

Hadrian's Wall Path.

Monday 26th March to Friday 30th March 2012.

Hurrah! Kent Group are planning to walk the Hadrian's Wall Path National Trail in March next year. All group members are very welcome to come along although the availability of accommodation will ultimately dictate the size of our group, so do get booked up fast if you're keen. Everyone going will be responsible for booking their own travel and accommodation. The total distance of the trail is 84 Miles with a total additional mileage of between 4 and 6 miles for the extra walking required to reach our accommodation each night. This will depend on where our B&B's are in Carlisle. So all in all we'll be walking between 88 and 90 miles. The plan is to complete the trail over 4 days and then return home on the fifth day. All the information below should be taken as a guide only and people should feel welcome to devise their own individual plans regarding travel and accommodation if they wish. There is some alternative accommodation in the middle sections of the trail and of course there will be numerous accommodation of all types at Newcastle near the start and plenty of B&B's in Carlisle near the finish. The basic plan is as follows:

Monday 26th March.

Travel from Kent to Wallsend then walk from Wallsend to Heddon-on-the-Wall:

Morning: Travel to Wallsend (Start of Hadrian's Wall Path). Meet at Wallsend Station about 13.00. A precise time will be announced 12 weeks before the walk when the train schedules are published. There are regular trains from London Kings Cross to Newcastle. The earlier you book your train tickets, the better value it tends to be. You can book up to a maximum of 12 weeks in advance. When reaching Newcastle, there is a regular service to Wallsend on The Tyne and Wear Metro. However, Wallsend is just a couple of miles or so from Newcastle Station so it is easily walkable too.

Afternoon: Next, we shall have our first 15 miles walking to reach our first nights' accommodation at Heddon-on-the-Wall:

Houghton North Farm,
Heddon on the Wall,
Northumberland,
NE15 0EZ.

Telephone: 01661 854364.

Email: wjlaws@btconnect.com.

Website: www.houghtonnorthfarm.co.uk.

Tuesday 27th March. Heddon-on-the-Wall to Steel Rigg:

28.5 miles walking in total. 27.25 miles from Heddon-on-the-Wall to Steel Rigg with just over one mile in addition to reach our second nights' accommodation just slightly off the route at Once Brewed:

YHA Once Brewed.
Military Road,
Bardon Mill,
Northumberland,
NE47 7AN.
Telephone: 0845 3719753.
Email: oncebrewed@yha.org.uk
Website: www.yha.org.uk

Wednesday 28th March. Steel Rigg to Carlisle:

28.5 miles walking in total. Half a mile from the hostel at Once Brewed back to the trail. Then 27.25 miles from Steel Rigg to Carlisle city centre where our accommodation will be hopefully not too far. There is no hostel accommodation in Carlisle at this time of year so it will probably be a bed and breakfast for most of us. Check with Google or the local tourist information centre for information regarding accommodation in Carlisle but the best website I've found so far for good deals is:

www.bookdirectrooms.com

Thursday 29th March. Carlisle to Bowness-on-Solway:

15 miles walking in total from central Carlisle to Bowness-on-Solway. Added to this will be the little extra from our B&B's to our meeting point back on the route in Carlisle town centre but hopefully this will be minimal. When reaching Bowness-on-Solway there is a regular bus service from there that will take us back to Carlisle. Our final nights' accommodation can be back at Carlisle at our B&B's so book here for these two nights (26th and 27th).

Friday 30th March. Return to Kent:

There are frequent trains back to London Euston and Kent from Carlisle. Once again, the earlier you book, the better value it tends to be.

General Information.

Contact Mike Ratcliff for more information about the trip:

Telephone: 07746 220998.

Email: michaelratcliff80@btinternet.com

The vast majority of useful information that you'll need for the walk can be found at:

www.nationaltrail.co.uk/hadrianswall

www.hadrianswall.org

www.nationaltrail.co.uk

Hadrian's Wall Information Line. Telephone: 01434 322002.

Maps: The O.S. Explorer maps for the Hadrian's Wall Path are 314, 315 and 316.

The Official National Trail Guide for Hadrian's Wall Path is available at all the major high street bookshops and will be an excellent companion for the walk.