

CH>RITY
CH>LLENGE



TRIP NOTES

**BELIEVE
ACHIEVE
INSPIRE**

**LONDON ROYAL PARKS
CHALLENGE
UK**

Sat 12 Feb - Sat 12 Feb 2022





In aid of your choice of charity

12 Feb - 12 Feb 2022

1 DAYS | UK | TOUGH

Take part in this tough 1 day urban challenge that takes you right through the heart of London. With a challenging distance of 45km to cover, this challenge is a fantastic test of your stamina and will leave you with an incredible sense of achievement.

- Visit all 10 Royal Parks in London in a single day!
- Trek along the banks of the River Thames
- Pass some of the finest architecture in London
- Perfect urban challenge
- Challenging 45km distance trek

Your first 'Royal Park' will be Bushy Park before we follow the River Thames to Richmond Park. The route takes us straight across historic parkland and beautiful green spaces before we cross the river again and head into Chelsea. Little known Brompton Cemetery is our next Royal Park before we reach the beautiful Kensington Gardens and Hyde Park. Continuing on through Green Park we pass the iconic Buckingham Palace and reach St James's Park, our seventh Royal Park. We make our way to Westminster and Victoria Tower Gardens before heading north to our ninth Royal Park, Regent's Park. With just one more Royal Park to reach we follow Regent's Canal east before crossing the river to reach Greenwich Park. By the end of the challenge you will have visited each of the 10 'Royal Parks'.

YOUR CHALLENGE DAY BY DAY

DAY 1 Sat 12 Feb

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The challenge day!

The trek will start in Kingston Upon Thames. You will need to arrive at the registration point by 6.30am to meet the team, receive your safety briefing, and then begin the trek at 7am. Your first 'Royal Park' will be Bushy Park before we follow the River Thames to Richmond Park. The route takes us straight across **historic parkland and beautiful green spaces** before we cross the river again and head into Chelsea. Little known Brompton Cemetery is our next Royal Park before we reach the beautiful Kensington Gardens and **Hyde Park**. **Continuing on through** Green Park we pass the iconic Buckingham Palace and reach St James's Park, our seventh Royal Park. We make our way to historic **Westminster and Victoria Tower Gardens** before **heading** north to our ninth Royal Park, Regent's Park. With just one more Royal Park to reach we follow Regent's Canal east before crossing the river to reach Greenwich Park. Here you will toast the successful completion of your challenge before heading home.

NB

Please note: Charity Challenge reserve the right to make any amendments necessary to this itinerary.

We will aim to complete this challenge by 5-6pm. However, delays can happen, so please make sure you have flexible onward travel plans. The timings offered in this itinerary are offered as a guide only. Precise timings during the challenge may vary depending upon things such as weather, groups ability etc.

HOW TO FUND YOUR CHALLENGE

This page provides you details of the costs of your challenge.
The costs below are per person.

SELF FUNDER

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*Pay a registration fee of £40.00 when you book
Then a balance of £95.00
(5 weeks before your challenge)
Raise as much as you can for your charity.*

MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP

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*Registration fee of £40.00 when you book
Raise a minimum of £195.00 for your charity.*

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Before you go

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- Sponsorship forms
- 15% off Cotswold Outdoor, Cycle Surgery, Snow and Rock, and Runners Need
- Risk assessment and emergency management planning
- Fitness training notes
- A-Z of fundraising ideas
- Fundraising advice
- Support materials (itinerary, kit list, fact file, Q&As, health notes, travel tips, responsible travel policy and guidance)
- Public liability insurance

On your challenge

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- All challenge management before, during and post event
- Celebratory drink and medal at the finish!
- Checkpoint snacks and drinks
- Packed lunch and drinks
- Drinks and snacks available throughout the day

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Before you go

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- Any covid tests required for entry to any countries or places of interest on your challenge itinerary

On your challenge

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- Accommodation during the challenge
- Breakfast before the challenge

THE DETAILS

Fundraising deadlines

You will need to send your sponsorship money to the charity as you raise it. At least 80% of the minimum sponsorship required must be sent to the charity 7 weeks before departure (by 25/12/2021), and the remaining 20% within 4 weeks of completing the challenge (by 12/03/2022). If you have raised the necessary funds, the charity will then pay the balance of your challenge costs. The charity benefits by keeping the remaining sponsorship money and every pound over and above that you raise.

Typical group size

The typical group size is 10 - 50 participants

Why book with Charity Challenge?

- We are a multi-award winning challenge events specialist with over two decades of professional experience organising and leading challenges worldwide
- High quality route design that incorporates major landmarks and undiscovered highlights
- Fully supported walking challenge. Checkpoints, walking leaders and support vehicle.
- The very best leaders, who are fully qualified, highly experienced, knowledgeable and fun. They will do everything to help you complete the challenge and have a great time doing it
- Thorough safety management systems in place (Challenge Safe)
- Celebration drink & medal at the finish
- The very highest quality London Royal Parks Challenge on the market!

Level of difficulty

The London Royal Parks Challenge is graded as tough. This is the perfect challenge for participants who are of an adventurous spirit and an open mind, who have taken part in other trekking challenges and now wish to test themselves in a slightly more extreme environment. You can tell your supporters that on your London Royal Parks Challenge you will be:

- Covering a marathon distance of 42km.
- Taking on varied terrain, from footpaths to urban roads.
- Walking between 10-12 hours

How do we follow the route?

You will be accompanied by our fully qualified challenge leaders at all times. These leaders will navigate the route so you can conserve all of your energy for completing the challenge.

Getting to and from the challenge

The registration point for this challenge will be at the entrance to Bushy Park. This is very near to Kingston Upon Thames train station. You will need to aim to be at this start point for 6.30am.

The challenge finishes in Greenwich Park. We aim to complete this challenge by 5-6pm. There are lots of transport options to get you from Greenwich back into central London.

Please note: We will send you precise instructions about how to get to the registration point, and the timings of the event, one month prior to the challenge. We reserve the right to use alternative registration points and finishing points when necessary.

Challenge timings

You will need to be at the registration point at 6.30am on the morning of the challenge. The trek will begin at 7am. The total time to complete this challenge should be between 10-12 hours. We will aim to have everyone finished by 5-6pm.

Please note: Whilst we shall do all we can to stick to this finish time, please make sure you book flexible return tickets as delays can happen and we cannot guarantee a precise finishing time or be held responsible for any missed transport.

Terrain

The terrain on the London Royal Parks Challenge is a mixture of footpaths and pavements. There are sections of the footpaths along the river and the Regent's canal that can be muddy.

Accommodation

No accommodation is provided for this challenge. Both Kingston Upon Thames and Greenwich have a wide variety of accommodation options available.

Toilets

There will be several points throughout the day when public toilets will be available. Your leaders will make you aware of when these toilet stops will take place.

Food and drink

The following meals are included in the cost of this challenge:

- Teas and coffees and a breakfast 'snack' (fruit and pastry) will be available at registration (Please ensure you have had a more substantial breakfast before arriving.)
- A packed lunch will be available to you during the day.
- At each checkpoint (approx every 2 hours) there will be water and checkpoint snacks available.

We would advise that everyone also bring some of their own snacks to keep them going during the day.

Weather

This is a UK challenge so please come prepared for all types of weather! There is a very good chance that you may experience all four seasons in one day! Whilst we would encourage everyone to check the weather forecast before travelling, we would remind everyone to make sure you always carry with you a warm top and waterproofs during the challenge.

Leadership

All of our challenge leaders hold walking and first aid qualifications. They are extremely experienced, and many of them have worked overseas with Charity Challenge. All of our leaders are there to ensure that everyone has the

best opportunity to complete the challenge. They are there primarily for your safety so please respect any decisions they make during the course of your challenge.

How is the group managed?

All Charity Challenge events are led by fully qualified walking leaders and operated as a team challenge. We encourage all participants to work together to complete the challenge. We believe that your experience is always enhanced by taking time to talk to your fellow challenger's and learn about their inspiring stories. Our challenges are not designed as a race, and the route will not be marked with arrows for you to follow.

Group size

You will be joining a group of between 10 and 50 likeminded challenge participants.

Clothing and equipment

Equipment of good quality and durability could make the difference between a fantastic challenge experience and an uncomfortable one. For this challenge, waterproof and well-worn in boots or walking shoes will be indispensable. The terrain is uneven and can be very rough, so it is vital that you use boots or walking shoes with good grip. Sports trainers are not suitable. A full kit list for this challenge can be found [here](#)

Once you book you will have access to kit discounts with our partners OutdoorHire and Cotswold Outdoor

Training

The London Royal Parks Challenge is a long, sustained event of up to 10 hours and covering varied terrain. Therefore, it requires a good level of fitness. The ideal training for this challenge is, naturally, walking along similar terrain. However, if you do not have the luxury of living near the great outdoors, then the gym or walking in your local area are good places to start.

Most training should be part of an ongoing lifestyle, but if this is not the case then you should begin training 4-6 months prior to the challenge and gradually build up. Remember to use the clothes, equipment and especially the shoes that you will be wearing on the challenge in order to get them worn in. The more you exercise before the challenge, the more you will get out of it. Also see your Charity Challenge Fitness Training notes.

Safety

Charity Challenge considers the safety of all of our participants and staff to be a top priority, and as such we have set up Challenge Safe, one of the most advanced and thorough safety management systems in the industry. Challenge Safe formalises our ethos when it comes to safety, and brings together the procedures and risk management strategies that we use to audit all aspects of our challenges, from vehicles to accommodation to the challenge activity itself. Your welfare is absolutely paramount!

Here are a couple of important points that you should be aware of:

- Don't underestimate the difficulty of an urban challenge. 42km and 250m is a tough and challenging distance
- Walking a marathon distance means you will be walking for approximately 10-12 hours so you should ensure your training has been tailored towards this
- Despite this being an urban challenge you should still make sure that you have all appropriate clothing and kit

Insurance

We don't offer insurance for our UK trips, as any medical emergencies would naturally be covered through the NHS. Therefore, the main thing that you will not be covered for is cancellation. You can see our cancellation policy within our terms and conditions [here](#). If you wish, you could look into your own policy that covers cancellation for travel within the UK.

Responsible Tourism

Charity Challenge believes that all of its challenges, whether in the UK or overseas, should have a positive impact on the communities we visit.

In the UK we would encourage all participants to consider booking an additional nights accommodation in the area they are visiting so that they can fully enjoy their challenge experience. Many of our challenges are set in beautiful areas of the UK so why not turn your challenge into a weekend away and go out for a celebration meal in a local pub or restaurant.

For more details about our responsible tourism policy then please click [here](#).

Emergencies

Your leading team are trained to deal with emergency situations in remote areas and will be carrying a mobile phone and radios in case the emergency services need to be contacted. The event is not run as a race and you will never be encouraged to walk at a pace 'beyond your ability'. There will always be a wide variety in people's walking abilities which will be carefully managed by the leader team. This team will always keep the group together for maximum safety on each peak and set a sensible pace for all to achieve this challenge within the planned time frame. A support vehicle will be available at checkpoints for anyone struggling to complete the challenge.

Keeping Safe post-Covid

This challenge is planned to start running in 2021 when we hope that we will live in a 'post-Covid' world. Please rest assured that Charity Challenge will continue to monitor all of the latest advice from both the government and local authorities and will ensure that all of our safety systems are up to date.

We produced a 'Covid-19: Keeping you safe on your challenge' document to outline what we were putting in place across all of our UK challenges. This document can be read [here](#). We will be updating this document to reflect the restrictions that are put in place in 2021.

Booking with Confidence

We understand that there may be a little uncertainty around booking in the current climate so we have created a '[Booking With Confidence](#)' policy to help you book your next Charity Challenge with absolute confidence.

Book with the knowledge that:

- We are putting significant measures in place to make your challenge Covid Safe
- We have flexible payment options
- We have ATOL and International Passenger Protection financial cover for your peace of mind*

We will offer you a number of options if we cannot operate your challenge due to Covid-19 :

- postpone your challenge to a later departure
- join any other challenge
- transfer your place to another person
- receive a refund of monies paid for the challenge

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Any more questions?

Contact us:

+ 44 (0)20 8346 0500

info@charitychallenge.com

www.charitychallenge.com

facebook.com/charitychallenge

twitter.com/charitychall

