



Free Monthly Walks

Spring & Summer Programme 2026

The Coleford Welcomes Walkers Group is offering a series of **FREE** monthly walks, during the last weekend of each month, to encourage people to get out and walk in the Forest of Dean.

No need to book, just turn up at the times and locations indicated below. Please ensure that you are wearing appropriate clothing and footwear for the conditions. **Future monthly walks will appear on the Coleford Welcomes Walkers website** <https://colefordwelcomeswalkers.co.uk/>

If the walk has to be cancelled due to bad weather or other circumstances, there will be a message on the Coleford Town website <https://colefordtown.net/> or the Coleford Welcomes Walkers website <https://colefordwelcomeswalkers.co.uk/>

Please note that the routes will have been checked for problems prior to the walk, but by agreeing to take part you accept responsibility for your own health and safety.

Summary

Saturday 25 th April	10.00	Bixslade & Cannop	5.5 miles
Sunday 31 st May	10.00	Crabtree Hill & Woorgreens Lake	4.5 miles
Sunday 28 th June	10.00	St Briavels & the Slade Brook	3.5 miles
Saturday 25 th July	10.00	Nagshead Nature Reserve	4.2 miles
Sunday 30 th August	10.00	Redbrook & Newland Meander	4.5 miles
Saturday 26 th September	10.00	English Bicknor & Offa's Dyke	4 miles

For more details see below or visit <https://colefordwelcomeswalkers.co.uk/>

Details

Saturday 25th April 2026

Bixslade and Cannop

Enjoy a walk starting at the edge of Coleford by Worcester Walk Community Project. Follow a woodland path down Wimberry Slade to Cannop Cycle Centre before following the valley to Cannop Ponds. On the return discover historic tramroads, quarries and freemines. The route is undulating with the main ascent being close to the end of the walk. Please bring drinks and a snack.

Start Time: 10.00 am

Estimated Finish Time: 12.30 pm

Distance: 5.5 miles/8.8 kms

Ascent: 230 metres

Difficulty: Moderate

Meeting Point: Parking area at Worcester Walk Project off the B4226 east of Broadwell crossroads

Grid Reference SO5946 1158; **What3words:** expiring.excuse.flaking

Sunday 31st May

Crabtree Hill and Woorgreens Lake

A fairly easy walk through contrasting landscapes, the route uses woodland tracks, but also passes through Woorgreens, a nature reserve and lake. Developed from open-cast mine workings, Woorgreens is now a selection of marsh, lake and heathland habitats. Exmoor ponies, English longhorn cattle and Highland cattle have been introduced here in the past to create and maintain the habitats. In the spring and summer it is a great place to spot dragonflies and damselflies or look for reptiles. Bird life is abundant, both on the lake and the surrounding heathland and woodland edges. The ascents and descents are fairly gentle. Please bring drinks and a snack.

Start Time: 10.00 am

Estimated Finish Time: 12.30 pm

Distance: 4.5 miles/6.8 kms

Ascent: 74 metres

Difficulty: Easy/Moderate

Meeting Point: Speech House Woodlands Car Park off B4226.

Grid Reference SO6239 1246; **What3words:** then.dugouts.alive

Sunday 28th June

St Briavels & The Slade Brook

This start of this walk is downhill, mainly on a sunken track from St Briavels to the valley of the Mork Brook. The route then follows the course of the Slade Brook back uphill. This small valley is an SSSI as it contains an active tufa forming stream and has a series of tufa dams, plunge pools and connecting stream sections. Tufa is a deposit of calcium carbonate onto rocks, vegetation and debris. The site is significant as tufa dams actively forming are relatively rare. The walk then returns to St Briavels across open farmland. There are some stiles on the route. Please bring drinks and a snack.

Start Time: 10.00 am

Estimated Finish Time: 12.30 pm

Distance: 3.5 miles/5.2 kms

Ascent: 172 metres

Difficulty: Moderate

Meeting Point: The entrance to St Briavels Castle.

Grid Reference SO5585 0460; **What3words:** fires.materials.paintings

Saturday 25th July

Nagshead Plantation and Nature Reserve

This walk begins with a long but easy ascent through the mature oak woodland of the RSPB Nagshead Nature Reserve, particularly well known for pied flycatchers. The return section of the walk follows the course of the Severn & Wye Railway Coleford branch line passing evidence of quarries and coal mines. Please bring drinks and a snack.

Start Time: 10.00 am

Estimated Finish Time: 12.30 pm

Distance: 4.2 miles/6.6 kms

Ascent: 143 metres

Difficulty: Moderate

Meeting Point: Nagshead Visitor Centre car park at Parkend

Grid Reference SO6068 0845; **What3words:** pheasants.stag.conspired

Sunday 30th August

Redbrook and the Newland Meander

This walk has a fairly steep and prolonged climb out of Parkend along a well used track known as French Lane. When the top of the ridge is reached, the route follows a hollow way down to the outskirts of Newland. From here a farm track follows a valley, the course of an ancient meander of the River Wye, back to Redbrook. Please bring drinks and a snack.

Start Time: 10.00 am

Estimated Finish Time: 12.30 pm

Distance: 4.5 miles/7.2 kms

Ascent: 168 metres

Difficulty: Moderate after a strenuous uphill start

Meeting Point: Redbrook Car Park [Pay & Display] off A466.

Grid Reference SO5363 0996; **What3words:** honestly.renovated.evoke

Saturday 26th September

English Bicknor and Offa's Dyke

This walk is mainly through fields and along the banks of the River Wye. The first part of the walk descends gradually to the river and then after a flat section the final third of the walk is mainly uphill and passes a section of Offa's Dyke. There are some stiles on the route. Please bring drinks and a snack.

Start Time: 10.00 am

Estimated Finish Time: 12.30 pm

Distance: 4 miles/6.4 kms

Ascent: 139 metres

Difficulty: Moderate

Meeting Point: English Bicknor School Car Park

Grid Reference SO5801 1578; **What3words:** hired.bombshell.tortoises