



Gr8 Walk – FAQ's

When: Sunday 24th September

Where: Starts at Coate Water Country Park

Times: Registration opens at 08:30am and the walk will start at 10:00am.

Are there early bird rates? Yes, there are early bird rates available until 31st July. They are:

£10.00 – Adults
£8.00 - Children
£23.00 - Family ticket

On August 1st, the rates will rise to:

£12.00 – Adults
£10.00 - Children
£25.00 - Family ticket

Under 5's are free.

Why the name GR8 Walk? We took the great from the Great Western Hospital's name and the South Swindon Green Trail is an eight mile circular route. Hence the name great eight! Or.. GR8!

Is the route new? This is Swindon's newest walking trail, a circular route along the South Swindon Green Trail- a trail that explores South Swindon's natural world, historical transport links and local history.

What is the trail? Created in 2022 by South Swindon Parish Council for recreation and conservation, the South Swindon Green Trail roughly follows the boundary of the Parish. The approximately 8 mile / 13 km circular Green Trail goes via Shaftesbury Lake, Coate Water, Croft Wood, East Wichel, Rushey Platt, Cambria Bridge, the Town Centre, Fleming Way, Magic Roundabout and Marlowe

Avenue. The Green Trail explores historical transport links, local history and the natural world of South Swindon.

Who can enjoy the trail? The route has been developed and improved for everyone to enjoy, however following wet weather some sections of the Green Trail may be muddy, and therefore less suitable for wheelchairs, pushchairs or bikes – appropriate footwear should be worn. The Green Trail is wheelchair accessible apart from the Old Town Railway Track to the concrete road. The trail is suitable for dogs.

Can anyone take part? Yes, anyone can take on this walk. It's an eight mile route which will start and finish at Coate Water.

What is the route? For this event you will start at Coate Water Country Park before heading to Croft Wood, East Wichel, Rushey Platt, Cambria Bridge, the Town Centre, Fleming Way, Magic Roundabout, Marlowe Avenue, Shaftesbury Lake and finishing back at Coate Water.

What is the Way Forward Programme? The Way Forward Programme of work is focused on projects that, instead of creating a bigger version of the hospital we have today, will help to develop a more integrated, streamlined and efficient health care system in Swindon that will provide an effective balance of urgent and longer-term care for our patients' best interests.

One key project includes the expansion and co-location of urgent and emergency care services. Our current facilities for providing urgent and emergency care at Great Western Hospital are inadequate. The facilities are too small and pressure on space will only increase. The local population is growing and ageing. Demand for emergency care has almost doubled. 30,500 patients in Swindon have more than 3 chronic conditions and the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic will be felt for years to come. This adds up to heightened pressure on beds, longer lengths of stay and a poor patient experience.

What is my fundraising going toward?

This sponsored walk is raising funds for our Way Forward Programme and the second phase of the urgent and emergency care expansion. This expansion will be the biggest ever investment to the hospital site and follows the opening of our new Urgent Treatment Centre and Radiotherapy Centre last year.

Brighter Futures are delighted to be involved with this exciting project raising much needed additional funds to help improve the experience of patients by funding much needed equipment and creating a welcoming and fully inclusive environment.

We understand we're living in unprecedented circumstances, but we cannot put these events on without your support, so we ask you try to raise £80.00. If you don't wish to fundraise, please consider making a donation to support the charity.

For more information on trail head to [South Swindon Green Trail | Walks in Swindon | Swindon Walks \(southswindon-pc.gov.uk\)](#)

For more information on the Way Forward Appeal head to [Emergency Department | Brighter Futures \(brighterfuturesgwh.nhs.uk\)](#)

To sign up head to [GR8 Walk | Brighter Futures \(brighterfuturesgwh.nhs.uk\)](#)