

Islington U3A Longer Walks Group

Walk Title	Hertford North to Watton-at-Stone	Walk No.	393
Area	Hertfordshire	Type	Linear
Date	Monday, 19 December, 2022		
Distance	9.75 miles		
Timing	4 hours walking time + travel + lunch stop. Allow 7 hours in total. Should be back in Islington by about 4:30 – 5.00pm.		
Meeting up & travel	<p>Meet at Highbury & Islington Great Northern Line platform by 9:40 to catch the 9:48 train to Hertford North (arrives 10:32).</p> <p>You can opt to join at Drayton Park (9:50), Finsbury Park (9:54), Alexander Palace (10:02), or at Hertford North. Please indicate on the sign-up form where you are joining.</p> <p>You'll need to buy an off-peak day return from Crews Hill (or Zone 6 Extension) to Watton at Stone, £5.60 plus booking fee = £6.39 with Freedom Pass and Senior Railcard.</p> <p>Return from Watton at Stone: either the 15:39 or 16:09 train.</p>		
Route	<p>Last walked this area: November 2021.</p> <p>The morning walk is 5.75 miles. We start from Hertford North station at 10:32 and walk alongside road, crossing the River Beane and joining the Hertfordshire Way, following it alongside the River Beane past Waterford Marsh. We leave the Hertfordshire Way at Home Farm, heading towards Watton Green, where we join the Chain Walk into Watton at Stone for lunch at the George and Dragon pub around 1 pm.</p> <p>After lunch (around 2 pm) we re-join the Chain Walk down Mill Lane, making a circular walk of four miles back to Mill Lane, into Watton at Stone, then along Station Road to the railway station.</p>		
Lunch	<p>George and Dragon pub, Watton at Stone.</p> <p>Lunch Menu link: https://thegeorgeanddragon-watton.co.uk/lunch-times/</p> <p>There is no need to pre-order food; the link is given merely for information.</p>		
Dropping out	<p>There is the option of leaving the walk at Watton at Stone, omitting the afternoon 4 mile circular walk.</p>		
Suitability	<p>We will observe our Covid Risk Assessment.</p> <p>Suitable for any reasonably fit regular walker.</p> <p>Terrain: some undulations. It may be muddy in places.</p> <p>There are no stiles.</p> <p>Comfortable waterproof walking boots. Check weather forecast for temperature and likelihood of rain.</p>		
Facilities	<p>There are toilets at Hertford North station.</p>		
Walk source	<p>Leader's creation.</p>		
Map references	<p>OS Explorer 174 & 182</p>		

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Leader & contact details	<u>Walk Leader:</u> Michael Wood <u>Mobile:</u> 07951 757187 <u>e-mail:</u> michaeljaneta@yahoo.co.uk
Interesting Facts	The Hertfordshire Way is a circular walk around the county of Hertfordshire, England. The total length is 312 km which was originally fully waymarked in the anticlockwise direction but is now waymarked in both directions. One section has two optional routes reducing the possible length to 271 km.