



Paul Reeve  
Sky Blue Adventures

07932 602399  
paul@skyblueadventures.com  
<https://www.skyblueadventures.com>



## **Malverns End to End Challenge Walk - Starbucks and UHCW Charity**

**Jul 23, 2022**

**£35 per person**

Join us on this fully guided walk exploring the Malverns Ridge from end to end.

## July 23 - Saturday

i

### Route Overview

**Region** - Malvern Hills

**County/Area** - Worcestershire & Gloucestershire & Herefordshire

**Length** - 9 miles or 14.6 km or 29.3 km

**Ascent** - 3200ft / 978m

**Time** - 5 to 6 hours

**Grade** - Medium

i

### Timings

**Start Location** - North Quarry car park

**Meeting Time** - 0830 hrs

**Start Time** - 0845 - 0900 hrs

**Finish Time** - 1400 hrs Short Challenge

Finish times are estimated and may vary due to the fitness of the participants



**North Quarry car park**

i

### Malvern Hills

#### Hiking the main ridge

The best hiking trails in the Malvern Hills explore the main ridge and gentle slopes. Made up of fifteen distinct summits, there are many route permutations, whilst energetic hikers will plan to tackle the ridge in one go.

The views are astounding. Particularly once the hills reach their zenith at the top of the Worcestershire Beacon at 1,394ft (425 m). To the south west, the gentle hills of the Cotswolds roll into the distance, whilst to the west the hills of Herefordshire are backed by distant Welsh mountains. Adorning the summit is a toposcope, which allows you to match the landmarks to their names, as well as a memorial to Queen Victoria and the obligatory trig-pillar.

#### Plenty to explore

Walks in the Malvern Hills are not just about summits and views, there is also a great deal of historic interest. To the south of the ridge rise Herefordshire Beacon and Midsummer Hill, both the former sites of Iron Age forts. The fort on Herefordshire Beacon, named British Camp, is deservedly popular. It still displays the extensive layered earthworks that make it such a beguiling place to explore. Once you have finished exploring, quaint local cafes and pubs await for well-earned refreshments.

The woods that cling to the lower slopes offer some lovely rambles. Stroll the tree-lined trails, listening to the scunch of fallen leaves underfoot. In late Spring, take in the vibrant hues of the bluebell displays that can be found here. It is worth noting that after periods of rain or during winter the wooded lower slopes can be quite muddy underfoot. Occasionally during winter, the higher Malverns might catch a dusting of snow for those cosy, short winter days when the sun is low, the sky is huge and the leafless trees cast long shadows.

#### Accessible adventure and a great base

The spa town of Great Malvern is the ideal base for hikes in the Malvern Hills. Nestled at the foot of the Worcestershire Beacon, from here you are onto the hiking trails in no time at all. Upon returning to the town, its charming cafes, tearooms and pubs await with friendly hospitality. Its railway station links Malvern to London, Birmingham and Bristol, making an escape to these delightful hills easier than you might think.



### Route Description - End to End Shorter route

The Malvern Hills collectively consist of North Hill, Sugarloaf Hill, Worcestershire Beacon, Summer Hill, Perseverance Hill, Jubilee Hill, Pinnacle Hill, Black Hill, Herefordshire Beacon, Broad Down, Hangman's Hill, Swinyard Hill, Midsummer Hill, Raggedstone Hill and Chase End Hill. This route visits every single one of them! Commanding glorious rural views, there is no finer ridge walk in the three counties. A line drawn due East from Worcestershire Beacon will hit no higher point until the Urals.

Join us on this guided walk. With the considerable altitude ascended it is a tough walk visiting every summit on the outward journey and by-passing all but Worcestershire Beacon on the return leg (unless you really want to test yourself and do the whole thing again in reverse!).

The start point is the car park at North Quarry on North Hill (small charge). We walk out of the car park, on a broad path rising steadily uphill. This path zigzags along the Eastern flank of North Hill. When the path opens up ahead, revealing the reigning monarch of the Malverns (Worcestershire Beacon), we take the well defined path and make our own way up the steep face of North Hill.

Having checked off the summit of North Hill, Sugarloaf Hill is the next diminutive Malvern just to the right of you before the commanding summit of Worcestershire Beacon. The path down North Hill takes us South towards Worcestershire Beacon and up Sugarloaf Hill. The onward route up to Worcestershire Beacon commences at a toposcope and from there, any route you choose to the summit is fine. A commemorative monument to Queen Victoria stands on the Summit of Worcestershire Beacon along with the obligatory trig point.

Next comes Summer Hill. On the descent, we avoid the tarmac road as far as possible by keeping to the ridge proper until as it twists down to the road at Upper Wyche. We cross the road here and then regain the ridge at the toilet block, where steps lead up to the next section of the route. Perseverance Hill, Jubilee Hill, Pinnacle Hill and Black Hill follow in succession. At the end of Black Hill, we again keep to the ridge on the left as long as possible. The route turns at a fence by a delightful Elizabethan house and descends sharply to the road.

We follow the road a short distance past a toilet block to the main A449 where we will find the Malvern Hills Hotel and an open air café. We carefully cross the main road and take the rising path to the right of the car park. A stone marker shows the onward route to British Camp or Herefordshire Beacon. This ancient hill fort with its obvious terraced fortifications is a delightful hill with superb views out to the Eastnor Estate and its obelisk monument.

We follow the paved route down to a toposcope at the base of Broad Down and then follow the ridge over Hangman's Hill until it turns right and descends a well trodden path to an intersection and onwards to Swinyard Hill. As we follow the crest of this hill we will reach another toposcope. We then descend down to the pool at the base of the imposing cliff face of Swinyard Hill, and follow the path down to the Gullet.

At the top of the Gullet (going straight on takes you into the Eastnor Estate and the obelisk) we follow a path on to a metal gate across the track. About 100 metres after this there is a well trodden muddy path to the left that curves right up to the summit of Midsummer Hill. From the summit, we descend via the obvious path that runs through woodland and then emerges into a clearing that descends steeply to a small car park at Hollybush.

We then cross the A438 and enter into the Eastnor Estate and Raggedstone Hill. The path going straight up is our objective, the path to the right is the return route back to Hollybush. From the summit the views extend now into Gloucestershire and the diminutive Southerly sentinel of the Malverns, Chase End Hill is clearly visible.

We then descend down the obvious route into some woods and pass through a gate to enter Whiteleaved Oak hamlet. A sunken footpath take us directly to Chase End Hill and the end of your Malvern bagging odyssey!

This is the finishing point for walkers completing the shorter route. Transport will be arranged to take you back to the start point in Malvern.



## Route Description End to End (return route)

For those that are continuing we return to Hollybush, retrace the sunken footpath to Whiteleaved Oak hamlet. We take a path that will return us through woodland, flanking Raggedstone Hill, back to Hollybush. From the small car park at the foot of Midsummer Hill we take the broad Eastnor Estate private road (public right of way) all the way past Swinyard Hill where it becomes a muddy track and through woods onto Hangman's Hill.

We then retrace our steps all the way to Broad Down where, at the toposcope, we may by-pass Herefordshire Beacon by flanking it on the right via a well defined path passing a reservoir. Emerging at the Malvern Hills Hotel, we retrace our route back to Black Hill but use the lower, flatter path to the left of the hill. This flanking route continues practically all the way to Upper Wyche.

On the final stretch we retrace our steps to Worcestershire Beacon flanking Summer Hill to the left on the tarmac road if desired. Upon reaching the summit of Worcestershire Beacon we then descend to the toposcope at its foot. From here the broad path to the right flanking North Hill will return you to North Quarry car park and the end of our challenge.

## Information & Documents



### About - University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire Charity

#### What We Do

University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire (UHCW) Charity makes things better for our staff, our patients and their families. The Charity was founded in 1996 and to date has raised millions of pounds helping thousands of patients and their families. It is the registered charity for UHCW NHS Trust (inc. University Hospital, Coventry and the Hospital of St Cross, Rugby) and Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust covering local mental health, learning disability and community services

#### The Difference You Make

Our NHS staff do a fantastic job. The funds you raise help them to make things even better for our patients and their families

Thanks to your generous support, UHCW Charity funds world-leading equipment, trains NHS staff in ground breaking techniques and improves surroundings, helping to create a warm and comfortable environment for all

Together we can make life-saving projects happen sooner for our staff and patients

#### Who YOU Help

UHCW Charity makes things better for our staff, our patients and their families

- We support the well-being of our staff at UHCW NHS Trust and CWPT NHS Trust, providing mental health training and support sessions
- We fund equipment and improve the environment for our patients; from a gas blood analyzer in A&E to Christmas parties on the Cancer wards – for many this will be their last time with their family
- We support our families, funding a bereavement garden for those who have suffered the loss of a child and family communication rooms, so that families can discuss their loved ones' care in privacy and peace



### Transport

For all participants finishing the walk at Hollybush car park, mini bus transport will be provided to return participants to the start point at North hill car park.



### Kit List

#### Summer walking

- Rucksack - about 35 litres
- Boots (with ankle support and soles which will grip on rock, grass and mud)
- Waterproof jacket (with hood)
- Waterproof over trousers

- General trekking trousers (not jeans or cotton material)
- Fleece top
- Spare layer e.g. fleece top
- Torch (preferably a head torch)
- Food & Drink
- First Aid Kit (small)
- Mobile phone
- Sunhat
- Sun cream
- Sunglasses



## COVID-19 Event Policy



## Booking Terms and Conditions

### 1. Booking conditions, legal jurisdiction and contractual responsibility

By booking with Sky Blue Adventures you accept to be bound by the terms and conditions outlined herein. Where a group makes a booking all participants within the group agree to be bound by these terms and conditions.

All booking arrangements are made with Sky Blue Adventures, 33 Bonneville Close, Coventry, CV5 9QH

All terms and conditions between clients and Sky Blue Adventures are to be governed by and held under the jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

### 2. Payment

**When you make a booking with us you must pay a non-refundable registration fee.**

**Payment is due 10 weeks before the start of your event. In the case of non-payment of the balance by the due date, we reserve the right to cancel your booking and cancellation charges will apply.**

By registering on this challenge you are pledging to raise the minimum sponsorship of £150 and understand that it is the aim of this challenge to raise as much as possible in aid of UHCW Charity. Please note that any gift aid which UHCW Charity may be able to claim will not count towards your minimum sponsorship requirement.

The event fee and all sponsorship money should be made payable to UHCW Charity. Under no circumstances can money be raised for another charity or organisation. Sponsorship money raised for one named event cannot subsequently be used against another event, even if the minimum sponsorship for the first event has been exceeded.

### 3. Minimum numbers & our partners

In order for our events to be priced competitively, we need to attain a minimum number of participants before the event can be guaranteed to run. We reserve the right to cancel events or activities where the minimum number of participants has not been reached.

### 4. Travel arrangements

All of our events are sold on a land-only basis, which means that you will need to make your own travel arrangements. Before you book any international travel, you must check that your chosen holiday has reached the minimum numbers required and is guaranteed to run BEFORE booking any flights. In the case of a private tour, please do not book flights before we have confirmed that all of the accommodation is available and that all our logistical arrangements are in place. We cannot be held liable for any losses incurred relating to any flight booking or any other related costs.

### 5. If you cancel

You, or any member of your party, may cancel your trip at any time. The following cancellation charges will apply:

If a Participant's participation on a Challenge is cancelled by the Participant or the Charity, the following cancellation terms will apply:-

Period before departure: Cancellation charge

More than 10 weeks before start of event: Full Refund

30 days or less before the start of the trip - 100% of the registration fee

## **6. Fitness & difficulty of trip**

All of our trips and events have a description of the level of difficulty and fitness required. It is very difficult to give a generic description of these trips, because each person is unique and some people will find trips harder than others. We have given our descriptions in good faith, borne of many years' experience running these trips, and we require you to make a judgement as to your suitability for the trip based on our description. If in any doubt at all, please ask us. If you are unable to walk at a steady pace or keep up with the group, our leader may ask you to miss out any days which they do not deem you capable of walking. Any costs such as transport or extra accommodation will be your responsibility in this event.

## **7. Insurance**

It is a condition of booking with us on International events that you are insured against medical expenses, injury, illness, death, cost of repatriation and personal accident risk, including helicopter evacuation. You must ensure that your insurance covers rescue from the mountains, and from the activity that you are undertaking. On trips where there is a leader, it is the right of the leader to make a decision to call for a helicopter rescue, and any costs relating to this will be your responsibility. Any subsequent costs incurred for expenses such as extra hotels, food, transport shall be borne by you, the client. You are responsible for ensuring that your insurance is adequate for the particular needs of your chosen activity - we do not check insurance policies. Please ensure that your insurance covers you to the maximum altitude stated on your trip itinerary. We reserve the right to cancel your booking at any time if we are not satisfied that you have adequate insurance in place. All baggage and personal effects, including bikes, are at all times taken at your own risk. We will not be responsible for any loss, damage or accident to any luggage and property, however incurred. You are advised to check the limitations of your insurance policy in this respect. We recommend that you arrange your insurance at the time of booking. If something happens to you before the trip and you cannot take your holiday, we are unable to refund your deposit (or balance payment if this has already been paid).

## **8. Personal risk**

Sky Blue Adventures maintains high professional standards of client care and safety. We take due care and diligence and only choose good quality accommodation, transport companies and local suppliers, and we only use guides who are qualified and legal to work in the countries where we organise trips. In choosing to undertake activities in a mountain environment you accept that these activities may pose a danger of personal injury and even death. All clients must be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement in such activities.

UHCW Charity shall not be liable for any injury, illness or death of any person or persons nor loss of or damage to any property nor for any indirect or consequential loss however arising other than for injury, illness or death arising as a direct result of any negligent act or omission of UHCW Charity its servants, agents or employees acting in the course of their employment. UHCW Charity may at its sole discretion change routes or withdraw places on the challenge event if it is believed to be in its best interest to do so.

## **9. Your Financial Protection**

In accordance with the 1992 EU Package Travel Regulations, where events are of a duration exceeding 24 hours, then your funds are protected in a Trust Account. All event payments are placed in this account and will remain until your event is complete. In the unlikely event of our insolvency before the start of your event, all monies paid will be refunded to you.

## **10. Data Protection**

You give us permission to give any personal information you supply to our suppliers and guides in order for them to be able to provide an appropriate level of service for your holiday. We do not share this data with any other 3rd party.