

Highdown Hillwalking & Mountaineering Club Est.1986

14/01/2024

Programme for 2024

Saturday 13th January 2024

Droke

Day Walk

Map Ref:

W 0.68626

SU 924128

N 50.9063

PO18 0JH

/// tripling.droplet.travel

Honouring the brave

The walk is between 10 and 11 miles long and should take between 4 to 5 hours, so please arrive at 9.45am for a 10.00am start. Please bring a packed lunch.

Parking is at Droke Forest Car Park on the minor road between Upwaltham and East Dean (the West Sussex one!) and is free. Some of the route near East Dean is quite wet so hiking boots rather than hiking shoes probably the better option.

The route will take us up through Selhurst Park along to the Benges, cross the A285 and at first multiple junction head roughly NNW towards Upwaltham church passing first memorial. From the church ascend North Down to Crown Tegleaze passing second memorial onto SDW with views to the north, to Graffham Down before descending SW to East Dean to ascend East Dean Hill before joining the Monarchs Way to head east with views to the coast before turning north to head back into Selhurst Park Hill and return to Droke with a downhill finish!

Please let the organiser know if you intend to join us for this walk.

Length of Walk: 10 -11 miles with a shorter option of about 7 miles.

Height Gain: 400 metres give or take.

Organiser: Michael Merritt

email: michael@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Saturday 3rd February 2024

Day Walk

Date to confirm and details to follow.

Organiser: Anthony Waton

email: sue@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Thursday 22nd - Sunday 25th February 2024
Brecon Beacons National Park

Map Ref:

W 3.55825

SN 925 075

N 51.75555

CF44 9UW

Extended Weekend Trip

We will be returning to the Chichester Youth Adventure Trust's Cottage and Bunkhouse (see <http://www.cyat.org/>) which is situated in the southern end of the Brecon Beacons National Park near Hirwaun and is easily reached from the M4 and A470.

Accommodation costs are £18 per person per night. We need at least 8 people attending to maintain this rate.

We will be doing our merry meals rota, food and travel costs will be split as normal and the walking will be varied. Two full days should be spent on the mountains and a half day walk more locally before returning home, but at this time of year plans might have to change depending on weather conditions

Accommodation: Bunkhouse

Cost (approx.): £130 to include shared transport, accommodation, 3 breakfasts, 3 evening meals.
Independent travellers - £80.

Deposit: £54 to Michael by 16 January 2024 please. Bank details will be given on expression of interest.

Organiser: Michael Merritt

email: michael@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking 16/01/2024

Saturday 2nd March 2024

Day Walk

Date to confirm and details to follow.

Organiser: Richard Wilton

email: richard@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Wednesday 13th - Wednesday 20th March 2024 Map Ref: W 16.9949
Madeira N 32.6938
Foreign trip /// clean.implicitly.gullies
Final call

Our foreign trip for 2024 takes us to the beautiful island of Madeira. Surging from the Atlantic Ocean, Madeira offers a temperate sub-tropical paradise perfect for year-round walking. One of Madeira's many charms is its infinite variety; each day's walking and every levada - the island's unique network of water channels - is different. Landscapes vary from cultivated vine terraces and verdant slopes dotted with white hamlets to coastal cliffs with balcony views over the azure seas. Some walks may require "a head for heights" as levada can be deep and walks along the edges occur.

We will purchase this self-guided walking holiday from Headwater Travel (The Company Exodus use for these holidays). A representative from Headwater is located on the Island should we need help.

The Itinerary and details of the holiday can be found at [Itinerary for Madeira](#).

We will take the half board option as the nearest village is 10Km away and we are staying in a remote village.

You will need to ensure that you have holiday insurance in place at the time of booking. If you are over the age of 80 you cannot drive in Madeira.

COSTS

Holiday: £979pp + £244pp (half board supplement). This is based on 2 people sharing a twin room. (Single room supplement is £304pp).

Flights: Booked separately from EasyJet. Please check EasyJet Web site for prices.

In addition, you will need to budget for insurance, fuel, packed lunches, and drinks. Please ensure that your insurance cover is for a Walking Holiday abroad and includes re-patriation. Holiday insurance needs to be in place when you book the holiday. You are liable to pay the full amount of the holiday once you book unless a substitute can take your place.

To book your place, or ask any questions, contact Debbie at debbiehathhmc@gmail.com The total cost of the holiday is now due.

Organiser: Debbie Hibberd **email:** debbiehathhmc@gmail.com

Closing date for booking

Friday 5th - Monday 8th April 2024
Malvern Hills (with a dip into the Cotswolds!)
Weekend Trip

Map Ref: W 2.46491 SO 682 382
N 52.0418 HR8 2JN
/// anchors.remission.quintet

****Rescheduled from September 2023****

We're trying again to make this trip happen!

This time the accommodation will only be confirmed when we have the numbers so please reserve your place as early as possible so we can secure a booking.

For this three night trip we'll stay in Ledbury, six miles from the Malvern Hills, in one or more lovely lodges (with no bunk beds!), depending on numbers.

Each lodge has one double room. Cost is estimated for single occupancy but could reduce if we achieve any doubling up.)

There will be two full day walks (Saturday and Sunday) in and around the Malvern Hills and a shorter one in the Cotswolds on the Monday after an early departure from the accommodation.

Each lodge has an open plan lounge/kitchen/dining area with a leather suite and wood-burning stove. Additional heating is provided by storage heaters.

The main bathrooms have bath, shower cubicle with electric shower, sink, wc and electric shaver point.

The double bedrooms have ensuite shower rooms, with electric shower, a sink, wc and electric shaver point.

With 5 or 6 people in each lodge, we will share these bathroom facilities during the daytime.

There are also furnished patios and a sauna room!

Bedding is provided but not towels.

We will arrange the usual merry meals rota, possibly alternating between the lodges for cooking and washing up but probably serving up in both dining areas (or on the patios if the weather is kind!)

Accommodation:

Woodside Country Park is a family run 28-acre park set in countryside with stunning views, an abundance of wildlife plus fishing and wild swimming available only to those staying on site.

Care has been taken to preserve and enhance the surrounding environment, by providing wild flower and natural woodland areas, thus encouraging an abundance of wild life. This has been recognised by the number of awards received over the years, including the David Bellamy Gold Awards for conservation every year since 2005!

Nestling amongst the scenic woodland slopes at the foot of the Malvern Hills, is the nearby historic Market town of Ledbury, first noted in the Domesday Book as Ledberge, an ancient settlement since the Stone Age and famous for its black and white buildings.

The countryside surrounding Ledbury is noted for its Hop Yards, Cider Orchards (including the

traditional cider and perry products), and the world famous Hereford Cattle

<https://www.woodsidelodges.co.uk/>

Falcon Ln, Ledbury HR8 2JN

Cost: Approximately £155 for group travel, £120 for independent travel.

This includes two evening meals and three breakfasts.

Organiser: Jeannie Worsfold

email: jeannie@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Saturday 6th April 2024

Day Walk

Date to confirm and details to follow.

Organiser: Fiona Scully

email: fiona.scully@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Thursday 25th - Sunday 28th April 2024
Boscastle, Cornwall

Map Ref: W 4.64839 SX 130 918
N 50.6962 PL35 0BU
/// mallets.lush.lifeboats

Weekend Trip

Boscastle is a village on the north coast of Cornwall perfectly situated for coastal walks along the south west coast path and on Bodmin moor.

We will have three full days of walking, two of which will be point to point utilising public transport (or if needed some clever car manoeuvring) to walk back to Boscastle along the coastal path and one of which will be exploring Bodmin moor going up Cornwall's highest peak Brown Willy as well as the slightly lower Rough Tor. The coastal days will have some significant ascents and descents.

For those who would prefer shorter walks or just less up and down there are some great options including a walk along the coastal path to Tintagel castle and then on to St Nectans Glen. Walks in and around Port Isaac a beautiful fishing village used as a set location for several shows including Poldark and Doc Martin. Boscastle is home to the Museum of Witchcraft and Magic which holds one of the largest collections in the world of it's kind, and provides another option for those who would prefer not to do a longer walk

At current I have two cottages reserved on Cargurra Park Farm which will sleep 12, with 6 in each cottage. If there are more than 12 people wanting to join the trip there is potential to change the booking to the YHA in Boscastle once this opens - depending of course on the cost. The cottages are side by side. Having spoken to the owners it may not be possible for us all to comfortably sit around one table to enjoy our merry meals together however there is outside seating that we would all fit around should the weather allow.

The estimated cost for the trip, based on 8 people is £215 for group travel and £175 for independents. Based on 12 people it would be £165 for group travel and £125 for independents.

Organiser: Amber Benbow-Hart **email:** amber@highdownhmc.org.uk
Closing date for booking 31/01/2024

Saturday 4th May 2024

Day Walk

Date to confirm and details to follow.

Organiser: David Sutcliff **email:** david.s@highdownhmc.org.uk
Closing date for booking

Thursday 23rd - Friday 31st May 2024

Braemar

Scottish trip

Map Ref:

W 3.48869

NO 096 899

N 56.99152

AB35 5YJ

/// culminate.puns.carting

Our trip north for 2024 will be to Braemar in the stunning Cairngorm mountain range. We'll be staying for 8 nights in Claybokie on the beautiful Mar Lodge estate, a grand old residence with all the facilities to make our stay extremely comfortable. The accommodation is a bit grander than our usual bunkhouse or log cabin and can accommodate 10 guests. But sometimes we all deserve a bit of luxury. (If more than 10 members are interested, then we will endeavour to find some more accommodation locally.)

You can view some details here: [Mar Lodge Estate](#)

We will offer breakfast, bread and spread and at least half of the days' evening meals. All other meals will be eaten in local restaurants.

The Cairngorms offer a beautiful setting for walking with stunning scenery. Normally a low level, shorter, walk and a high level longer walk are offered each day.

A non-refundable deposit of £119 is required at the time of booking. Places will be allocated on a first paid system.

The total cost is anticipated to be approximately £550pp group travel and £420pp for independents. Participants should allow for the additional cost of eating out for 4 nights.

Please contact the organiser to reserve your place on yet another great week in Scotland.

Organiser: Debbie Hibberd/Richard
Wilton

email: debbiehathhmc@gmail.com

Closing date for booking

Saturday 8th June 2024

Day Walk

Details to follow.

Organiser: We don't know yet.

email: nobody.here@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Saturday 8th June 2024

Summer Social from William's house

BBQ

Details to follow.

Organiser: William Neville

email: william.neville@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Wednesday 12th - Sunday 16th June 2024
Duften and the North Pennines

Map Ref:

W 2.62768

NY 595 225

N 54.5962

CA10 3AX

Week and Weekend Trip

/// pads.receiving.briefing

We will be staying approx. 20 minutes drive away from Duften at Greengill Bunk Barn, in the pretty village of Morland in the Eden valley. It's quite a luxurious bunk barn with a large central recreation room with comfy sofas, armchairs, pool table, table tennis and darts. It sleeps 16 in two bunk rooms of 8. There's a fully equipped kitchen, 3 showers and 3 toilets, and free unlimited WiFi. Only 4 parking spaces though!

www.greengillholidays.co.uk Greengill Barn, Penrith CA10 3AX

I would propose that we eat at the local village pub on the first night, self-cater for two nights and on the final night eat at the Stag at Duften. This gives a full day for travelling up and back - though of course we could always find a short local walk if that's what you want! The walks would be 3 full day walks, with shorter options for those not so keen on the longer options.

My ideal programme for the three days would be:

Day 1. High Cup Nick circuit (or out and back for the shorter route, the participants can decide when to turn back once they've had a glimpse of the Nick itself). This would be around 10 miles and 1800ft of ascent starting from the hostel front door and takes in the marvellous geological wonder of the Nick.

Day 2. Knock Old Man and Great Dun Fell; again from the hostel door. 11.5 miles and 2600 ft of ascent. The shorter option today could be Knock Old Man with a circuit (or ascent) of Duften Pike on the return.

Day 3 would be an ascent of Cross Fell, the highest point on the Pennine Way and the only hill in England to have its own named wind, the Helm Wind. The aim would be to go to Greg's Hut for a sheltered lunch in the bothy, then summit and return the same way - but with magnificent (hopefully) views of the Lake District northern fells as we descend. This would be around 10 miles and 2600 ft of ascent again, and requires careful planning as parking at the start is limited. The shorter option could be any of several local walks, or indeed a day on the Carlisle to Settle railway which runs through Appleby. The Howgill Fells are close by, as are some sections of Wainwright's C2C route, so there are lots of possibilities.

Please note the change of dates from the original YHA option.

The estimated cost, based on an occupancy of 10 would be around £205 for group travel and £140 for independents, with an £100 deposit per person. Obviously this will go down if we have more than 10 participants.

Organiser: Sue Waton

email:

sue@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

31/03/2024

Saturday 6th July 2024**Day Walk**

Date to confirm and details to follow.

Organiser: Alan Beaton

email: nobody.here@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Monday 8th July 2024

Map Ref: W 0.41083

TQ 120 028

Alison's House

N 50.81471

BN12 4EU

Planning Meeting

Time for the Annual Club Planning Meeting!

24 Rosebery Avenue, Goring-By-Sea, BN12 4U

The meeting will start at 7pm, with refreshments from 6:30pm.

This is really important evening for the Club, as not only do we get to plan all the fabulous things we are going to do next year, but we also get to enjoy some cracking cheese and wine with fresh French bread...

Whether you've been on lots of club trips or if this is only your first year, you'll be made very welcome. Please let me know if you're hoping to come, so I can organise enough seating and try and buy enough cheese (and wine). We had a fantastic turn out last year and had a very pleasant evening in my garden.

Even if you're unable to make it, all contributions, suggestions or offers to assist on a trip will be appreciated.

See you then.

Organiser: Alison Edwards

email: alison@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Friday 12th - Sunday 14th July 2024

Corfe Castle

Weekend Camping (or Glamping) Trip

Map Ref:

W 2.03752

SY 974 801

N 50.6213

BH20 5HT

/// coarser.unstated.taller

It's time to dust off your camping kit!*

“Corfe Castle has been a Saxon stronghold, a Norman fortress, a royal palace and a family home in ten centuries of dominating the Purbeck landscape. In that time it has seen murder and war, known kings and paupers and its rugged beauty has won the hearts of thousands of visitors.”

We are heading to Woodyhyde campsite, situated in the heart of the gorgeous Purbeck countryside, just a 20 minute walk to the stunning ruins of Corfe Castle and a short distance from the seaside town of Swanage.

I have booked the campsite for 10 people (but should be able to add more). Woodyhyde does not allocate designated pitches, but allows us to pitch wherever we prefer (when Steve and I arrive we will find a suitable spot for all of us, so that we can all pitch close by each other).

We will eat out in Corfe both nights - unless the weather forecast looks so amazing and we decide to do a BBQ one night (the campsite shop stocks everything we would need such that this a decision we can make on the day).

You will however need to plan and bring your own breakfasts and pack lunches. There is a well-stocked shop onsite which conveniently offers a very reasonable icepack-freezing service.

As to the walking (which I why we are going after all!) on the first day we will walk from the campsite up onto the Purbeck Hills and out to Old Harry's Rocks, from which we look across to the Needles on the isle of Wight. From there we head round to Swanage where we will take the steam train back to the campsite.

On the second day we will walk from the campsite out to join the coastal path on the outstanding Jurassic Coast, passing the abandoned stone quarry at Winspit and Dancing Ledges, before heading back to our cars in the late afternoon / early evening, in time for people to make their way home to Sussex (a 2 hour drive, depending on traffic) stopping in Wareham for a fish & chip supper en route.

*If you don't have a tent / airbed / cooking equipment but would still like to camp please do get in touch as we will be able to arrange for you to borrow kit or share with someone else.

If you love camping but aren't keen on canvas, the site offers a very glamorous glamping option, in a shepherd hut or a yurt. It is undeniably more expensive, but may be what you need to enable you to join us on this trip. Please email me if this interests you.

If you want to book extra nights (either before or after our trip) you can do so at <https://www.woodyhyde.co.uk>; if you do this, please put in the notes section that you will be camping with Highdown HMC beforehand / after.

And finally: bring your swimsuit for some awesome wild swimming opportunities!

Accommodation : Campsite

Cost (approx) : £50 to include shared transport and pitch fees. Independent travellers - £25

Deposit : £25 to Organiser by 1st May 2024 please

Organiser: Alison Edwards

email: alison@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking 01/05/2024

Saturday 3rd August 2024

Day Walk

Date to confirm and details to follow.

Organiser: We don't know yet!

email: nobody.here@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Sunday 25th August - Saturday 7th September 2024 Porthcove, GR24 Brittany Coast path

Foreign Trip

Details to follow.

Organiser: Michael Merritt

email: michael@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Saturday 7th September 2024

Day Walk

Date to confirm and details to follow.

Organiser: Malcolm Fendick

email: malcolm@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Thursday 26th - Sunday 29th September 2024 Great Langdale

Map Ref: W 3.07458 NY 304 067
N 54.4509 LA22 9JS

The Lakes Weekend Trip

/// sleeps.regress.soap

Details to follow.

http://www.wayfarersclub.org.uk/robertson_lamb_hut.html

Organiser: Fiona Scully

email: fiona.scully@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Saturday 5th October 2024**Day Walk**

Date to confirm and details to follow.

Organiser: Amber Benbow-Hart

email: amber@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Monday 14th - Thursday 17th October 2024**White Peaks, Derbyshire****Weekend Trip**

Details to follow.

Organiser: Debbie Hibberd/Richard
Wilton

email: debbiehathhmc@gmail.com

Closing date for booking

Saturday 2nd November 2024**Day Walk**

Date to confirm and details to follow.

Organiser: We don't know yet

email: nobody.here@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Friday 15th - Sunday 17th November 2024**"Somewhere" (Ridgeway/Cheddar?)****Weekend Trip**

Details to follow.

Organiser: Gary Edwards

email: gary@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Sunday 24th November 2024**Goring Primary School**

Map Ref: W 0.422147

TQ 112 027

N 50.813684

BN12 4RN

AGM

AGM - Join us for our annual review of our year's walking and help choose our new committee for 2020.

Organiser: Sue Waton

email: sue@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Saturday 7th December 2024

Day Walk

Date to confirm and details to follow.

Organiser: We don't know yet.

email: nobody.here@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking

Saturday 7th December 2024

Xmas Dinner

Xmas Dinner!

Details to follow.

Organiser: Chrissie Dixon

email: chrissie@highdownhmc.org.uk

Closing date for booking
