

London to Walsingham
Walking the full route
11-25 April 2023

Confirmed itinerary as of 20.3.23

Here is the final itinerary, with the names of pilgrims listed under the stages they will be walking.

If all goes according to plan, Greg Dickinson, a travel writer on The Telegraph, will be joining us for Day 3, and there will be parishioners also joining at certain stages.

I again include my accommodation suggestions, but not all will be available now. Any problems, let me know, other pilgrims have arranged work-arounds that I can share.

You can find full details of the route we shall follow in the guidebook *London to Walsingham Camino: The Pilgrimage Guide*, available from www.trailblazer-guides.com, Amazon or any other online or bricks-and-mortar bookshop

I have tried to include at least one church on the itinerary each day, where possible, for either an Anglican service, Catholic Mass, prayers or a blessing. Attendance at these is entirely optional.

If you would like to record your pilgrimage in an official pilgrim passport, you can get one from the Confraternity of St James, free to members, £5 to others.

If you need to contact me while we are walking, my number is 07970936434.

Walkers

Full walk

Andy Bull
Antonia Moffat
Sarah Gull

Others' names appear in the stages they are to walk

Day 1, 11.4.23, Tuesday

St Magnus Martyr to Waltham Abbey 17.7miles.

Actual walking time: 6hrs 30mins (all timings approximate, breaks on top of this)

Walking with us
Steve French

Meet up at

8am Mass at **Farm Street, Mayfair**, Fr Dominic Robinson

Tube to London Bridge, visit **Southwark Anglican Cathedral**, breakfast break.
Walk over London Bridge to start of pilgrim route at St Magnus the Martyr.

Alternatively, meet up at Southwark or here:

10am **St Magnus the Martyr**, prayers at Shrine to Our Lady of Walsingham, stamp pilgrim passports
11.30 **Royal Foundation of St Katharine**, (pilgrim stamp)
5pm Arrive at **Waltham Abbey**

Suggested accommodation at Waltham Abbey: There are two Premier Inns, both 1.5 miles or so off the route. One is called Premier inn London Enfield, the other Premier Inn, Bishops Waltham. I have booked the former. Book via the national Premier Inn website

(Pilgrims who need to stay overnight in London before the start could consider accommodation at the Royal Foundation of St Katharine, book via their website)

Day 2 12.4.23, Wednesday

Waltham Abbey to Ware 13.2 miles.

Walking time 4hrs 30mins

Walking with us
Steve French

Meet up at

9.30am **Waltham Abbey Church** Revd Jane to welcome us (pilgrim stamp)

1.30pm St John the Baptist, Great Amwell (pilgrim stamp)

5pm arrive at Ware

Suggested accommodation in Ware: Premier Inn, London Enfield, where I have booked

Day 3 13.4.23 Thursday

Ware to Stansted Mountfitchet 16.4 miles.

Walking time 6hrs

Walking with us:
Greg Dickinson, Telegraph Travel
Steve French?
Jim Sollars?

Meet up at

9.15 **St Mary's Ware**, morning prayer (pilgrim stamp)

1pm St Andrew and Holy Cross, Much Hadham (pilgrim stamp on a table to the left as you enter the church)

3pm Bishops Stortford, St Michael (Anglican), and St Joseph and English Martyrs (Catholic)

4.30 Arrive Stansted Mountfitchet

Suggested accommodation in Stanstead Mountfitchet Kings Arms Hotel.

The three full-route walkers shall be staying with Jim Sollars

Jim has generously offered to cook us a pilgrim supper.

Day 4 14.4.23 Friday

Stansted Mountfitchet to Saffron Walden 14.2 miles.

Walking time 5hrs

Walking with us
Steve French?

Meet up at

9.30am **Stansted Mountfitchet railway station**

1.30pm St Mary's, Newport

3.30pm Arrive in Saffron Walden.

7pm Mass, Our Lady of Compassion, Saffron Walden

Suggested accommodation Cross Keys, Saffron Walden www.theoldcrosskeys.co.uk/

We might get together for pilgrim supper at the Cross Keys.

Day 5 15.4.23 Saturday

Saffron Walden to Withersfield 13.8 miles.

Walking time 5hrs

Walking with us:
Sheila and Russell McGurk

Steve French
Horseheath's rector (Ian Fisher?) and parishioners (tbc)
Possibly also parishioners at St Mary's Saffron Walden

Meet up at

9am St Mary's, Saffron Walden (pilgrim stamp near west door on left as you enter church)
12.30pm St Mary's, Bartlow (pilgrim stamp) **Duncan Ogilvy** will be at church with stamp. Loos and kitchen available. Duncan offers to arrange either lunch at Three Hills pub or in the church.
6pm St Mary's, Withersfield. Evensong with **Revd Max Drinkwater** (pilgrim stamp)
Max has very kindly arranged with his congregation to move their usual evensong to coincide with our time in the village.

Suggested accommodation: White Horse, Withersfield, where I shall be staying. Book with them direct 01440 706081 adacollingwood@hotmail.com
We might get together for pilgrim supper at the White Horse

Day 6 16.4.23 Sunday

Withersfield to Hawkedon 13.4 miles (slight change from guidebook)
Walking time 5hrs

Walking with us:
Sheila and Russell McGurk
Steve French

Meet up at

10am **White Horse, Withersfield** (breakfast is not until 9.30 on a Sunday)
1pm All Saints, Hundon, (pilgrim stamp)
4pm All Saints, Stansfield. Possible stop-off at the Stansfield Compasses,
5.30 Arrive at Hawkedon

Suggested accommodation: Queen's Head, Hawkedon is full. Msg me if you need alternatives.
We might get together for pilgrim supper at the Queen's Head

Day 7 17.4.23 Monday

Hawkedon to Bury St Edmunds 11 miles.
Walking time 4hrs

Walking with us:
Sheila and Russell McGurk
Steve French

Meet up at

10am **St Mary, Hawkedon** (pilgrim stamp)
12 noon St Petronilla, Whepstead
2pm Arrive in Bury St Edmunds
5.30pm Evening prayer, St Edmundsbury Cathedral (**Judy Wilson** will be at the church with the pilgrim stamp)

Suggested accommodation: Old Canon Brewery, Bury St Edmunds. I am staying here. I booked via bookings.com. We might get together for pilgrim supper at the Old Canon

Day 8 18.4.23 Tuesday

Rest day in Bury St Edmunds

Meet up at

9.30 am Mass at **St Edmund's Catholic church**, followed by short talk by John Saunders (for those you wish to join this).
Or meet up at

10.30 am **St Edmundsbury Cathedral** (by the font) for short introduction to the Cathedral (led by Sarah Friswell), followed by tea/coffee in Pilgrims Kitchen. Followed by short Abbey tour with John Saunders (about 20-30 minutes).
5.30pm Evening Prayer at the Cathedral

Suggested accommodation: Old Canon Brewery, Bury St Edmunds, where I am staying

Day 9 19.4.23 Wednesday

Bury St Edmunds to Thetford, 16.3 miles.
Walking time 5hrs 30 mins

Walking with us:
Fr Dominic Robinson
Steve French

Meet up at

8.30am Morning Prayers **St Edmundsbury Cathedral**
12.30pm St Mary's, Culford (pilgrim stamp)
4.30pm St Gregory's, Barnham
5.30pm St Cuthbert's, Thetford (pilgrim stamp)

Suggested accommodation in Thetford: Bell Hotel (where I am staying. I booked via [bookings.com](https://www.bookings.com)) or Travelodge, Thetford or Premier Inn, book via their national website. We might get together for pilgrim supper at The Bell.

Day 10 20.4.23 Thursday

Thetford to Brandon 10.5 miles.
Walking time 4hrs

Walking with us:
Paul Eyles
Liz Hartley
Steve French

Meet up at

9am **St Cuthbert's**, Thetford (morning prayers with **Revd Peter Herbert**, pilgrim stamp)
10am Thetford Priory
12.30 St Helen's Oratory and Holy Well
1pm All Saints, Santon Downham
3pm Arrive at Brandon

Suggested accommodation: Bridge Hotel (I booked via [bookings.com](https://www.bookings.com)) or Ram Inn, Brandon, also on [bookings.com](https://www.bookings.com) We might get together for pilgrim supper at one or other of these.

Day 11 21.4.23 Friday

Brandon to Great Cressingham 15.6 miles
Walking time 5hrs 30mins

Walking with us:
Paul Eyles
Liz Hartley
Steve French
Revd Linda Lubbe (from Mundford), and possibly two others
Roseanne

Meet up at

9am **Brandon railway station**
10.15am Stump Cross near Weeting
11.30am St Leonard's, Mundford
2pm All Saints, Hilborough

3pm arrive Great Cressingham

NB ROUTE REVISED SLIGHTLY. IF YOU ARE USING THE GUIDANCE IN MY BOOK, DOWNLOAD THE UPDATED GPS MAP/STEP-BY-STEP DIRECTIONS.

Suggested accommodation: Olde Windmill Inn, Great Cressingham is now fully booked, but it might still be possible to stay at the village hall. Sally Lovick asks that you contact her directly to arrange everything. Her number is 01760 756433 or enquiries@greatcressinghamvillagehall.co.uk. We might have a pilgrim supper at the Windmill.

Day 12 22.4.23 Saturday

Great Cressingham to Castle Acre 13.7 miles
Walking time 5hrs

Walking with us:

Paul Eyles

Liz Hartley

Carol and Derek Greening

Steve French

Meet up at

9am **St Michael's, Great Cressingham**

10.30am All Saints, South Pickenham (liaising with keyholder for possible visit, 01760756360, this church has a remarkable Pugin organ casing)

11.30am St Mary's, Houghton on the Hill (pilgrim stamp) This church, with its 1,000-year-old wall paintings, will be specially opened for us by **Ian Brinsdon**.

3pm St George, South Acre

4pm Castle Acre Priory (English Heritage, entry fee charged)

Suggested accommodation: Ostrich Inn (I booked here via bookings.com) or Old Red Lion, Castle Acre. The latter has inexpensive accommodation, including a dormitory charging £35 per person <https://oldredlion.org.uk/index.php/accommodation/>

We might have a pilgrim supper at the Ostrich

Day 13 23.4.22 Sunday

Castle Acre to Fakenham 15.9 miles
Walking time 6hrs

Walking with us:

Oona and Vince Kelly

Paul Eyles

Steve French

Meet up at

9am **St James the Great, Castle Acre** (pilgrim stamp, loos to south of tower)

11am St Andrew's, East Lexham (loos for paying customers at Litcham Deli)

12.30 All Saints, Litcham and former Litcham Priory

3.30 St Mary's, Whissonsett

5pm St Peter and St Paul, Fakenham will be just finishing celebrating St George's day (pilgrim stamp) or St Anthony's Catholic church, Fakenham (tbc)

Suggested accommodation: The Crown, Fakenham. I booked here via bookings.com

We might have a pilgrim supper in Fakenham.

Day 14 24.4.22 Monday

Fakenham to Walsingham 6.2 miles
Walking time 2hrs 15mins

Walking with us:

Oona and Vince Kelly

Paul Eyles

Lynette Brinson

Steve French

Meet up at

9am **St Peter and St Paul, Fakenham**

11am All Saints, East Barsham

12 noon Pilgrim Mass at Slipper Chapel, National Catholic Shrine, Houghton St Giles

2pm Walsingham Abbey, site of Holy House

6.30pm Chapter Mass, Anglican Shrine, followed by a reception attended by the Anglican Shrine's Guardians to which we have been invited.

Suggested accommodation: Anglican or Catholic shrines, book via their websites

Anglican: <https://www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk/visit/stay-2/>

Catholic: <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/accommodation/>

Day 15 25.4.22 Tuesday

Departure.

Perhaps, if we feel up to it: Walk from Walsingham to Wells next the Sea (5 miles)

Pilgrims who reach Santiago often walk on to Finesterre. We could emulate them by walking on to Wells, once a pilgrim port, then catching a bus/taxi to Kings Lynn (1hr 50mins) for trains home.

Bus is the Coastliner 36, running from Fakenham to Kings Lynn via Walsingham and Wells next the Sea. Buses departing hourly at 33mins past the hour until 6.33pm. Journey planner:

<https://www.lynxbus.co.uk/journey-planner/>