



WALKS FOR EVERYBODY

STEVENAGE

WALKING FESTIVAL



SATURDAY 2 - SUNDAY 10 MAY 2026

SWE.NHRG.ORG.UK



Welcome...

Welcome to the 12th Stevenage Walking Festival

About the Festival

What better way to spend a few hours than stretching your legs and enjoying the fresh air? Stevenage and the surrounding countryside offer a wide range of enjoyable local walks for all abilities.

You do not need to book in advance for most walks. Simply turn up at the meeting point at the advertised time.

The only walks that require booking are the Evening History Walks, as places are limited.

About the Walks

There is a walk for everyone, and everyone is welcome.

- Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Medium and Long Walks are best suited to more experienced or fitter walkers.
- Short Walks, Health Walks and the Family Orienteering Trail are suitable for all ages and abilities.

Choose a walk from the programme and arrive on time at the meeting point. For some walks, car sharing may be available.

All walks are led by experienced volunteer leaders and are free to attend. However, please note that you take part at your own risk.

Stevenage Borough Council and the event organisers cannot accept responsibility for any personal injury during the walks.

We have three dog-friendly walks in the programme. For all other walks, only registered guide dogs are permitted.

Come Prepared

To enjoy the walks safely and comfortably, please come prepared.

- Wear comfortable and supportive footwear
- Dress for the weather conditions (for example waterproofs or sun hats)
- Bring a bottle of water

We also recommend bringing:

- A drink and snack for Short and Medium Walks
- A packed lunch for Long Walks

Please make sure you feel confident walking the distance of the walk you choose. Our experienced leaders will ensure that no one is left behind.

Most importantly, come along ready to enjoy yourself and explore the local countryside.

More Information

For the latest updates and details, please visit: swf.nhrg.org.uk

Saturday 2 May

OFFICIAL OPENING by the Mayor of Stevenage. All Welcome!
9:15am Saturday 2nd May Stevenage Showground
(opposite Stevenage FC Football Ground), Broadhall Way, SG2 8RH

The festival is organised by Stevenage Leisure 50, North Herts Ramblers and Stevenage Health Walks group with the support of Stevenage Borough Council.

Walk	Description	Meet	Leaders
Short 4 miles	An easy paced walk from the Showground to Shephalbury Park, returning through Peartree Park, Fairlands lakes, and Whomerley wood.	9:30am Stevenage Showground, SG2 8RH.	Carol Stokes 07813 800874
Dog Friendly Walk 5 miles	A walk around the Langley Valley. Well behaved dogs welcome.	10:00am The Rusty Gun, Chapelfoot, Hitchin, SG4 7PG.	Jenny Mason 01438 871580
Family Orienteering Trail	A day out for the family to explore Fairlands Valley Park and get the opportunity to take part in activities, complete a family orienteering trail and have lots of fun. The route can be accessed by walking, cycling, and is wheelchair and pushchair accessible.	Fairlands Activity Centre Fairlands Valley Park 11:00 am-3:00pm. Come and collect your pack from the activity centre.	Stevenage Borough Council Leisure Team leisure@Stevenage.gov.uk

Sunday 3 May

Walk	Description	Meet	Leaders
Long 10.7 Miles	A circular rural walk from Knebworth to Codicote, Kimpton and Whitwell.	9:30am Stevenage Showground for car share. Start 10:00am Old Knebworth Park Wood CP, 70 Park Lane, SG3 6PP or along Park Lane GR: TL237203.	Gabriela Lovelace 07788 505045
Evening History Walk	"From Six Hills to Silkingrad", starting at the Bus Station and finishing in the High Street at the site of Silkin's infamous speech in 1946. Numbers Limited. Must be booked in advance. Call Carol Stokes on 07813 800874.	6:30 pm Stevenage Interchange Bus Station. SG1 1WX.	Hugh Madgin

Monday 4 May

Walk	Description	Meet	Leaders
Health Walk	Grade 1-2 Walk for up to 45 minutes. Suitable for pushchairs. From Hampson Park.	11:00am start. Meet outside the community centre, Hampson Park, Webb Rise, Stevenage, SG1 5QU.	healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk 01992 555888
Evening History Walk	"From Six Hills to Silkingrad", starting at the Bus Station and finishing in the High Street at the site of Silkin's infamous speech in 1946. Numbers Limited. Must be booked in advance. Call Carol Stokes on 07813 800874.	6:30 pm Stevenage Interchange Bus Station. SG1 1WX.	Hugh Madgin

Tuesday 5 May

Walk	Description	Meet	Leaders
Short 3.5 miles 'Amble'	A picturesque amble, mostly over gentle gravel paths and a Roman road, finishing at Church Farm café.	09:30am Stevenage Showground SG2 8RH for car share	Colin Horner 01438 353221
Health Walk	Grade 2 walk. Meet outside Bedwell Community Centre, join us for a free cuppa after the walk in the Community Café.	10:00am meet time for 10:15am start. Bedwell Community Centre, Bedwell Crescent, Stevenage SG1 1NA.	healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk 01992 555888



Wednesday 6 May

Walk	Description	Meet	Leaders
Health Walks	Grade 1 Walk. A 30-minute gentle warm up walk.	9:45 am for a 10:00 am start at Costello's Café, Fairlands Valley Park.	healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk 01992 555888
Health Walks	Grade 3 Walk. Following the warm up walk, starting at 10.30am a one-hour brisk step out walk.	10:15am for a 10:30am start at Costello's Café, Fairlands Valley Park.	healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk 01992 555888
Short 3.2 miles	A rural walk from Preston, through woodland to Stagenhoe Farm, and back by Hitch Wood where we may see bluebells.	9:45am Stevenage Showground. 10:30am start from Preston outside the Red Lion pub, SG4 7UD. Park on School Lane.	Sally Cannon 07932 825123

Thursday 7 May

Walk	Description	Meet	Leaders
Health Walk	3 different options – feel free to join the walk that would be appropriate for you. First Steps – Up to 30 Minutes Grade 1 – 30 – 40 Minutes Grade 2 – 45 Minutes	2:00pm start. Meet outside the library at Southgate, Town Centre, Stevenage SG1 1HD and stay with us afterwards for a free cuppa – donations welcome.	healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk 01992 555888



Friday 8 May

Walk	Description	Meet	Leaders
(NEW) Litterpick	An easy paced hour's walk to clean around the King George Playing Fields, the Millenium Garden, Aldi's and the High Street. Route: From the starting point, follow the litter, as we like to say! Work your way back to the starting point, inevitably with a very much heavier sack for a nice warm cuppa at one of the many Old Town cafés. This will be decided on the day.	Meet at Ditchmore Lane, SG1 3FB at 12:45pm for a 1:00pm start. Bring your own gloves and appropriate clothing all other equipment supplied.	Tim Beesley 07581 356520

Saturday 9 May

Walk	Description	Meet	Leaders
5 miles Dog Friendly Walk	A walk around Great Offley. Well behaved dogs welcome.	10:00am The Green Man, Great Offley, SG5 3AR.	Jenny Mason 01438 871580
Red Shed (Dementia Friendly Walk)	A one hour walk in Fairlands Valley Park. This walk is designed to be suitable for individuals living with dementia, accompanied by their carers. The walk will include refreshments. Toilet facilities will be available.	11:30 am. The Red Shed, Garden, Bedwell Crescent SG1 1NJ.	Derek Richards derek@theredshedgarden.org.uk



Sunday 10 May

Walk	Description	Meet	Leaders
Medium Walk 5.5 Miles	Led by Stag Walkers, a Ramblers group for walkers in their 20s, 30s and a bit beyond. A leisurely walk from Stevenage through Astonbury Wood and farmland. Packed lunch break and pub stop in Aston. Dogs welcome on a lead.	10:30am. Ridlins End car park, Woodcock Road, Stevenage, Herts SG2 9QZ. Free parking. Bus SB1 from Stevenage Interchange to Gresley Way / Woodcock Road (5 min walk).	Al Maceachern For more details: meetup.com/stagwalkers or email stagwalkers@gmail.com



Stevenage Leisure 50 group walk every Tuesday and offer short, medium and long walks throughout the year. The programme is available at the Library, the Leisure Centre, or from Peter Ingram-Tedd: peter.ingramtedd@gmail.com

North Herts Ramblers group offer walks on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays including lively dog friendly walks and fun social events. For more information and programme visit: www.nhr.org.uk

Stag Walkers is a walking and social group aimed primarily at younger people (20s and 30s and beyond) with led walks nearly every weekend and social events. For more information visit: www.stagwalkers.org.uk

Hertfordshire Health Walks are free, led, local, health-focused walks happening across the county helping everyone get outdoors, get more active and reap the benefits. These walks take place all over Hertfordshire. www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/healthwalks

Red Shed is a dementia-friendly and fully accessible garden located in Bedwell. For more information visit: www.theredshed.garden

St Nich's Litter Pickers meets every Friday throughout the year at 12.45 for an hour's litter picking across Stevenage. Ours is walking with a purpose: To support each other as we help to keep Stevenage litter free and looking good. Picks are informal and participants can do as much or as little as they like. They are usually followed by a drink at the nearest café. Bring your own gloves but all other equipment can be supplied. Hi viz (supplied) must be worn and minors must be accompanied by an adult or guardian. For more information contact Tim Beesley 07581 356520.

The Stevenage Walking Festival is supported by **Stevenage Borough Council**