



British Walking Federation

PT03 DOVER PERMANENT TRAIL



ORGANISED BY THE BWF NATIONAL COMMITTEE

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DISTANCE: 14km

ENTRY FEE: £1.50 per walker (Cheques payable to the British Walking Federation)

AWARD: Cloth Badge at £2.50 each

START VENUE: Maison Dieu House (Town Hall Offices)

OS MAP: 138 **GR:** TR316417

SAT NAV CT16 1DW

what3words ///spot.gifts.trails

CAR PARKING: Maison Dieu Car Park 100m from start venue

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: Mainline railway to Dover Priory Station, 200m from start. National Coaches from London. Ferries from the continent.

ALTERNATIVE START VENUE: White Cliffs National Trust Visitor Centre (CT16 1HJ)

TERRAIN: Steps, narrow chalky cliff paths, dirt tracks, roads/lanes and pavements.

TOILETS At start and on route.

REFRESHMENTS: Available in the town and on route.

WARNING: Chalky surfaces can be very slippery when wet: Unfenced paths on cliffs close to edge in places: Keep dogs under strict control: Maintain a Weather Watch especially in Strong Winds.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION (Updated 31st August 2024)

At the Maison Dieu House entrance and War Memorial on your left, go ahead towards the church and turn right between the two. Proceed ahead through iron gates, the Old Gaol on the left, ahead then turn right to the Bowling Green, go left and turn right before river bridge on path.

Q1. Above the gates to the bowling club, what year was the bowling club founded?

Follow path with the river Dour on left, turn left at Cycle Way No.5 and bear left over bridge along the Greenway to reach road. Turn right and then left over road opposite the archway and take the central path through the park to go through car park and pass toilets on left. Ahead on Stembrook to junction, turn left along Castle Street to cross Maison Dieu Road at crossing and another 5m in front to cross Castle Street at crossing then turn left and continue uphill on Castle Hill Road to bear right past

“green triangle” with large tree on the left. Opposite the triangle a Blue Plaque on building is prominent.

Ahead crossing St James Street passing church ruins on left to junction with traffic lights. Turn left along Woolcomber Street to junction, turn left and veer left into East Cliff, passing the First and Last pub to the end and Athol Terrace. Pass in front of Athol Terrace and the garages, ahead up the steps of Dame Vera Lynn Way to top.

Q2. As you go up the steps, what is the name of the National Trust site on the right?

Ahead on access road, grey hut in front, keep to side of road to the start of road parking spaces on right. This is the **ALTERNATIVE START POINT** (Make your way from the car parking and turn left at end of road parking spaces). Turn right down the green open area, ECP post in front, through gap in right hand corner ahead, down steps, through gate and another short flight of steps, down green area and at start of fence on left, turn left after going down slope and onto narrow path. Follow this narrow, chalky path to join wide track from the right. Pass steel lattice fencing on right to go through gate and National Trust Langdon Hole sign, passing bench and to meet path/track joining from the left. Turn right on established sandy/gravel path, through 3 kissing gates and before the fourth kissing gate bear right along grassy path. Go through kissing gate and bear half left uphill along the grassy path to wall corner, keep ahead to turn left through kissing gate and along narrow path to white gates # at the National Trust South Foreland Lighthouse grounds on left. Enter grounds and follow right round the lighthouse, tea shop nearby, to exit at white gates by the ticket office turn left to notice board.

If the gates are closed, ahead to turn left through wooden gate and ahead to notice board by white gates.

Q3. Between what dates should you keep your dog on a short lead? 1 March and 31 July

Ahead on metalled track for approx 1.3km, ignoring gates and tracks on left. Follow lane round right hand bend to end of fence and a small dirt car park. Turn left through gate (signposted to visitor centre and car park) into National Trust Harbour Field and ahead on grass and cinder track through gate to reach cross paths/tracks Turn right up sandy/gravel path passing the entrance to the underground WW2 tunnels. Ahead and at the top Dover castle is prominent on the skyline, follow the path through gate to reach the Whitecliffs' Visitor Centre with cafeteria and toilets. Ahead on access road to pass the grey hut and down the steps of Dame Vera Lynn Way previously came up.

At the end of Athol Terrace veer left to pink house, follow pavement round to right next to main road and follow to house number 1. Cross the dual carriageway to left and turn right on other side to follow promenade with sea to your left.

Q4. At the Channel Swimming board, when was the first successful swim of the Channel?

Ahead in same direction to end near the Clock Tower at T junction (there are public toilets by the Marina building after the lifting bridge). Turn right to cross the swing bridge to main road junction. Turn right, then turn left over dual carriageway using the pedestrian crossing, turn right on other side along Snargate Street. Turn left along York Street to cross right at pedestrian crossing and down into unnamed street to end. Turn left along King Street to the Market Square and ahead to exit into Cannon/Biggin Street to continue along pedestrianised shopping street to reach the finish at Maison Dieu House and the end. (If you used the ALTERNATIVE START proceed from the beginning of the route description)

When you have completed this trail please use the [Permanent Trail Entry Form](#)

The organisers are not liable for accidents, thefts and/or damage to property. Every effort will be made by the organisers to make this a safe, enjoyable and memorable event.

All Permanent Trails Registered with BWF