



THURSDAY 10TH OCTOBER – MONDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2019

FULL PROGRAMME

Welcome to the Isles of Scilly's October Walk Scilly Weekend

Come and enjoy a varied programme of island walks, including old favourites and some new additions. All are expertly led and carefully planned to bring some of the more hidden and unexpected aspects of the islands to life.

Autumn on Scilly is a wonderful time to visit. The islands are quieter and as the nights draw in, we're treated to incredible sunsets, irresistible island hues and fields of emerging scented narcissi.

Join us for a long weekend of walking and exploring, with themes embracing literature, heritage and wildlife all set against the unique backdrop of Scilly in October.

All walks are graded – easy, moderate or hard – and the team at the Tourist Information Centre will be happy to answer any questions and help you plan and book your walks.

You can also find more information at visitislesofscilly.com/walkscilly

Easy - Generally level walking on a road or level path.

Moderate - Including inclines, some uneven surfaces and walking on beaches.

Hard - Featuring hills and uneven, narrow paths at a faster pace.

To Book Your Walks

Call us on 01720 620601 or email events@visitislesofscilly.com and leave your name and telephone number and we'll call you back

Payment will be taken at the time of booking, by card, and you can also book boat tickets in advance at a special discounted Walk Scilly price.

Isles of Scilly Travel is offering a 10% discount on travel arrangement for anyone coming for Walk Scilly Weekend. You will have to book your travel by telephone – 01736 334220 and quote **WLK19**. The code applies for anyone travelling between 8th October and 16th October 2019 inclusive.

Your welcome pack will be ready for collection from the Tourist Information Centre when you arrive on Scilly.

Walk Scilly is brought to you by



In association with



THURSDAY 10th October

ST MARY'S

Welcome Walk with Will Wagstaff

Join the Isles of Scilly's leading ornithologist, naturalist, author and long-time resident Will Wagstaff for a leisurely welcome walk. Starting at the Tourist Information Centre on Porthcressa Beach you will stroll to Peninnis Head and the light house with extended views to St. Agnes, Gugh and beyond. You will then move on to Old Town to see the remains of the ancient Ennor Castle. Will's expert knowledge of local flora and fauna should ensure a memorable start to the weekend's events. Dogs on leads welcome.

Time. 2.00 – 5.00pm

Meet. Tourist Information Centre

Grade. Moderate

Cost. £8.50

Walk Scilly Welcome Party

Come and enjoy drinks and nibbles with the Visit Isles of Scilly team and several of the walk leaders for an informal welcome to the weekend. This is also a great opportunity to hear first-hand about the programme, catch up on any additions or amendments and meet up with fellow walkers in the landmark restaurant and bar overlooking the harbour.

6.00pm

On The Quay Restaurant St Mary's

Free – but it is ticketed, so please let us know if you would like to attend when you book your walks.

Friday 11th October

TRESCO

Wildlife Walk with Will Wagstaff

Join Will Wagstaff for a wildlife walk on Tresco. Discover the waterfowl and flora around Great Pool and Abbey Pool in the morning and after stopping for lunch near New Grimsby, you'll head across the island encountering a variety of flora and fauna in this little explored part of the island. Dogs on leads welcome. The price does not include boat tickets from St Mary's. The boat will leave St Mary's at 10.00 or 10.15am.

Time. 10.30 – 4.15pm

Meet. Carn Near Quay, Tresco

Grade. Moderate

Cost. £14.50 (£8.50 for half day)

ST AGNES

Top to Toe with Chas Wood

A wonderful day's walk with Chas Wood around St. Agnes and Gugh. In the morning, you'll head across the sandbar to Gugh to see Obadiah's Barrow and the Old Man of Gugh, with beautiful views across to Samson, the Norrard Rocks, Tresco and the Garrison. Back on St Agnes for lunch at the Turk's Head (or bring a picnic), the walk then heads off to visit Troytown Farm (bring some pennies for an ice cream!) and continues to Troytown Maze, with stunning views to the Western Rocks and the Bishop Rock lighthouse and onwards to St Warnar's Well and St Agnes lighthouse. The price does not include boat tickets from St. Mary's, leaving at 10.15 from the quay. Dogs welcome on leads.

Time. 10.45 – 4.15pm

Meet. The Turk's Head, St Agnes

Grade. Moderate

Cost. £16.00

ST HELEN'S

Explore Uninhabited St Helen's With Darren Hart

This is a fabulous opportunity to visit the uninhabited island of St Helen's. Darren Hart, from the Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust, will guide you across this tiny island, which has great views from the top; it's worth the trip just for those alone. Not only will this walk introduce you to the very local wildlife but you'll also see the ruins of our earlier ancestors here in Scilly. There will also be a short beachcombing and beach clean session at the end of the walk to give something back to nature. There are no facilities on St Helens and dogs are not allowed, sturdy footwear essential. The price does not include the boat from St Mary's, the trip will involve a beach landing on St Helen's.

Time. 1.45 – 5.00pm

Meet. St Mary's Quay 1.45pm

Grade. Moderate

Cost. £9.50

ST MARY'S

Bat Detective Walk with Mike Gurr

Starting after sundown, it's time to turn bat detective! Described as 'Brilliant, absolute magic' by the Bald Hiker blog, Scilly experts Mike and Ann Gurr will lead you on a fun night walk to the Elm Trees at Rose Hill before heading back towards Porthmellon and through Doily Wood to 'Nowhere'. You will be given your own bat detector kit to listen out for bat calls and keep count of how many pipistrelles you can spot as they venture out to feed after dark.

Bring a torch and wrap up warm. All proceeds will go to the Bat Group funds, accompanied under 16s free. Sorry, no dogs and please note that the walk is weather dependent.

Time. 8.15pm – 9.45pm

Meet. Holgate's Green

Grade. Easy

Cost. £7.50

Saturday 12th October

BRYHER

With Islander Chris Potterton

Join local artist, fireman, water technician, gig coxswain and all-round islander, Chris to celebrate the colour and contrast of his island home. This will include sites of historical and geological significance and some of the most spectacular cliffs and bays on Scilly.

Dogs on leads welcome, boat ticket from St Mary's not included in the price. Boats will be leaving St Mary's at 12.15pm.

Time. 1.00 – 4.00pm
Meet. Bar Quay Bryher
Grade. Moderate
Cost. £9.50

SAMSON

Uninhabited Samson with Chas Wood

Join Chas to explore Samson, a pretty little island which was abandoned by its inhabitants in 1855. You'll take in a number of Bronze Age sites and the ruins of post-medieval buildings as well as admiring the wonderful hilltop views across the archipelago. There are no facilities on this island, and timings include the boat from St. Mary's which involves a beach landing, dogs on leads are welcome and sturdy footwear essential. Boat ticket is not included in the price.

Time. 1.45 – 5.00pm
Meet. St Mary's Quay 1.45pm
Grade. Moderate
Cost. £9.50

ST MARY'S

Book launch Walking Stories hosted by Wyl Menmuir

Conceived by St Agnes-based musician and writer Piers Lewin, Walking Stories explore aspects of Scilly life as imagined by five writers. Each have shared their love and knowledge of Scilly to create a narrative inspired by each of the five inhabited islands:

Piers Lewin – St Agnes
Sam Llewellyn – Tresco
Wyl Menmuir – St Martin's
Marion Molteno – St Mary's
Michael Morpurgo - Bryher

Each writer has contributed or created a short story, now available as an audio file on the Visit Isles of Scilly website (visitislesofscilly.com/walkingstories) and a limited-edition print run. Come and meet some of the authors who will discuss their experience and share extracts from their work. This is a project funded by Arts Council England through Cultural Destinations.

Time. 7.30pm
Meet. St Mary's Library, Porthcressa
Cost. £5.00

Sunday 13th October

TRESCO

Island Stroll and Abbey Garden with George Teideman

Enjoy a day out on Tresco, starting in the morning with a leisurely guided stroll in the world famous Tresco Abbey Garden. After a break for lunch, the walk continues through Old Grimsby, taking in the ruined blockhouse and beautiful landscapes and heading across the island to New Grimsby for the return boat. Leave on the boat from St. Mary's or meet at the entrance to the Abbey Garden at 10.45am. Price includes entry to the gardens, but does not include boat tickets from St Mary's.

Time. 9.45am – 4.45pm

Meet. Tourist Information Porthcressa (or 10.45am at Abbey Garden)

Grade. Easy

Cost. £22.50

ST MARTIN'S

Writing on St Martin's with Wyl Menmuir

Explore St Martin's through the eyes of novelist and nature writer, Wyl Menmuir, whose *Walking Story, Images I did not capture with my camera*, takes place across the island. Combining a guided walk following in the footsteps of the story, with readings and short writing exercises, you'll leave with plenty of ideas of your own and a new appreciation of this gem of an island. Bring walking boots, clothes for all weathers and a notepad and pen. The walk will conclude at the Seven Stones Inn for lunch and conversation. The price does not include the boat from St Mary's which leaves at 10 or 10.15am. Dogs on leads welcome.

Time. 10.45 – 1.30pm

Meet. St Martin's Lower Town Quay

Grade. Moderate

Cost. £9.50

FINS, FLIPPERS AND FEATHERS

Around the Archipelago with Joe Pender and Rob Lambert

Join skipper and wildlife photographer Joe Pender and birder and environment academic Dr Rob Lambert (plus Bella the boat dog) aboard MV Sapphire on a marine meander around the archipelago in search of seabirds, wading birds, sea ducks, divers, grey seals and dolphins. As well as taking a close-up look at coastal nooks and crannies, islets and bays around the islands. The trip will also include a short run offshore to hopefully pick up pods of bow-riding common dolphins. Bring binoculars, camera and a warm jacket.

Time. 2.00 – 5.00pm

Meet. St Mary's Quay

Grade. Easy – on a boat!

Cost: £20.00 (Includes the boat fare)

TEAN

Discover Uninhabited Tean with Dr Katharine Sawyer

Enjoy a rare opportunity to take a guided walk on this beautiful, uninhabited island. Tean has a long history of occupation and this walk will take in sites from the prehistoric period to the 20th Century. You will visit Bronze Age burial chambers, the early Medieval chapel and cemetery and the remains of houses from the 17th and 18th Centuries. The expedition will include an opportunity to enjoy the views from Great Hill. There are no facilities on Tean and good footwear is essential. There will also be a beach landing. Boat ticket not included in the price.

Time. 2.00 – 4.30pm

Meet. St Mary's Quay 1.45pm

Grade. Moderate

Cost. £9.50

ST MARTIN'S

COSMOS Captivating Dark Skies Walk

Join the St. Martin's COSMOS group for a special evening and dark skies walk on St Martin's. The evening will start at Higher Town to watch the sunset before you head off on a twilight walk to the newly established observatory, on the hill behind the Community Hall. Telescopes will be available for you to marvel at the Milky Way, planets and stars with expert support from the team. You will then be escorted to Lower Town for your return boat to St Mary's. Refreshments will be available which must be booked in advance. Dogs on leads welcome, price does not include the boat. Bring a torch as it will be dark for the walk back to the quay.

Time. 7.30pm – 10.15pm

Meet. Higher Town Quay St. Martin's

Grade. Easy

Cost. £8.50

Monday 14th October

ST MARY'S

Energetic Coastal Hike with Bryony Lishman

Trail runner and yoga instructor Bryony will lead this hardy circumnavigation of St Mary's covering the nine-mile coastline of the whole island. The walk will take in the Garrison before coming back into Hugh Town and on to Old Town via Peninnis Head, for a cuppa and

a chance to pick up a pasty, if pre-ordered. Continuing anti-clockwise to the north and west of the island you will enjoy stunning views to the Eastern Isles and take in historic sites at Innisidgen and Halangy Down. The walk will finish at Juliet's Garden, for tea and cake if desired and will be completed in time for Scillonian passengers to return for boarding. Dogs on leads welcome, bring snacks and water.

Time. 9.30am – 3.30pm

Meet. Holgate's Green

Grade. Hard

Cost. £14.50

ST AGNES

With islander Chris Simmonds

Join resident Chris Simmonds as he takes you on a leisurely walk around his island home. He'll visit his favourite spots including the 'Old Man' of Gugh standing stone, and the breeding sites for both Manx Shearwaters and Black-backed gulls. You'll return across the sandbar to take in Wingletang Down and Castella Down as well as the working farms and studios that dot this remote Atlantic outpost. A lunch stop will be included, but feel free to bring a picnic. Dogs on leads welcome; the price does not include the boat trip from St Mary's.

Time. 10.45am – 4.15pm

Meet. St. Agnes Quay

Grade. Moderate

Cost. £14.50

EASTERN ISLES AND NORNOUR

With Dr Katharine Sawyer

This popular Cruise in the Past combines a boat trip with Joe Pender to seek out Atlantic Grey seals and seabirds around the Eastern Isles, followed by a landing on the uninhabited island of Nornour. Here, Dr Katharine Sawyer will lead a visit to the fascinating pre-historic settlement and Romano-British shrine site. This trip will involve a beach landing which can be tricky.

Time. 2.00pm – 4.30pm

Meet. St Mary's Quay at 1.45 pm

Grade. Moderate

Cost. £20.00 (Includes the boat fare)