## THE NATIONAL FOREST WALKING FESTIVAL 16th-26th May 2025

Walks for all ages and abilities, exploring the beautiful National Forest





www.thenationalforestwalkingfestival.org.uk

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## WELCOME to the 2025 National Forest Walking Festival!

We extend a heartfelt thank you to our incredible volunteers, whose dedication and support make this event possible each year. Thanks to them, we are thrilled to celebrate the 16th year of our annual Walking Festival.

This year, our programme features a wide range of walks and activities designed to be accessible for people of all ages and abilities. With over 20 routes under three miles, including easy-access paths without stiles, as well as longer trails suited for trampers and mobility scooters, there's something for everyone. For those with sensory needs, we have thoughtfully curated experiences to enhance your time in nature. Whether you're seeking a gentle onemile stroll designed for individuals living with Parkinson's, a buggy-friendly three-mile walk through serene parkland, a beginner's nature-bumble around Beacon Hill to explore tree life, or a more energetic ten-mile trek around Calke Abbey and it's reservoirs, our festival offers something for every interest and ability.

The National Forest is home to numerous woodlands and attractions with well-surfaced paths, perfect for buggies, wheelchairs, trampers, and individuals with limited mobility. We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to connect with nature and enjoy the beauty of the forest, and we are proud to showcase this inclusivity throughout the festival.

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## Where is the National Forest?

Rooted in the heart of the country, the National Forest spans 200 square miles of Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire. It will link the two ancient forests of Charnwood and Needwood with a connected treescape of new woodlands, meadows, hedgerows and water.

At the heart of the Forest the story is one of huge landscape-scale transformation; from black coalfields and grey clay pits to green canopies and wildlife-rich habitats.

Staunton Harold Reservoir



## What is the National Forest?

Beginning in 1991, the idea behind the Forest was radical: to create and manage the first forest at scale in England for 1,000 years. It is a 'forest' in the old sense of the word: not wall to wall trees but a distinctly wooded landscape that provides a setting within which people live, work and learn.

Recognised as one of the boldest environmentally-led regeneration initiatives in the country, it is transforming a post-industrial landscape. Three decades of forest creation in this ordinary part of the Midlands demonstrates how trees can transform landscapes, communities and the economy. Nearly 10 million trees have been now planted in an area that was previously one of the least wooded parts of the country.



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Today, the National Forest Company, with the support of partners and communities, are continuing to plant trees, care for woodlands, create and manage habitats, and helping to grow a greener, healthier and more sustainable future together.

The Forest provides a national demonstration of the value of the natural environment to drive regeneration and showcase policy and practice, research and development in the heart of the country. At a time when it seems everyone is calling for more trees to be planted, the National Forest shows that a positive future is possible. It is a beacon for sustainability – a living example of how people and nature can thrive together.

Find out more and help us continue to grow the future by visiting nationalforest.org



**Trent Adventure** 

**Find us on Facebook** The National Forest Walking Festival

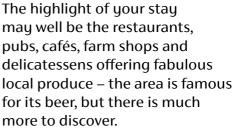
# EAT, DRINK Shop, Stay

Why not come and stay? The National Forest offers a great range of accommodation, from glamping and youth hostels, to forest lodges and cosy cottages, to luxurious inns and hotels.



www.thenationalforestwalkingfestival.org.uk

On a short break in the National Forest you can explore the area's many attractions, including famous stately homes and castles, and fascinating museums and visitor centres with fun activities for all ages.



The Forest's historic towns, villages, marinas and craft centres are home to independent retailers, artists and crafters where you can pick up something special, be it new or antique.

Make your walk in the Forest a stay to remember

For more information on the many things to see and do visit: South Derbyshire Visitor Information Centre Tel: 01283 223333 Email: info@visitsouthderbyshire.co.uk www.visitsouthderbushire.co.uk www.discovereaststaffordshire.com Facebook www.nwleics.gov.uk/tourism Discover East Staffordshire







# A guide to the walks

Most walks are free and do not need to be booked. Where there is a charge or booking is required, details are listed under each walk.

Find us on

#### You may find the following information useful before attending a walk:

- Please wear suitable footwear and clothing (weather related).
- Remember to bring any medication you may need
- It is advisable to always carry a drink
- You may need to bring a packed lunch (see individual walk key for more info)
- Walkers aged 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult
- If dogs are allowed on a walk (see individual walk key for more info), they must be kept on a lead at all times
- All those taking part in a walk do so at their own risk
- Most walk leaders are volunteers.
- Walks will start promptly

Please be advised walkers may be taking photographs on any of the festival walks. which may be used in future publicity.

South Derbyshire District Council would like to thank the individual groups and volunteers who plan and organise these walks.

#### Walks are graded for difficulty:

EASY Routes suitable for most levels of fitness. Mau be suitable for conventional wheelchairs and pushchairs (please see individual walk key for more information).

EASY ACCESS These walks are suitable for everyone, including people with wheelchairs and pushchairs. You don't need walking boots. Comfortable shoes or trainers will be suitable.

LEISURELY Routes for reasonably fit people. May include some unsurfaced rural paths.

MODERATE Walks for people with a good level of fitness. May include some steep paths and open country and may be at a brisk pace.

STRENUOUS Walks for experienced country walkers with an above average level of fitness. May include hills, rough country and be at a brisk pace.

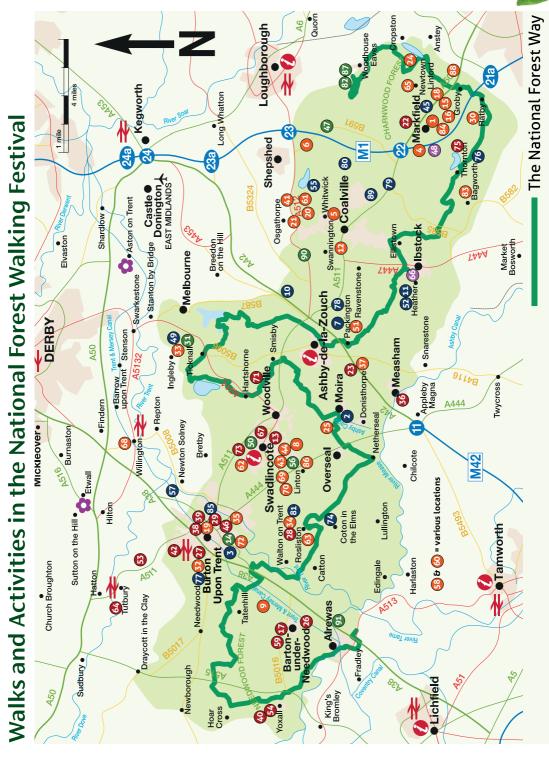
## KFY

- (PC) Car park fee £ Entrance fee
- Toilets available 洂 en route
- Ġ. Wheelchair access
- ¥ Pushchair access
- Children welcome Ξ
- when accompanied by an adult Dogs allowed on a lead

- 6 Dogs not allowed
- Bring water
- Bring packed lunch
- Walking boots
- Running shoes
- (in) Inclusive activities for all
- Bring a torch

For more information please visit: www.thenationalforestwalkingfestival.org.uk or call South Derbyshire Visitor Information Centre on 01283 223333

## www.thenationalforestwalkingfestival.org.uk



## Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May

## **Marvellous Markfield**

Find us on

Facebook

Moderate

Start time 10am 3 miles, 1.5 hours, 4 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Markfield Community Centre LE67 9ST Car park on site

This is a 90 minute Learn to Nordic Walk session which includes the chance to discover some of the amazing history as well as panoramic views (on a clear day) around Markfield village. The Nordic walking poles we provide will be useful on the climbs and descents and instruction on how to use them will be given at the start of our walk by a qualified Nordic walking instructor. Booking is essential. You will receive certification after the lesson. Max. 12 places. £15 book online.

#### Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks **Community Group**

Contact: ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com 07502 576764



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#### Black to Green 2

#### Start time 10am 9 miles, 4 hours, 0 stiles

Moderate

STARTING POINT Moira Furnace DE12 6AT Car park on site

From Moira Furnace through to Conkers, Hicks Lodge and into Willesley Woods. We will have time to read the 7 information panels which give a brief history of the area. A chance to see how these areas have been transformed. Easy paths with a small section that could be muddy.

Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest Contact: get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk





#### **Rewilding the Washlands** (3)

Start time 12noon 2 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles Leisurelv

STARTING POINT Watson St Car park, by Burton Mail Centenary Wood DE14 3AH (What3words: runs.flag.cotton)

A gentle, circular walk on flat (some unsurfaced) paths, around very different areas of Burton Trent Washlands. We will be looking at some of the recent environmental enhancements carried out by the Transforming The Trent Valley project and also how grazing cattle are managing a large area of the Washlands in a more sustainable manner.

#### Walk organiser: Burton & District Wildlife Group Lawrence Oates

www.bcv.org.uk

Contact: bcvflowerman@gmail.com 07432 608931



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### **Altar Stones Looking at Lichens** Nordic Walk

Start time 12noon

Leisurely

3 miles, 1.25 hours, 2 stiles

#### **STARTING POINT** Hill Lane Car park LE67 9UB

Come and explore around the northern most part of Markfield and take in the Altar Stones nature reserve where we stop to have a closer look at some of the lichens we can discover on the rocks and trees around the site. Nordic walking poles can be provided and a brief guide on how to use them will be given at the start of our walk by a qualified Nordic walking instructor. Booking is essential. Max. 15 places. £4 book online.

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks **Community Group** Contact: ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com 07502 576764





## 5 Parkinson's Fitness in the Forest

### Start time 2pm

Leisurely

1 mile, 0.75 hours, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Hermitage Recreation Ground Car Park LE67 5FU

Nordic walking has been shown to be very beneficial to those living with Parkinson's. Why not come along and have a go with the special poles and see how they can help with posture, walking gait and increase walking speed and arm swing? Nordic walking poles will be provided for people to have a go at Nordic walking with a qualified Nordic walking instructor as well as use the poles for a series of fitness exercises. Booking is essential. Max. 10 places. £3 book online.

#### Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks **Community Group**

Contact: ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com 07502 576764



## **Geological Treasures of Shepshed**

Start time 2pm

Leisurely

4 miles, 3.5 hours, 2 stiles

STARTING POINT Morley Quarry Car Park LE12 9EU Car park on site.

Join the Charnwood Forest Geopark team for a guided hike through the amazing 600 million year old history of the Shepshed area. Discover some of the oldest rocks in England, and travel back in time to when Leicestershire lay at the centre of a giant sandy desert!

#### Walk organiser: Charnwood Forest Geopark charnwoodforest.org

Booking: www.charnwoodforest.org/event/ guided-walk-geological-treasures-of-shepshed-2/







#### Achille Wood and Farm Walk (7)

Start time 7pm 2 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Hill Farm, Spring Lane, Packington LE65 1WU Car park on site

Take a leisurely stroll around the farm and woodland, taking in Canadian bison, red deer, alpacas and many more. See if you can spot one of the many owls on the farm alongside other night creatures. Finish with a visit to Antlers and Alpaca coffee and gift shop for a BBQ with bison or venison burgers.

Walk organiser: E W Sumnall and Sons hillfarmpackington@hotmail.co.uk

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Leisurely

## Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May

## 8 History & Horticulture

Start time 9am 4 miles, 2.5 hours, 1-2 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Gorse Lane, Moira DE12 6DH What3words: myth.scratches. influencing. Car park at Conkers Discovery (free at top of car park)

Join us for a leisurely walk through history, with a look at how the natural environment inspired and supported people in the area. This walk will be taken at a gentle pace, with regular stops to look at interesting locations and hear some interesting stories about our local area. A great way to look after your mental health and connect with nature. Max. 15 places. £7 by bank transfer, details provided at time of booking

Walk organiser: Wild Minds Nature Connection CIC www.wildmindsnature.co.uk

07445 209 725 info@wilmindsnature.co.uk



Moderate

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#### **Branston Leas and Tucklesholme** 9 Nature Reserves

Start time 10am

#### Leisurely

5 miles, 3 hours, 0 stiles

Find us on

**STARTING POINT** Riverside Hotel, Branston DE14 3EP Car park on site

A circular walk on the floodplain of the River Trent with an opportunity to explore two developing nature reserves. Our route will take us from Branston Leas Nature Reserve to the wetland reserve at Tucklesholme, returning via a footpath alongside the river.

#### Walk organiser: Branston Friends





Active South Derbyshire is dedicated to promoting health and wellness and provide a wide range of activities across the district that are designed to suit people of all ages and abilities.

Whether its something to keep the kids occupied or you are looking to increase your activity levels and take some time for yourself, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Find out more by following our Facebook page or visit the South Derbyshire District Council's website at www.southderbyshire.gov.uk/ASD for the latest updates on sessions and events.

Active.SD@southderbvshire.aov.uk

Scan here to follow us

01283 595873

### 10 Circular Guided Walk from Lount Local Nature Reserve

Start time 10am 10 miles. 5 hours, some stiles Moderate

STARTING POINT Lount LNR Car Park LE67 8JH Free parking available in Lount local Nature Reserve and also nearby.

Circular walk from Lount local Nature Reserve, we will walk through this former coal site. before moving onto Rough Park and the village of Newbold Coleorton. We will explore the grounds of Staunton Harold before walking through Dimminsdale, a local nature reserve and site of special scientific interest. We will stop at a café for refreshments en route. Well behaved dogs welcome. Booking Essential.

Walk organiser: Leicestershire County Council Booking: 07717 808980 / 07596 044023 david.luther@leics.gov.uk Abigail.Crane@leics.gov.uk

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## **11** Four Village Circular

Start time 10am 8.5 miles, 4.5 hours, 4 stiles Moderate

STARTING POINT The Oueens Head Heather LE67 2OP (What3words: hitters.outhouse. teamed). Car park on site.

A walk from Heather to the villages of Newton Burgoland, Snarestone and Swepstone over open countryside, farm and woodland. The walk is mainly over flat ground with no notable hills to climb.

Walk organiser: Coalville Ramblers **Contact: John Spinks** 







## 12 Coalville Forest Adventure Trail

Leisurely

Start time 10.30am under 2 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Coalville Forest Adventure Park LE67 3JY Car park on site

Come and explore one of Coalville's most hidden parks. Formerly a landfill site, the area has been transformed into an important habitat for wildlife, with over 8,400 trees planted in the last decade. Walk through the purpose built paths on your very own nature trail!

Walk organiser: North West Leicestershire District Council www.nwleics.gov.uk

Booking: katie.hayes@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

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Easy

## 13 From Tip to Trees

Start time 11am

2.5 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Swadlincote Woodlands Nature Reserve Car Park DE11 8LP

A leisurely walk around the former clay hole, which was later used as a landfill site. All 33 hectares have been restored to woodland with a network of trails and a variety of habitats. Find out how some of the pathways gained their unusual names. On site toilets at car park. Within easy reach of town centre shops.

Walk organiser: Newhall Community Contact: Alan Hillier 07763 465499

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## 14 The Accessible Brief History of Burton

Start time 12noon 1 mile, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles Easy Access

STARTING POINT Burton Library DE14 1AH Car park on site

Join Blue and Jim for an hour and a half guided walk learning about the history of Burton upon Trent. The walk is accessible for those with mobility difficulties. Booking Essential. Max. 10 places. £10 per person, pay via website.

Walk organiser: Burton History Tours www.goldenbadger.co.uk/burton-history-tours/ Booking: bht@goldenbadger.co.uk

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## Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Mau

#### Learn to Nordic Walk 15

Find us on

Leisurely

1 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

Start time 9am

STARTING POINT Groby Pool car park LE6 OFR

This is a 90 minute Learn to Nordic Walk session, which includes the chance to discover some of the amazing history as well as lovely views (on a clear day) around Groby. The Nordic walking poles we provide will be useful on the climbs and descents and instruction on how to use them will be given at the start of our walk by a qualified Nordic walking instructor. Booking is essential. You will receive certification after the lesson. Max. 12 places. £15 book online via ministryofnordicwalks@ gmail.com

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks **Community Group** Booking: 07502 576764 ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com



Leisurely

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## 16 Swadlincote Junior Parkrun

Start time 9am 2 miles, 0.5 hours, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Maurice Lea Memorial Park, York Road, Church Gresley, Swadlincote DE11 9NW

A free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds) every Sunday at 9am. The event takes place in Maurice Lea Memorial Park, York Road, Church Gresley, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, DE11 9QG. See event page for details: www.parkrun.org.uk/swadlincotejuniors

Walk organiser: Swadlincote Junior Parkrun Contact: swadlincotejuniors@parkrun.com



#### 17 Barton and Dunstall - Mozey Mere and Henhurst Ridge

Start time 9.30am

Easy

4.5 miles, 2.5 hours, 3 stiles

STARTING POINT Barton Under Needwood Village Car Park DE13 8AF

Beautiful walk around and across the Dunstall Estate with stunning views of the Parish Church and chance to view the site of our local bluebell woods returning across a small ridge and back to Barton via the wooded paths.

#### Walk organiser: Barton Footpath Group Contact: Mick Broughton 07598 546380

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#### (18) **Groby Pool Figure of Eight**

#### Start time 11am

Leisurely

2.5 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Groby Pool car park LE6 OFR

A chance to see the wildlife at Groby Pool as well as Nordic walk the meadows means this is the perfect way to experience Nordic walking at a gentle pace. Perfect for the beginner. Learn about the benefits of Nordic walking with our qualified Nordic walking instructor. Poles are provided. Booking is essential. Max. 15 places. £5 book online via ministryofnordicwalks@ gmail.com

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks **Community Group** Booking: 07502 576764 ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com





## 19 A Brief History of Burton

#### Start time 12noon

Leisurely

3.5 miles, 2.5 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Burton Bridge Inn DE14 1SY Car park at Meadowside Leisure Centre

Souvenir Guide Book included! A guided walk that follows in the footsteps of Burtonians from the arrival of St Modwen, through to the more recent visits by L.S.Lowry and The Sex Pistols. We hope that our walk will stimulate the imagination of visitors and residents alike and as we make our way around the town, we'll never see our surroundings in the same way again! Booking essential. Max. 15 places. £15 per person via BACS through the website.

#### Walk organiser: Burton History Tours www.goldenbadger.co.uk/burton-history-tours bht@goldenbadger.co.uk

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## 20 A Walk Around Whitwick

**Start time 2pm** 2 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

Leisurely

STARTING POINT The Old Station, Whitwick LE67 5HA On-street parking in Church Lane

A guided village walk that focuses on significant historical sites and fascinating stories linked to Whitwick. The route, some of which is hilly, follows footpaths around the village centre and ends back at the Old Station. Light refreshments will be available and an opportunity to look around this unique Victorian building, the only remaining building from the Charnwood Forest Railway. Donations welcomed.

Walk organiser: Whitwick Historical Group whitwickhistoricalgroup.org.uk whitwickhistoricalgroup83@gmail.com



## 21 History Walk to Grace Dieu Priory

### Start time 3pm

Leisurely

15

2 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Bull's Head Car park, Thringstone LE67 8LT

Walk through part of Gracedieu Wood, under the Charnwood Forest Railway, along part of the Forest Line Canal and into the picturesque ruins of Gracedieu Priory, a 13th Century nunnery and later a Tudor Mansion. Learn about the area's history along the way.

Walk organiser: Friends of Gracedieu gracedieupriory.org.uk Contact: annpetty1948@vahoo.co.uk





## 22 Sunset Forest Bathing Walk

Start time 7pm

Easy

1 mile, 2 hours, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Shuttlewood Clarke Foundation Activity Centre LE67 9PHCar park on site.

Immerse yourself in the spring woodland at sunset on this slow and de-stressing Forest Bathing walk. Connect with the natural world and finish with a taste of foraged tea. Max. 12 places. £5, payable online via website.

Walk organiser: Better Outdoors Booking: www.betteroutdoors.org ‡† ₨ £ (ii)



## Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May

### Stretch & Stride at Hicks Lodge (part of Feel Good in the Forest)

Start time 9.30am 1-2 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

Find us on

**STARTING POINT** Hicks Lodge Forest Centre cafe LE65 2UP Car park on site

A free wellness walk for all, combining walking with stretches, strength and balance work to improve overall fitness. Max. 20 places. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: Forestry England & Wild Minds- Stretch & Stride info\_nationalforest@forestryengland.uk Booking: info@wildmindsnature.co.uk





## Active Mums Club Buggy Walk

#### Start time 10am

Leisurely

Easy

1.5-2 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Bradgate Park, Entrance gate at Newtown Linford Car Park

Join us on our Active Mums Club Buggy walk around Bradgate Park. Meet at the entrance gate to the park in the Newtown Linford car park. You will then go for a walk around the park and then back for the all important brew and chat after. The walk will be 30 - 45 mins. Please wear or bring appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather. Come with friends or on your own, everyone is welcome and it's a great way to meet other mums whilst being active.

## Walk organiser: Active Mums Club https://linktre.ee/ActiveMumsClub

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## **25** A Leisurely Walk Around Moira

Start time 10am 3.5-4 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Moira Furnace DE12 6AT Car park on site, donation requested for car parking.

Join us for our regular, leisurely walk and enjoy the countryside around Moira in the heart of the National Forest. The walk will be along the canal towpath, and on field and woodland paths.

Walk organiser: North Leicestershire - Active **Together, Julie McCaffrey** Contact: walkingmoira@gmail.com

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### **26** Wellbeing Walk - Barton under Needwood

#### Start time 10.15am 2-2.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT St James Church Hall **DE13 8HY** 

Barton's wellbeing walks offer a variety of different routes, one being the Barton Marina complex on the Trent & Mersey Canal. An enjoyable walk around the marina, taking in the sights of the narrowboats, wildlife and the local countryside. Our walks are led by volunteer leaders and afterwards visit the Marina Cafe.

Walk organiser: Everyone Active & East Staffordshire Borough Council www.everyoneactive.com eaststaffscommunities joannesmith@everyoneactive.com

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### Wellbeing Walk - Horninglow and Eton

#### Start time 10.30am

Easy

2-2.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Horninglow Road Basin DE14 2PT On street parking only

Come and enjoy our walk that runs through Shobnall, Horninglow & Eton districts of Burton. Part of the walk includes the Kingfisher Trail that runs alongside the Trent & Mersey Canal. It is a perfect setting to see narrowboats going through the locks, various wildlife and the attractive views of the hills. Walk led by volunteer leaders.

Walk organiser: Everyone Active & East Staffordshire Borough Council www.everyoneactive.com eaststaffscommunities joannesmith@everyoneactive.com





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#### 28 Parkinson's Nordic Walking Session

Start time 10.30am

Easy

1-2 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Outside the Hub Cafe, Rosliston Forestry Centre, DE12 8JX

This is a gentle Nordic walk, specifically for those living with Parkinson's and their partners/ carers. Beginners welcome. £3.80 per person, if hiring poles, £2 if using own poles. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk





### 29 Wellbeing Walk - Meadowside Leisure Centre

#### Start time 11.30am

2-2.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Meadowside Leisure Centre Reception Car park on site. Pay for Parking - voucher part of ticket redeemable at Meadowside Leisure Centre Reception

The walk offers a variety of different routes that take in the sights of the Trent Washlands, Stapenhill Gardens and Hollows. Stapenhill Gardens is a local treasure from its abundance of trees to its floral planted areas it is a peaceful, pretty walk. Led by volunteer leaders, group have refreshments at Meadowside after the walk.

Walk organiser: Everyone Active & East Staffordshire Borough Council www.everyoneactive.com eaststaffscommunities joannesmith@everyoneactive.com







Easy

#### 30 **Martinshaw Woods Forest Bathing**

## Start time 11.30am

Find us on

1.5 miles, 1.5 hours, 1 stile

#### **STARTING POINT** Martinshaw Woods Car Park LE6 OLS

Take time to unwind and come and explore these ancient Leicestershire woodlands using some Forest Bathing techniques. Discover the restorative power of the forest as well as learn about the benefits of Nordic walking with our qualified Nordic walking instructor. Booking is essential. Max. 15 places. £4 book online via ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks **Community Group** Booking: 07502 576764 ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com



#### The Tramway Trail by Scooter 31)

Start time 2pm

Easy Access

Leisurely

5-6 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

#### **STARTING POINT** Calke Explore DE73 7JF

Take a trip along the Tramway trail with a Calke Abbey Park Guide, who'll share with you some of the fabulous history of the Tramway along with the work that happens to protect this important park. Please bring your own mobility scooter. We do have 3 trampers available to book, however this is on a first come, first served basis. You can book a tramper once the event is live on the website by ringing or emailing Calke Abbey. 01332 863822

calkeabbey@nationaltrust.org.uk

Non National Trust members will need to pay for park and garden admission, refer to website for prices. Payment by either cash or card. Max 20 places (10 mobility scooters and 10 accompanying walkers).

Walk organiser: National Trust Calke Abbey Booking: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/peakdistrict-derbyshire/calke-abbey

## 32 How the Trent made Burton

#### Start time 6pm

Leisurely

2 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Meadowside Leisure Centre DE14 1TL Car park on site

A guided, flat, circular walk, around Burton's Trent Washlands, past new meadows to Stapenhill viaduct, cross the Trent to Stapenhill Gardens, then along the Eastern bank to Burton bridge and return to the Meadowside. Lots of clues on the way, showing the effect of the Trent on Burtons history and development.

#### Walk organiser: Burton Conservation Volunteers www.bcv.org.uk

Contact: bcvflowerman@gmail.com 07432 608931

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Leisurely

#### Evening Walk along the Tramway (33)

Start time 6pm 5-6 miles, 4 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Calke Explore DE73 7JF

Join one of our park guides for an evening's walk along the tramway. Take in Calke Park from a new light and look out for wildlife, while learning the history of the tramway as you go. National Trust members - no extra charge. Non National Trust members will need to pay for park and garden admission, refer to website for prices. Payment by either cash or card. Max 20 places.

Walk organiser: National Trust Calke Abbey Booking: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/peakdistrict-derbyshire/calke-abbey

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## **Nordic Walking Taster Session**

#### Start time 6pm

Leisurelv

2.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Picnic area, Rosliston Forestry Centre DE12 8JX Car park on site

Nordic walking is walking with the use of specialised poles. It burns up to 46% more calories than normal walking by getting the upper body involved and also reduces stress on the lower limbs. It is a great way to get active and have fun. This session is perfect for both beginners and experienced Nordic walkers. £2.50 if using own poles, £4.50 including pole hire. Payment in cash only, on arrival. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start time to register.

#### Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk

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#### **Discover Scalpcliffe Woods Nature** 35 Reserve

## Leisurely

1 mile, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

Start time 7pm

**STARTING POINT** Top of Elms Road: entrance gate is up the steps on the right DE15 9AQ (What3words: second.fancy. fend). Park at the top of Elms Road or at front of Stapenhill Cemetery, then walk up Elms Road.

This short walk has some steps & uneven ground. We will identify what can be found including trees, other plants, birds (using the Merlin App) and bats using a monitor. Sunset is at 8pm, so a torch is useful as it may be dark. Please email on the day, to check if the event is cancelled due to rain. Max 15-20 places.

Walk organiser: Friends of Scalpcliffe Woods Contact: Marie/Sheila foswde15@gmail.com





## Walk, Stay, Learn & Play at Rosliston Forestry Centre



Explore our new routes, have fun at our softplay, play in our park. Perfect for picnics and spending time in nature.





Join us for events, educational visits & corporate away days too. For more information email enquiries@roslistonforestrucentre.co.uk

## Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May

## **Measham Walk and Talk**

Find us on

Facebook

20

Easy

Start time 10am 0.5-1 mile, 0.5 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Peggs Close Car Park, Measham DE12 7LF (What3words: endlessly.lyricist.riverbank)

A gentle walk around Measham with the route adapted to suit the weather and the walkers. Suitable for all abilities. Refreshments after for anyone who wants, at a cost of £1.

Walk organiser: Get Active in The Forest get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk



Easy

## **Mindful Meanders at Hicks Lodge**

Start time 10am

2.5 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Hicks Lodge Forest Centre LE65 2UP Car park on site. Free parking for walk participants as part of Feel Good in the Forest- register on day

Join Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Mind for a relaxed stroll along the trails at Hicks Lodge, followed by a complementary hot drink and a chat in the centre's cafe. Enjoy the natural surroundings, meet some new people, and take part in gentle physical activity to improve your mood.

Walk organiser: Forestry England & LLR Mind





### 38 Bench to Bench - Stapenhill Gardens

#### Start time 10.30am

0.25-1 mile, 1 hour, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Stapenhill Gardens Bandstand DE15 9AP Car park on site.

The Bench to Bench walks cater for anyone who is coming back into exercise after an ongoing illness, operation or after treatment. Starting from the Bandstand and walking through the gardens and the hollows. Benches are on the route to take a rest. Led by volunteer leaders and afterwards meet at the Stapenhill Institute for refreshments.

#### Walk organiser: Everyone Active & East Staffordshire Borough Council

www.everyoneactive.com eaststaffscommunities Contact: joannesmith@everyoneactive.com

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Easy

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#### 39 Wellbeing Walks - Stapenhill Gardens

Start time 10.30am

2.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Stapenhill Gardens Bandstand DE15 9AP Car park on site.

Stapenhill offers many different walks, from the scenic surrounding of the Gardens or walking next to the River Trent to the Leicester Line Bridge. Our walks are led by volunteer leaders and afterwards they go to the Stapenhill Institute for refreshments.

#### Walk organiser: Everyone Active & East Staffordshire Borough Council www.everyoneactive.com eaststaffscommunities Contact: joannesmith@everyoneactive.com



every'one East Staffordshire



## 40 Deer Park Woodland Wander

## Start time 1.30pm

3 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Deer Park, Maker Lane, Hoar Cross DE13 8QR Car park on site.

Enjoy the sights and sounds of beautiful oak woodland, as we take a mindful walk around the Deer Park on woodland trails and farmland paths. We welcome all ages and abilities, and there is a Tramper (off-road wheelchair) available for hire. Finish the walk with a wellearned cuppa and slice of cake at the café, and browse the farm shop.

Walk organiser: National Forest Company Booking: 07976 865451 zsewter@nationalforest.org





Easy

## 41 Forest Place-names, Forest People

Start time 2pm 5 miles, 3 hours, 2 stiles

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Leisurely

STARTING POINT High Cademan, Swannymote Road LE67 5UT (What3words: dates.farms.degree) Car park on site.

Join the Charnwood Forest Geopark team for a fascinating heritage walk around Thringstone, Whitwick and Swannymote. Using only the evidence from local place-names, we'll take you back in time more than a thousand years to explore the British, Anglo-Saxon and Viking communities of Charnwood Forest. Places are limited and booking is essential.

Walk organiser: Charnwood Forest Geopark charnwoodforest.org Booking: 07890 067142 skilby@nationalforest.org



## 42 Wellbeing Walks - Stretton

#### Start time 2pm

2-2.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

## STARTING POINT The Green DE13 OEQ Car park on site.

Our Stretton walk includes the beautiful Jinnie Trail walk that is constantly being worked on by volunteers to continue to enhance the route by planting wildflowers, so encouraging more wildlife to the local area. Led by volunteer leaders and afterwards they go for refreshments.

Walk organiser: Everyone Active & East Staffordshire Borough Council www.everyoneactive.com eaststaffscommunities Contact: joannesmith@everyoneactive.com

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21

## Swad Joggers Walking Group

Start time 6.30pm 3 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

Find us on

#### **STARTING POINT** The Bandstand at Maurice Lea Memorial Park, Church Gresley DE11 9NW Free roadside parking all around the park.

A free, fun, friendly walk around the trails and roads of Church Gresley and Swadlincote led by qualified walk leaders, all abilities welcome over the age of 18. Max. 24 places. Booking essential.

#### Walk organiser: Swad Joggers Booking: 07508 805567 swadjoggers@gmail.com

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Leisurely

## Swad Joggers Run

Start time 6.30pm

#### Leisurely

3,4,5 or 6 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** The Bandstand at Maurice Lea Memorial Park, Church Gresley DE11 9NW Free roadside parking all around the park.

A free, friendly and fun run around the roads and trails of church Gresley and Swadlincote led by qualified run leaders for anyone 18 or above. Various mileage options. Max. 48 places over 4 groups.

#### Walk organiser: Swad Joggers Booking: 07508 805567 swadjoggers@gmail.com





## 45 Fieldhead Pub Evening walk

Start time 6.30pm 3 miles, 1.5 hours, 4 stiles Moderate

STARTING POINT Fieldhead Pub, Markfield LE67 9PS Car park on site.

Enjoy an evening Nordic walk from The Fieldhead pub taking in some of the woodland between Markfield and Bradgate Park. The walk will end back at the pub for something to eat and drink. Led by a qualified Nordic walking instructor. Booking essential. Poles will be provided. Max. 15 places. £5 book online via ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks **Community Group** Booking: 07502 576764

ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com



#### Wellbeing Walks - Stapenhill 46 Hollows

### Start time 6.45pm

Easy

2-2.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Stapenhill Hollows car park DE15 9AE

Our enjoyable Stapenhill Hollows evening walk is a perfect way to relax after a busy and stressful day. We offer a wide range of walks which include Stapenhill Gardens, the Ferry Bridge, Trent Washlands, Leicester Line Bridge etc. Led by volunteer leaders.

Walk organiser: Everyone Active & East Staffordshire Borough Council www.evervoneactive.com eaststaffscommunities Contact: joannesmith@everyoneactive.com

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## Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May

#### **Beacon Hill Nature Bumble for** 47 **Beginners**

## Start time 10am

**Easy Access** 

1.5 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Beacon Hill Upper Car Park LE12 8TA (What3words: doubt. certified.packet). 1-2 hours £3.50, 2-3 hours £4.50.

A gentle stroll around some younger woodland at Beacon Hill, pausing for conversation about the trees we see on the way. Max. 25 places. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: Charnwood Forest Geopark charnwoodforest.org

Booking: www.ticketsource.co.uk/charnwoodforest-geopark Tel. 07890 067140





## **Forest Industry: Shaping People** and Landscape

Start time 10am 8 miles, 5.5 hours, 10 stiles

**Strenuous** 

**STARTING POINT** Markfield Church LE67 9WD On street parking near Markfield church or small car park in the village

This walk celebrates the physical and human geography of this industrial part of western Charnwood Forest, which has been extensively guarried for hundreds of years. As well as walking around Cliffe Hill and Hill Hole quarries, you'll learn about the people who worked there in the nineteenth century. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: Charnwood Forest Geopark charnwoodforest.org Booking: 07890 067142

skilby@nationalforest.org







For more information email enquiries@roslistonforestrucentre.co.uk

## 49 Discover Calke Abbey, Staunton Harold and Foremark by Foot

## Start time 10am

Find us on

Moderate

10.5 miles, 5 hours, 9 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Calke Explore DE73 7JF Car park on site. Non National Trust members will need to pay park and garden admission, refer to website for prices.

Explore somewhere new on a walk through three National Trust properties: Calke Abbey, Foremark and Staunton Harold reservoirs. Soak up scenic views, stretch your legs and learn more about each place from your volunteer guide. All three locations have a cafe, but we advise bringing a picnic in case the walk isn't near one at lunchtime, or they are closed. Max. 20 places. Non National Trust members will need to pay for park and garden admission, refer to website for prices. Payment by either cash or card. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: National Trust Calke Abbey Booking: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/peakdistrict-derbyshire/calke-abbey/events

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## Start time 10am

**Easy Access** 

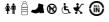
National

2 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Green Bank Leisure Centre, Civic Way, Swadlincote DE11 0AD Car park on site.

Join us for this sociable weekly walk through the local parks around Swadlincote town centre. This walk splits into two groups and is ideal for those who are new to exercise or returning after a break. It finishes with a hot drink at Oakland's Village Restaurant (Optional).

Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest Contact: get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk





## 51 Achille Wood and Farm Walk

## Start time 10am

Leisurely

2 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Hill Farm, Spring Lane, Packington LE65 1WU Car park on site

Take a leisurely stoll around the farm and woodland, taking in Canadian bison, red deer, alpacas and many more. Finish with a visit to Antlers and Alpaca coffee and gift shop for brunch or refreshments.

Walk organiser: E W Sumnall and Sons hillfarmpackington@hotmail.co.uk





Moderate

#### **Heather Walk** (52)

Start time 10am

7 miles, 3 hours, some stiles

**STARTING POINT** St John the Baptist Church, Main Street, Heather, Coalville, LE67 2QP. Roadside parking in village.

Start from the St John the Baptist Church. Sence Valley Country Park, Queen Elizabeth Wood, Normanton-le-Heath, Swepstone and return to Heather. Approximately 7 miles.

Walk organiser: Leicestershire Footpath Association www.lfa.org.uk/about

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#### Wellbeing Walks - Rolleston on 53 Dove

### Start time 10.30am

2-2.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Outside side entrance Spread Eagle Pub DE13 9BE On street parking.

Walk through the picturesque village of Rolleston on Dove and take in the various sights from the Alder Brook stream surrounded by a woodland. It is also the home of the Jinnie Trail, a rural walk through a man-made valley where you can see parts of the old railway tracks. Led by leaders and afterwards refreshments at the Rolleston Club.

Walk organiser: Everyone Active & East Staffordshire Borough Council www.everyoneactive.com eaststaffscommunities Contact: joannesmith@everyoneactive.com







Easy

## 54 Wellbeing Walks - Yoxall

#### Start time 10.45am

2.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Yoxall Health Centre outside on footpath DE13 8PD On street parking only.

With Yoxall being in the heart of the countryside, you will find the walks very peaceful and there is always plenty to see. With it being in such a rural setting you will find that most of the routes are on countryside lanes and there can be inclines. Led by volunteer leaders.

#### Walk organiser: Everyone Active & East Staffordshire Borough Council

www.everyoneactive.com eaststaffscommunities Contact: joannesmith@everyoneactive.com

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#### **Ancient Rocks and Mount Saint** 55) **Bernard Abbey**

Start time 1.30pm

Moderate

2 miles, 1.5 hours, 4 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Mount Saint Bernard Abbey LE67 5UL

Discover a beautiful, quiet corner of Charnwood Forest with an intriguing heritage with Mt St Bernard Abbey, the first abbey to be built after the Reformation, and the nearby Reformatory. Walk amongst some of the oldest rocks in England, over 600 million years old; look into Peldar Tor Quarry, remnant of a Precambrian volcano. Some steep slopes and uneven terrain.

Walk organiser: Whitwick Historical Group whitwickhistoricalgroup.co.uk whitwickhistoricalgroup83@gmail.com

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### 56 Wildlife Watch at Albert Vilage Lake

#### Start time 2.30pm

1.8 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

Easy Access

25

STARTING POINT Albert Village Lake Car Park, 219 Occupation Road, Albert Village DE11 8HD (What3words: coffee.lots.slobs)

Join National Forest Community Rangers for a guided wildlife walk around this lovely lake, formerly an open cast mine. The paths are well surfaced and there is one incline, with options to shorten the route if needed. We will be taking frequent stops to observe wildlife and listen to snippets of history along the way. Suitable for all ages and abilities. Max. 30 places. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: National Forest Company Booking: 07976 865451 zsewter@nationalforest.org

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(57) Newton Solney & Winshill circular walk

Start time 6pm 3.5 miles, 1.5 hours, 8 stiles Moderate

STARTING POINT Brickmakers Arms 9-11 Main Street, DE15 OSJ (What3words: jazz. chat.gravy)

A circular walk, uphill out and downhill back, on well maintained paths, taking in ancient hedgerows and expensive follies, giving stunning views over the National Forest and out to the Peak District. Booking essential.

#### Walk organiser: Burton Conservation Volunteers www.bcv.org.uk

Booking: bcvflowerman@gmail.com 07432 608931





## 58 Trail Therapy Jog

Find us on

Leisurely

Start time 6.30pm 5 mile jog, 1.5 hours, 3 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Various locations - see website www.peakrunning.co.uk

'Trail Therapy' runs are runs at a chatty pace, suitable for runners of all abilities. They are a great way to improve your fitness, de-stress and have fun in wonderful surroundings. The runs take around an hour going at a pace that is comfortable for everyone in the group. There are likely to be some moderate hills on most runs and you may encounter some muddy sections. Max. 30 places. £4 per person. Book via

www.peakrunning.co.uk/guided-runs

Walk organiser: Peak Running Contact: info@peakrunning.co.uk ₩£ 🔦

Peak Running



## Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

### **50** Barton and Dunstall - Highlands Farm and Dunstall Hall

### Start time 9.30am

4.5 miles, 2.5 hours, 1 stile

STARTING POINT Barton under Needwood Village Hall Car park DE13 8AF

A quiet, pretty walk across the Dunstall Estate and across paths to Highlands Farm with views across the local area and a slow decent to Dunstall Church and Hall and wooded paths back to Barton.

Walk organiser: Barton Footpath Group Contact: Mick Broughton 07598 546380

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## 60 bRUNch Club Trail Therapy Run

Start time 9.30am 5 miles, 1.75 hours, 5 stiles Leisurely

**STARTING POINT** Various locations - see website www.peakrunning.co.uk

'Trail Therapy' runs are runs at a chatty pace, suitable for runners of all abilities. They are a great way to improve your fitness, de-stress and have fun in wonderful surroundings. The runs take around an hour going at a pace that is comfortable for everyone in the group. There are likely to be some moderate hills on most runs and you may encounter some muddy sections. Max. 30 places. £4 per person. Booking essential. Book via: www.peakrunning.co.uk/guided-runs

Walk organiser: Peak Running www.peakrunning.co.uk/guided-runs Contact: info@peakrunning.co.uk



Peak Running

Easy

#### 61 Nordic Walk with Feldenkrais Taster Session

#### Start time 9.30am

Leisurely

2.5 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Picnic area, Rosliston Forestry Centre DE12 8JX Car park on site

This session begins with a free Feldenkrais taster session at 9:30am. You will explore a sequence of fun, novel and gentle movements, and this process of exploration will enhance your perception and awareness of your movement habits, which leads to an easier and more efficient way of moving yourself. Please visit www.feldenkrais.co.uk for more information. The Nordic walk will begin at 10am. Nordic walking is walking with the use of specialised poles, which engages more muscles than walking without poles and helps to reduce stress on the lower limbs. This session is ideal for both beginners and experienced Nordic walkers. £2.50 if using own poles, £4.50 including pole hire.

Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk Contact: Feldenkrais Teacher: Doris Fok Contact: foksiufoon@hotmail.com or 07845884742

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## 62 History Walk to Gracedieu Priory

Leisurely

2 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

Start time 10am

STARTING POINT Bull's Head Car park, Thringstone LE67 8LT

Walk through part of Gracedieu Wood, under the Charnwood Forest Railway, along part of the Forest Line Canal and into the picturesque ruins of Gracedieu Priory, a 13th century nunnery and later a Tudor Mansion. Learn about the area's history along the way. £3 per person.

Walk organiser: Friends of Gracedieu gracedieupriory.org.uk Contact: annpetty1948@yahoo.co.uk





## 63 Coronation Park Walk

## Start time 10am

Leisurely

27

2.5-3 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Coronation Park car park, William Nadin Way, Swadlincote DE11 OUH

Join us for this weekly walk in and around Cadley and Coronation Parks. The walk will be up to 3 miles long and is ideal for those who are already active but looking to increase their fitness. We will be using newly developed maps to highlight the paths and open spaces in the local area.

Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest Contact: get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk





Easy

## 64 Wellbeing Walks - Tutbury

#### Start time 10am

2-2.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Monk Street footpath next to car park DE13 9NA

On the walk, Tutbury castle can be seen in the distance sitting on the wooded slope over looking the River Dove. Due to Tutbury's location there is some slight inclines on the routes so we offer 2 walks one slightly shorter than the other. Led by volunteer leaders and afterwards they go for refreshments at a local cafe.

Walk organiser: Everyone Active & East Staffordshire Borough Council www.everyoneactive.com eaststaffscommunities Contact: joannesmith@everyoneactive.com

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## **65** Swithland Wood and Bradgate Park

#### Start time 10am

Leisurelv

5.5 miles, 3 hours, some stiles

Find us on

**STARTING POINT** The Bradgate, Newton Linford, LE6 OAE Car park on site.

Starts from The Bradgate, with optional pub lunch to follow. The walk goes through Swithland Wood and back through Bradgate Park on a tarmac path. Pub lunch can be pre-ordered from 9:45am.

Walk organiser: Leicestershire Footpath Association www.lfa.org.uk/about



## 66 Birthday Walk

Strenuous

Start time 10am 11 miles, 6 hours, 6 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Sence Valley Forest Park - lower car park LE67 6NW (What3words: behind.goose.spouse). £1.95 all day parking.

Join us on this lovely rural circular walk, which links 10 woodlands created during the first 10 years of the National Forest. The route passes through villages, native woodlands, farmland and wildlife reserves. We will take a lunch stop (bring a picnic or use the café) at the 1620's Manor House in Donington le Heath, before returning to Sence Valley Forest Park. Max. 20 places. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: National Forest Company Booking: 07976 865451 zsewter@nationalforest.org





## 67 All Abilities Sensory Walk

#### Start time 11am

1.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

#### STARTING POINT Swadlincote Woodlands Car Park DE11 8LP

A gentle guided walk that will take you around the tranquil Swadlincote Woodlands which is a nature haven for multitude of creatures such as dragonflies, butterflies, bats and birds. Awaken your senses as we walk around together. During the walk there will be several stops to take in the natural environment and wildlife. As an all abilities walk, we are looking to go at a pace that everyone is comfortable with. The route has limited gradients with two gentle ascents and one short descent and wide pathways for wheelchair access. A great way to start to get active and to access the woodlands.

Walk organiser: Parksandgreenspaces@ southderbyshire.gov.uk www.southderbyshire.gov.uk

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Leisurely

## 🚯 Willington Walk

Start time 1.30pm 2.5 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Willington Canal Car Park, DE65 6BP

Come and enjoy a led walk along the scenic canal at Willington and stop for a hot drink in a local cafe afterwards. This is a steady paced walk along decent footpaths. Although there are no stiles, there are a few steps en route.

Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk





Easy

## 69 Swad Joggers Run

#### Leisurely

Start time 6.30pm 3,4,5 or 6 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** The Bandstand at Maurice Lea Memorial Park, Church Gresley DE11 9NW Free roadside parking all around the park.

A free, friendly and fun run around the roads and trails of church Gresley and Swadlincote led by qualified run leaders for anyone 18 or above. Various mileage options. Max. 48 places over 4 groups. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: Swad Joggers Booking: 07508 805567 swadjoggers@gmail.com



Swad<sup>3</sup> Joggers

## 🔞 Swad Joggers Walking Group

Start time 6.30pm 3 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

### Leisurely

**STARTING POINT** The Bandstand at Maurice Lea Memorial Park, Church Gresley DE11 9NW Free roadside parking all around the park.

A free, fun, friendly walk around the trails and roads of Church Gresley and Swadlincote led by qualified walk leaders, all abilities welcome over the age of 18. Max. 24 places.

Walk organiser: Swad Joggers Booking: 07508 805567 swadjoggers@gmail.com





### Evening Walk in St Peter's Wood, Biodiversity and Productive Woodland Working Together

### Start time 6pm

1-2 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** St Peters Wood parking area (What3words: impose.reward.glare) Car park on site or Hartshorne Village Hall

A guided leisurely evening walk through St Peters Wood. Planted in 2021 this 50 acre woodland includes a wonderful range of woodland types and structures, from parkland to mixed conifers. With a network of high quality surfaced paths and on site parking the walk will be open to all with some options for the more able to see different parts of the woodland and experience the views. The guides will be able to show you a diverse range of habitats and wildlife, possibly even bats and Barn owls. Max. 40 places. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: Mountpark Booking:

marion.farrell@groundworknottingham.org.uk 07801 122494 www.mountpark.com





Easy

## Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

## **Trails and Tales Walk**

Start time 9.30am 5.5 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

Find us on

Facebook

**STARTING POINT** Shobnall canal bridge opposite Shobnall fields, behind Saw Mill Way DE14 2JP(What3words: jokes.pencil. soil). Roadside parking available nearby.

Join us for this specially extended version of our regular weekly walk. This walk is for ladies who live locally and would like to get more active whilst making new friends. We will walk along the canal to Branston Water Park and back.

Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest Contact: get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk 07977 439309

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Leisurely

## Walk and Talk

Start time 10am

Easy

2-3 miles, 0.75 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Heartwood Medical Practice, DE11 OAE Park at side of building or use bus station car park.

A gentle walk on the flat and on pathways. Meet in surgery waiting area at 9:45am. Very sociable, friendly group meeting every Friday.

#### Walk organiser: Heartwood Medical Practice

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## 74 Best Kept Villages

#### Start time 10am

Moderate 8 miles, 4 hours, some stiles

#### STARTING POINT Coton Wood, Coton in the Elms, DE12 8EP

This 8-mile walk takes you through some of the prettiest villages in the Mease Lowlands. It links both ancient woodlands and those that have been planted as part of the developing National Forest. Village greens, historic houses and distinctive church spires are all features of this route. Taking in some of the rolling countryside in the Mease valley, this walk is a lovely route for exploring the quiet villages of South Derbyshire and uncovering some of the history of the area.

Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest Contact: get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk

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Easy

(75) Supporting Your Cancer/Survivor **Journey Nordic Walk** 

#### Start time 11am

1.5 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Thornton Reservoir Car Park LE67 1AR

Come along and find out about some of the benefits of Nordic walking for those living with cancer. Led by a qualified Nordic walking instructor you will receive beginners' instruction as well as being able to talk with others who have found Nordic walking has helped them. Booking essential as limited spaces. Poles provided. Refreshments available nearby. Max. 12 places.

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks **Community Group** Booking: 07502 576764 ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com





## 76 Thornton to Bagworth Circular

#### Start time 1pm

Moderate

3.5 miles, 2 hours, 2 stiles

#### STARTING POINT Thornton Reservoir Car Park LE67 1AR

A great walk for those both new and experienced Nordic walkers to get those poles working up hill! Led by a qualified Nordic walking instructor we will explore this circular route that has both steps and stiles on route. We will stop for a short break midway round so feel free to bring a sandwich and drink along. Booking essential. Poles can be provided. Max. 15 places. £4 book online via ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks Community Group Booking: 07502 576764 ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com



## 77 5 Parishes

#### Start time 1.30pm

6.5 miles, approx. 4 hours, 3 stiles

STARTING POINT Shobnall Leisure Complex, car park alongside the skate park DE14 2BB

A circular walk with a chance to see some urban Nature Reserves (good and bad) peaceful stretches of canal, recent plantations and some stunning views over Burton and the National Forest.

Walk organiser: Burton Conservation Volunteers www.bcv.org.uk Contact: bcvflowerman@gmail.com 07432 608931

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Moderate

## **78** Achille Wood and Farm Walk

#### Start time 7pm

Moderate

2 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

Find us on

STARTING POINT Hill Farm, Spring Lane, Packington LE65 1WU Car park on site

Take a leisurely stroll around the farm and woodland, taking in Canadian bison, red deer, alpacas and many more. See if you can spot one of the many owls on the farm alongside other night creatures. Finish with a visit to Antlers and Alpaca coffee and gift shop for a BBQ with bison or venison burgers.

Walk organiser: E W Sumnall and Sons hillfarmpackington@hotmail.co.uk





## Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May

#### Up with the Lark at Billa Barra 79)

Start time 7am 2 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles Moderate

**STARTING POINT** Billa Barra Hill Car Park LE67 9TA

An early start to enjoy this little known ecologically significant site with some amazing history too! A great walk for those new to Nordic walking where the poles will help climbing the hill for the spectacular views. Led by a qualified Nordic walking instructor. Poles will be provided. Booking essential. Max 12 places. £5 book online via ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com.

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks **Community Group** Booking: 07502 576764 ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com



## 80 Nordic Walk a Volcano!

#### Start time 9am

Moderate

4 miles, 1.5 hours, 2 stiles

#### STARTING POINT Agar Nook Community Centre LE67 4TN

Perfect walk for the more experienced Nordic walker. Led by a qualified Nordic walking instructor. Booking essential. Poles will be provided. Experience this amazing walk up an extinct volcano to the highest point in Leicestershire. Wonderful panoramic views to be seen throughout this woodland walk on a clear day. Max. 12 places. £5 book online via ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks **Community Group** Booking: 07502 576764 ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com

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#### **Rosliston Parkrun** (81)

Start time 9am

Moderate

3.1 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Rosliston Forestry Centre DE12 8JX (What3words: metro.trout.frost) £1.50 for an hour or £4.00 all day.

Rosliston parkrun is a free, fun and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate - it's up to you! The event takes place at 9am every Saturday at Rosliston Forestry Centre. Parkrun is free but we would ask you to register and get a barcode first so we can scan your barcode and include you in the results. You can register on the parkrun website www.parkrun.org.uk/register.

Walk organiser: Rosliston parkrun www.parkrun.org.uk/rosliston/

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## Bird Inspired Walk at Beacon Hill Neurodiverse Adults and Friends Getting Close to Nature

Start time 12noon Easy Access under 1 mile, 40 mins, 0 stiles

**STARTING POINT** Green man carving in Lower Beacon Hill car park LE12 8TA Check Leicesterhsire County Council website for parking charges.

Join artist Lucy Stevens and a birding expert for a guided walk through Lower Beacon Hill following the accessible trail created by Safe Well Happy, an adult social group with learning disabilities. The group worked with Lucy and Charnwood Arts to develop painted trail markers through a series of nature and art inspired workshops. For age 14+. Max. 15 places.

Walk organiser: Charnwood Forest Geopark charnwoodforest.org Booking: info@lucystevens.co.uk



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## 83 Bagworth Heath Woods

#### **Start time 12noon** 3 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

## STARTING POINT Bagworth Heath Car park LE67 1DL

Come along and find out about some of the health benefits of Nordic walking. Led by a qualified Nordic walking instructor you will receive beginners' instruction as well as being able to take part in a walk around this woodland in the National Forest. Booking essential as limited spaces. Poles provided. Refreshments available nearby.

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks Community Group Booking: 07502 576764 ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com







Leisurely

## Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May

## 84 Swadlincote Junior Parkrun

Find us on

Start time 9am 2 miles, 0.5 hours, 0 stiles Leisurelv

**STARTING POINT** Maurice Lea Memorial Park, York Road, Church Gresley, Swadlincote DE11 9NW

A free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds) every Sunday at 9am. The event takes place in Maurice Lea Memorial Park, York Road, Church Gresley, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, DE11 9QG. See event page for details: www.parkrun.org.uk/swadlincotejuniors

Event organiser: Swadlincote Junior Parkrun Contact: swadlincotejuniors@parkrun.com ⊗ ⊕ t, **⊀ (**1)

#### Washlands to Walton (85)

Moderate

Start time 10am 12 miles, 6.5 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Trent Washlands car park, end of Watson Street, Burton-on-Trent DE14 3AH (What3words: runs.flag.cotton)

A flat walk alongside the River Trent towards Walton. Lunch stop at Barton Marina before returning along the Trent & Mersey canal. Various Burton Conservation Volunteers projects to view along the way, plus two Staffordshire Wildlife Trust nature reserves. Option to return by bus after the first half of the walk.

#### Walk organiser: Burton Conservation Volunteers www.bcv.org.uk





## 86 Explore Church Gresley

Start time 10am 3 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles Leisurely

**STARTING POINT** The Bandstand, Maurice Lea Memorial Park, Common Road, Church Gresley, Swadlincote DE11 9NW (What3words: hope.focus.eager) Road side parking available around the Park.

Join us for this 3 mile walk that will explore some of the open spaces and woodlands of Church Gresley. Discover trails and find out more about what's on offer within the local area.

Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk 07977 439309





## **Beacon Hill Nature Bumble for** Beginners

Start time 10am

**Easy Access** 

1.5 miles, 2 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Beacon Hill Upper Car Park LE12 8TA (What3words: doubt. certified.packet). 2-3 hours £4.50.

A gentle stroll around some younger woodland at Beacon Hill, pausing for conversation about the trees we see on the way. Max. 25 places. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: Charnwood Forest Geopark charnwoodforest.org

Booking: www.ticketsource.co.uk/charnwoodforest-geopark Tel. 07890 067140





## 88 Groby Pool to Sheet Hedges Wood

#### Start time 1.30pm

Leisurely

3 miles, 1.5 hours, 0 stiles

STARTING POINT Groby Pool car park LE6 OFR

A great walk for those new to Nordic walking. Led by a qualified Nordic walking instructor there is plenty to see and discover in this figure of eight nature walk taking in both woodland and the largest natural water site in Leicestershire. Booking essential. Nordic walking poles can be provided. Max. 15 places. £4 book online via ministryofnordicwalks@ gmail.com

Walk organiser: Ministry of Nordic Walks Community Group Booking: 07502 576764 ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com



## Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May

## 89 Trail Therapy Sunrise Special

Start time 4.45am 4 miles, 1.75 hours, 2 stiles

#### Moderate

STARTING POINT Bardon Hill Sports Club, Bardon Close, Coalville, LE67 4BS

Join us on a mini adventure, jogging or walking to the highest point in the National Forest as the sun rises. It's a very early start and a challenging climb, but it will be worth it for the expansive views across the area. Our 'Trail Therapy' activities are suitable for a wide range of abilities and a great way to improve your fitness, de-stress and have fun in wonderful surroundings.

Walk organiser: Peak Running Contact: info@peakrunning.co.uk

**PA**36

Peak Running

## 90 A Walk Around Swannington

Start time 1.30pm 3.5 miles, 1.75 hours, 5 stiles

STARTING POINT Hough Mill, St. George's Hill, Swannington LE67 8QW

Starting from the late 18th century Hough Mill, this walk around Swannington is over varied terrain comprising unsurfaced tracks, including ancient green lanes, country lanes, woodland and fields. The Swannington Incline, part of the Leicester and Swannington Railway, takes us down through an impressive cutting dug by hand in 1832/3. There may be some mud if it has been raining beforehand. The Mill will be open for viewing on our return. Max. 20 places. Booking essential.

Walk organiser: Swannington Heritage Trust 07474 610112

Booking: swanningtonwalks@gmail.com │ ▲ ⓒ 本前 💦



Leisurely

#### Mational Memorial Arboretum Walk

Start time 2pm 2 miles, 1 hour, 0 stiles **Easy Access** 

**STARTING POINT** National Memorial Arboretum, in courtyard outside the cafe. DE23 7AR Car park on site.

Join us for our weekly walk around the Arboretum. The walk lasts between 45 minutes and 1 hour, and is aimed at getting people more active whilst at the same time enjoying their local environment. People of any level of fitness can take part in these walks, as the trained walk leaders can adapt the walk to suit any pace. These walks may take you off our hard standing pathways, please ensure you are wearing suitable footwear and are dressed appropriately for the weather.

Walk organiser: Get Active in the Forest get.active@southderbyshire.gov.uk

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## Local Walking Festivals 2025

## Autumn Footprint Walking Festival

Saturday 13th to Sunday 28th September 2025 www.autumnfootprints.co.uk marion.farrell@groundworknottingham.org.uk

## **Erewash Walking Month**

To Celebrate National Walking Month of May including planned walks and walk challenges Thursday 1st – Saturday 31st May 2025 For more information contact rachel.scott@erewash.gov.uk www.erewash.gov.uk/community-health-and-wellbeing-development/walking

## **Derbyshire Dales Walking Festival**

End of September 2025 sportsdevelopment@derbyshiredales.gov.uk 01629 761194

## **Regularly Active Groups 2025**

There are lots of friendly walking groups you can join, who meet regularly and cater for a variety of fitness levels and abilities.

Derby and South Derbyshire Ramblers www.	ramblers.org.uk/derby-south-derbyshire
Ministry of Nordic Walks	ministryofnordicwalks@gmail.com
Community Group in Leicester/Leicestershire	07502 576764
Get Active in the Forest Wellbeing walks and Walk Derbyshire walks	Get.Active@southderbyshire.gov.uk
The Ashby Would Litterheroes	Twitter: @AWLitterheroes
	Instagram: @awlitterheroes
East Staffordshire Ramblers	www.eaststaffsramblers.org.uk
	Group Chairperson. Tel: 01283 820486
	Vice-Chairperson. Tel: 01283 820673
Loughborough Ramblers	www.loughboroughramblers.org.uk
Coalville CAN	www.coalvillecan.coop
Leicestershire Footpath Association (LFA)	www.lfa.org.uk
Derwent Valley Orienteers	www.dvo.org.uk
Coalville Ramblers www.ramblers.org.uk/go-v	valking/ramblers-groups/coalville-group
Everyone Active – Wellbeing Walks East Staffordsh	ire www.everyoneactive.com

eaststaffsactivecommunities/

## Activities 2025

#### **SNOWSPORTS**

Swadlincote Snowsports Centre has a dry ski slope with lessons and activities including skiing, snowboarding, tubing and tobogganing.

www.jnlswadlincote.co.uk 01283 890 089



#### **FISHING**

Day fishing is available at well-stocked lakes and reservoirs in picturesque surroundings, including Beehive Woodland Lakes, Coopers Lake, Rosliston Forestry Centre and Springwood Fisheries.

www.visitsouthderbyshire.co.uk

#### GOLF

Swadlincote Family Golf Centre offers a 9 hole golf course, FootGolf, floodlit driving range and golf lessons with pay-as-you-play. Visitors are also welcome to play at Broughton Heath Golf Club and Burton-on-Trent Golf Club.

www.visitsouthderbyshire.co.uk

#### **CLIMBING**

Green Bank Leisure Centre in Swadlincote has an indoor sixteen station climbing centre – no experience is needed, just clip on and climb.

www.everyoneactive.com/centre/ green-bank-leisure-centre 01283 216 269



There are a number of stables in the area where you can learn to ride, improve your skills, learn a new discipline or simply enjoy riding out, including Barleyfields, Hargate, Holme Farm and Knowlehill Equestrian Centres.

www.bhs.org.uk 02476 840 500

#### ORIENTEERING

Rosliston Forestry Centre has a range of outdoor activities for all ages and abilities, including orienteering, cycle hire, play areas and wildlife watching.

www.roslistonforestrycentre.co.uk 01283 563 483

## CYCLING

There are miles of on and off road cycle trails on which you can explore the Forest, including cycle hire facilities at Calke Abbey and Rosliston Forestry Centre. The new Cadley Park in Swadlincote features a cycle way, a pump track and an area for new cyclists to learn how to ride.

www.cycle.travel



#### FLYING

Derby Airfield at Egginton is home to Derby Aero Club & Flying School, which offers trial lessons and training in light aircraft.

01283 733 803 www.derbyaeroclub.com

Cycling and Walking Holidays? www.ebikeholiday.co.uk 01530 417 482

## NATIONAL FOREST WALKING FESTIVAL PARTNERS 2025

ACTIVE TOGETHER

www.activemumsclub.org

#### **BARTON FOOTPATH GROUP**

BETTER OUTDOORS www.betteroutdoors.org.uk

#### **BIRDWATCHING FOR BEGINNERS**

#### **BRANSTON FRIENDS**

BURTON + DISTRICT WILDLIFE GROUP www.bcv.org.uk

BURTON CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS www.bcv.org.uk

BURTON HISTORY TOURS www.goldenbadger.co.uk/burton-history-tours/

> CHARNWOOD FOREST GEOPARK charnwoodforest.org

#### CONNECT TO NATURE

E W SUMNALL AND SONS www.hillfarmpackington.co.uk

EVERYONE ACTIVE www.everyoneactive.com/EastStaffsActiveCommunities/

FORESTRY ENGLAND www.forestryengland.uk/feel-good-in-the-forest

> GET ACTIVE IN THE FOREST www.southderbyshire.gov.uk

HEARTWOOD MEDICAL PRACTICE www.heartwoodmedicalpractice.co.uk

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL www.leicestershire.gov.uk LEICESTERSHIRE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION www.lfa.org.uk/about

#### MINISTRY OF NORDIC WALKS COMMUNITY GROUP

MOUNTPARK www.mountpark.com

NATIONAL FOREST COMPANY nationalforest.org

NATIONAL TRUST CALKE ABBEY www.nationaltrust.org.uk/calke

#### **NEWHALL COMMUNITY**

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL www.nwleics.gov.uk

> PEAK RUNNING www.peakrunning.co.uk

ROSLISTON PARKRUN parkrun.org.uk/rosliston/

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL www.southderbyshire.gov.uk

#### SWAD JOGGERS RUNNING GROUPS

SWANNINGTON HERITAGE TRUST www.swannington-heritage.co.uk

THE FRIENDS OF GRACE DIEU PRIORY www.gracedieupriory.org.uk

#### THE FRIENDS OF SCALPCLIFFE WOODS

WHITWICK HISTORICAL GROUP www.whitwickhistoricalgroup.co.uk

WILD MINDS NATURE CONNECTION CIC www.wildmindsnature.co.uk

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Darren Cresswell Photography



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**Magic Attic Archives** 





FOREST







The National Forest Walking Festival

Brochure designed by creativemelon www.creativemelonline.co.uk



## Visit South Derbyshire to find the hidden gems within The National Forest

www.visitsouthderbyshire.co.uk email: info@visitsouthderbyshire.co.uk



South Derbyshire Visitor Information Centre, 1 High Street, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, DE118JG

🚯 Visit South Derbyshire 💿 visitsouthderbyshire 🕜 01283 223333

THE NATIONAL FOREST

If you would to get involved in next year's National Forest Walking Festival, please email Get.Active@southderbyshire.gov.uk by September 2025

All details correct at time of publication.



## **GETTING HERE IS EASY**

The National Forest Walking Festival takes place in the very heart of England and is easily accessible by rail, bus or road

## Why not leave the car at home...

#### By rail:

Information on rail services is available from: National Rail Enquiries: 03457 48 49 50 (Charges apply) www.nationalrail.co.uk

#### By bus:

Information on bus and coach timetables is available from: Traveline: 0871 200 22 33 (Charges apply) www.traveline.info National Express: 08717 818181 (Charges apply) www.nationalexpress.com

#### By road:

For visitors travelling by car or coach, the National Forest is easily accessible from the M1, M6, M42/A42, A50, A511 and the A38