALKS

Normally on the 3rd Sunday of each month. They usually start at 10am, please be there 10 minutes beforehand. You should bring sufficient food and drink for the walk, good footwear and clothing appropriate for the likely weather conditions. You will need to reserve a place in advance via <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/walk-the-moorlands-walks-programme-299489>. QR code on front cover. When you book you will receive more information about the walk.

EXTRA WALKS

As well as the saunters and longer Sunday walks and as requested we're putting on more walks on other days of the week. Start times differ, but please be there 10 minutes before.

Staffordshire Moorlands Walking Festival, Friday 25 April to 5 May 2025

We are working partners and other outdoor organisations, groups and individuals to pull together a walking festival with a wide range of walks across the Staffordshire Moorlands area. Keep an eye on staffsmoorlandswalkingfestival.co.uk for more information. If you're interested in getting involved then please contact Austin as below.

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION?

If you would like more information about a walk or if the weather is poor, please contact the programme co-ordinator Austin on 07421 369 600 or email austin@walkthemoorlands.co.uk or check the [Facebook group page](#).

Dogs are allowed on most walks at the leader's discretion. If you would like to bring a dog with you please contact the walk leader or Austin about a week in advance of the walk.

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Wednesday, 16 April - Ramblers Do Retreat, 10.00 start

Join Jan for a steady moderate 6.5 miles walk taking in Alton village & the Old Furnaces before returning to the Ramblers Retreat. Meet at Ramblers Retreat, Dimmingsdale, closest postcode ST10 4BU / Grid Ref SK 062 432.

Walking Festival 25 April to 5 May <https://staffsmoorlandswalkingfestival.co.uk/> Lots of other walks to find!

Friday, 25 April - Aircraft crash commemorative walk, The Roaches, 17.45 start

This short but moderate 3 miles walk is being led by Austin Knott and Mark Royall to mark 80 years since an RAAF Lancaster bomber crashed into the Roaches. There will be opportunity to hear about the crew members and to enjoy a post walk debrief at a local

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hostelry. Meet at Roaches Gate, Roaches Road, Upper Hulme, ST13 3UA / Grid Ref SK 004 621

Friday, 25 April - Marshes Hill, 10.30 start

This moderate 6 mile circular walk led by Graham Owen has a great deal of variety, from the panoramic views of Marshes Hill, through fields and woodland, as well as incorporating a section of path around the scenic Knypersley reservoir. It will include a 15-20 minute break for coffee/snacks mid-walk. Meet at Marshes Hill Common Car Park, Brown Edge, closest postcode ST6 8TY / Grid Ref SJ 906 546.

Sunday, 27 April - Walk the Leek Half or half it again, 9.30 start

Follow the Leek Half Marathon route at a walking pace, with more fields and tracks than roads. Led by Steph Taylor, this scenic walk from Brough Park takes you up to The Roaches and back via Roche Grange, with spectacular views along the way. Not up for the full 13 miles? Stop at Ye Olde Rock (6 miles) or The Lazy Trout (9 miles) for a well-earned pint and lunch, then catch the Moorlands Connect bus back. Meet at Brough Park Bandstand, nearest postcode ST13 6DN / Grid Ref SJ 9841 5695.

Sunday, 27 April - "Witch" Way We Go, 10.30 start

Join Liz on her Saunter at Greenway Bank Country Park where we hope there will be a colourful display of "Witches' Thimbles" a.k.a. Bluebells. A gradual descent into the valley to walk through the woodlands around the two reservoirs of the Serpentine and Knypersley. The walk is c.4 to 5 miles on well defined paths and a steady climb for the return leg. Meet at Greenway Bank CP Car Park, Brown Edge, nearest postcode ST8 7QX / Grid Ref SJ 890 551.

Monday, 28 April - Let's Head North from Gradbach, 9.00 start

A moderate and memorable 8.5 miles walk circling around the hills and moorlands to the north of Gradbach car park, taking in Wildboarclough and the Dane Valley Way. Meet Mark Royall at Gradbach Car Park, nearest postcode SK17 0SU / Grid Ref: SJ 999 662.

Monday, 28 April - Cheddleton Explorer, 14.00 start

Join our Cheddleton Walking Friends on their weekly outing around the village and countryside of Cheddleton. A short walk of c.3.5/4 miles on mainly well defined paths and tracks with some inclines. Meet at The Boat Inn Car Park, Cheddleton, nearest postcode ST13 7EQ / Grid Ref SJ 977 518.

Tuesday, 29 April - Cheadle Strolls, 11.00 and 13.00 starts

We'll be helping Move More Staffs Moorlands with Cheadle Strolls. These are 30 minute slow-paced, short guided walks along the beautiful nature reserve of Cecilly Brook in Cheadle. Suitable for all ages and all abilities, these walks are a chance to connect with others, get out in the fresh air and enjoy nature on our doorstep.

Free tea and coffee and a chance to chat with other participants before and after the walk will be available at Thorley Drive Sports Pavilion courtesy of Move More Staffordshire Moorlands. If you are interested in becoming part of a slow paced walking group to improve your mental and physical health then this walk is for you!

Meet at Thorley Drive Sports Pavilion, Cheadle, ST10 1SA.

Wednesday, 30 April -The History and Industrial Archaeology of Ecton Hill, 13.30 start

A 4 miles walk and talk about the history of Ecton Hill and the involvement of the Dukes of Devonshire. This event also includes a rare opportunity to visit the mine underground through Salts Level. Access to the mine is controlled by the EHFSa. A charge of £10pp is made to cover the travelling expenses etc of their guide. Booking essential.

Please remember to book onto our walks, [click here](#)

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Meet at The Tea Junction, Peak District National Park car park (P&D), Hulme End. SK17 0EZ / Grid Ref: SK 102 593.

Sunday, 4 May - Don't forget your passport, 10.00 start

Join Simon and Jenny for a 9-mile moderate Peak District walk on the eastern edge of the Staffordshire Moorlands, crossing into the Derbyshire Dales. The varied route features countryside, valleys, woodland, and a glimpse of the area's industrial past. A few stiles are easy to navigate, and though there's a steep climb back to the village, stopping for the views makes it manageable. Meet Alstonefield Village Hall car park, nearest postcode DE6 2FR / Grid Ref SK 129 556.

Monday, 5 May - Staffordshire 3 Peaks challenge, 9.00 start

Take on the Staffordshire 3 Peaks Challenge, a 16-mile hike across the county's highest peaks, all in the Moorlands. A tough but rewarding walk with stunning moorland views. Bring plenty of food and drink (maybe a local oatcake or two!). Consider getting sponsored for a good cause, and celebrate after with a well-earned pub visit. Meet at Roaches Gates, Roach Road, Upper Hulme, nearest postcode ST13 8UB / Grid Ref SK 004 621.

End of Staffordshire Moorlands Walking Festival

Sunday, 18 May Get the Abbey Habit, 10.00 start

You can bank on Richard for this profitable walk of 10 miles or so. Beginning at Oakamoor and visiting the ruins of Croxden Abbey. Bring good walking gear and boots. It'll be a high interest walk, so cheque this out. Meet at the car park Mill Road, Oakamoor, nearest postcode ST10 3AG / Grid Ref SK053 447.

Sunday, 25 May - Check this out, 10.30 start

A circular saunter of 4 to 5 miles with Austin from Upper Tean to Checkley, following the River Tean returning via Lower Tean. Meet at the Old Road Car Park, Tean, nearest postcode ST10 4EG / Grid Ref SK 008 397.

Thursday 19 June - Black Gold, 10.00 start

Join Jan for a walk with a difference. We will be having a 2 hour walking tour of the Chatterley Whitfield Site looking at the buildings with a volunteer guide & a look at the museum artefacts. Afterwards a short walk of approximately 3 miles of the local area to finish the day. Voluntary donations to the heritage centre would be appreciated. Meet at Chatterley Whitfield nearest postcode ST6 8UW / Grid Ref SJ 882 533.

Sunday, 22 June - Industrial Past 'n Present, 10.00 start

Rodney Hitch will lead a challenging midsummer 10 miles walk from Cheadle to Froghall and Kingsley. Meet in the Tape Street car park by Greyhound walk, nearest postcode ST10 1UY / Grid Ref SK 008 433.

Sunday, 29 June – Walks and Spencer, 10.30 start

Meet Liz for a saunter around Rushton Spencer – through open countryside and along the well defined track of the former railway. A c.4 to 5 mile walk with some inclines and possibly mud in places. Meet at the Railway Car Park, Rushton Spencer, nearest postcode SK11 0QU / Grid Ref SJ 935 624.

Wednesday, 9 July - On Cloud 8, Ethel Cairn cross county lines, 10.00 start

A moderate 8 miles from Rushton Spencer, over The Cloud. If the weather is kind, we'll have views over three counties from the ethel. Then on to an ancient monument, Bridestones, Neolithic cairn, before walking the county line and heading back down hill. Meet Steph at

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Rushton Spencer railway car park, nearest postcode SK11 0QU / Grid Ref SJ 935 624.

Sunday, 20 July - From Leek to Peak, Gun Moor, 10.00 start

A moderate 9ish miles, following the route the Cistercian monks of Dieulacres may have taken from Leek to Gun Moor and the Bonnie Prince may have trodden on his way from Macclesfield. We'll have a wander around Gun Moor Nature Reserve, in the Peak District, looking out for wildlife and birds before returning to Leek. Join Step at Leek council office car park, meet by the fountain, nearest postcode ST13 6HQ / Grid Ref SJ 984 566.

Sunday, 27 July - Shall we Park by the Hall, 10.30 start

A 4 to 5 miles saunter around Park Hall Country Park looking at the special geology and some great views. Meet Austin at the park's Bolton Gate Car Park off Weston Road, nearest postcode ST3 6QD / Grid Ref SJ 936 445.

Wednesday, 13 August, More here than Beer, 10.00 start

Join Jan for another Wednesday wander, this one is 6.5 miles, visiting the Danebridge area taking in the river valley before making our way back climbing steadily for lovely views. An opportunity will be taken to sample the Wincle Brewery. Meet at the bridge - Danebridge, nearest postcode SK11 0QE / Grid Ref SJ 965 652.

Saturday, 16 August – Centuries before the Iron Horse, 10.00 start

A moderate plus walk of 9 miles exploring old pack horse trails taking in Warslow, Grindon, Sugarloaf and descending the western flank of Ecton hill. Meet Mark Royall at Hulme End Visitor Centre by car park off B5054, nearest postcode SK17 0EZ / Grid Ref SK 103 593.

Sunday, 17 August, Moor Moors, 10.00 start

Rodney will lead this 8 miles moderate moorland's meander to experience heather in bloom from the village of Warslow taking in magnificent views from Revidge and a route likely to feature Swallows Moss, Fernyford and Upper Elkstone. Meet at Warslow Village Hall, nearest postcode SK17 0JL / Grid Ref SK 086 585.

Sunday, 31 August - The CCW 'arf, 10.30 start

A saunter around part of the Cheadle Coalfields walk, about 4 to 5 miles. Meet Austin by the Mary Blagg memorial, Tape Street Car Park, Cheadle, nearest postcode ST10 1EU / Grid Ref SK 009 432.

Tuesday 9 September - Neighbourly Staffordshire, 10.00 start

A moderate 8 miles jaunt from Flash, taking in the highest point in the Moorlands, the quarries at Danebower and Three Shire Head. Meet Rodney Hitch by St Paul's church, Brown Lane, Flash nearest postcode SK17 0SW / Grid ref SK 025 671.

Sunday, 21 September – Bring a Hat, 10.00 start

Join John Holmes on a 9 mile moderately strenuous walk starting at Errwood reservoir then climbing to get great views over the Cheshire Plain. The walk will take in Shining Tor, Pym Chair and Windgather Rocks. Meet at The Street Car Park by junction with Goyt Lane, SK23 7HB / Grid Ref SK 013 757.

Sunday, 28 September – Abbey Road, 10.30 start

A saunter with Liz around the village of Hollington with a visit to see the remains of the Cistercian Croxden Abbey. An easy walk of c. 4 to 5 miles. Meet at the Car Park at The Raddle Inn, Hollington, nearest postcode ST10 4HQ / Grid Ref SK 054 395. The Raddle Inn will be open for refreshments.

End of Spring Summer Programme

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