



Newton Stewart Walking Festival

12th – 18th
May 2023

Welcome to the draft WalkFest 2023 programme

Here is a summary of the over 30 walks and other events which will make up the festival programme. More detail on each walk or event is available on the festival website www.walkfestnewtonstewart.com, where online bookings can be made now. Any amendments to the programme will be advised via the website.

Friday 12 May 2023

Walk 1-1 Cruggleton Heughs

Difficulty: moderate Distance: 13.5km (8.5 miles) Ascent: 100m

Walk 1-2 The Black Gutter

Difficulty: strenuous Distance: 15.5km (9.5 miles) Ascent: 850m

Walk 1-3 Walk The Line to Threave Estate

Difficulty: easy Distance: 9km (5 miles) Ascent: 100m

Welcome Buffet at The Belted Galloway Visitor Centre

Saturday 13 May 2023

Walk 2-1 Walkfest Challenge: Devil's Granite Gateway

Difficulty: very strenuous Distance: 22km (14miles) Ascent: 1550m

Walk 2-2 Corserine

Difficulty: strenuous Distance: 16km (10 miles) Ascent: 900m

Walk 2-3 An Ancient Landscape:

Monreith to Port William

Difficulty: moderate plus Distance: 15km (9.5 miles) Ascent: 250m

Walk 2-4 Kirkmabreck trio

Difficulty: moderate plus Distance: 13km (8 miles) Ascent: 300m

Walk 2-5 Southern Upland Way:

West from Bruce's Stone

Difficulty: moderate Distance: 11km (7 miles) Ascent: 200m

Walk 2-6 Glenkens Forest Trails

Difficulty: moderate Distance: 12km (7.5 miles) Ascent: 250m

Walk 2-7 The Byways of Newton Stewart

Difficulty: easy Distance: 7km (4.5 miles) Ascent: 100m

Evening talk/slide show:

Discovering the Biosphere's Natural Gems

Sunday 14 May 2023

Walk 3-1 Awful Hand

Difficulty: very strenuous Distance: 18km (11miles) Ascent: 1200m

Walk 3-2 Haggis Hill

Difficulty: strenuous Distance: 13km (8 miles) Ascent: 750m

Walk 3-3 The Two Monuments

Difficulty: moderate Distance: 10km (6 miles) Ascent: 150m

Walk 3-4 Walk and Wild Swim Loch Trool

Difficulty: moderate plus Distance: 9.5km (6 miles) Ascent: 200m

Walk 3-5 The Fleet Valley: A Scenic Delight

Difficulty: moderate plus Distance: 11km (7.5 miles) Ascent: 200m

Walk 3-6 Stairhaven Cliffs

Difficulty: easy Distance: 8km (5 miles) Ascent: 200m

Monday 15 May 2023

Walk 4-1 A Day in the Minnigaff Hills

Difficulty: strenuous Distance: 15.5km (9.5 miles) Ascent: 1000m

Walk 4-2 Carrick and Cally

Difficulty: easy Distance: 10km (6 miles) Ascent: 100m

Walk 4-3 The Papa Ha Trail

Difficulty: moderate Distance: 10km (6 miles) Ascent: 200m

Tuesday 16 May 2023

Walk 5-1 Cairnsmore of Fleet: a Wild Place

Difficulty: strenuous Distance: 18km (11 miles) Ascent: 900m

Walk 5-2 Southern Upland Way:

East from Bruce's Stone

Difficulty: moderate plus Distance: 20km (12.5miles) Ascent: 400m

Walk 5-3 Whithorn's Pilgrims' Trail

Difficulty: moderate Distance: 11km (7 miles) Ascent: 100m

Evening talk/slide show:

The Story of the Galloway Hydro Scheme

Wednesday 17 May 2023

Walk 6-1 Curleywee

Difficulty: strenuous Distance: 17km (10.5 miles) Ascent: 800m

Walk 6-2 Glenkens Villages

Difficulty: moderate plus Distance: 14.5km (9 miles) Ascent: 300m

Walk 6-3 A Woodland Route into Newton Stewart

Difficulty: moderate Distance: 11km (7 miles) Ascent: 250m

Thursday 18 May 2023

Walk 7-1 5@Dalry

Difficulty: strenuous Distance: 19km (12 miles) Ascent: 800m

Walk 7-2 North Rhins Coastal Path

Difficulty: moderate plus Distance: 13km (8 miles) Ascent: 250m

Walk 7-3 Rocks and Mines

Difficulty: moderate Distance: 15km (9.5 miles) Ascent: 150m

Thanks to our financial supporters:



Programme is subject to change. This version was produced on 12 March 2023

The latest version is available on our website at www.walkfestnewtonstewart.com