

MENDIP CHALLENGE

FAQs 2026

What is the Mendip Challenge? The Mendip Challenge an exciting sponsored event for those looking to have fun, challenge themselves and raise money for Weston Hospiccare. The routes - 30 miles, 20 miles, 10 miles and 5 miles - are open to all individuals, teams, families and dogs and take you along the West Mendip Way in the Somerset hills.

How much is it?

30 and 20 miles: £25 for adults & £12.50 for children

10 miles: £20 for adults & £10 for children

5 miles: £15 for adults & £10 for children

Dogs: £5 for all routes

Where does it start? Everyone is required to register and de-register at event HQ at Weston-super-Mare Cricket Club, Devonshire Road, BS23 4NY. The 10 and 5 mile routes start and finish at the Cricket Club. For the 30 and 20 mile routes a coach will take you from the Cricket Club and drop you to the starting point of your distance. (ie Wells for 30 miles, and Draycott for the 20 miles.)

When? The 2026 Mendip Challenge will take place on Sunday 31 May 2026. Registration opening times for each distance are below:

ROUTE	REGISTRATION OPENS	REGISTRATION CLOSES	COACHES / START TIME
30 miles	06:00	06:45	Coaches depart 06:05-06:55, commencing walk on arrival at Wells
20 miles	08:00	09:15	Coaches depart 08:15-09:30, commencing walk on arrival at Draycott
10 miles	10:30	11:00	From 10:30 - Once registered at HQ you are welcome to start your walk
5 miles	12:00	12:30	From 12:00 - Once registered at HQ you are welcome to start your walk

What do I get for the registration fee?

- Entry to the Mendip Challenge
- Complementary refreshments at multiple locations along the route for the 30, 20 and 10 mile routes
- Free parking at event HQ at Weston-super-Mare Cricket Club
- Coach travel from event HQ to the start point on the 30 or 20 mile route
- Finisher's medal to show off your achievement
- Entry to the dog-friendly after party
- Back walkers, support vehicles, marshals and first aid cover

What is the minimum age? There is no minimum age limit to take part in the event. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult, who is also taking part in the event. The suggested minimum age for participants walking 30 miles is 14 years old with previous walking experience.

What is the deadline for registration? The deadline for registration is **23:59 Sunday 24 May 2026**. If there are places left, it may be possible to sign up on the day, but please note registration fees may increase on the day and finishers medal may not be guaranteed

Is bag storage available? No, there will not be bag storage available at the event.

Are there toilets on site? Yes, there will be toilets at Weston Cricket Club as well as at various checkpoints along the route. Please note that the only toilets available on the 5 mile route are at the Cricket Club.

Can I bring a dog? Yes, dogs are very welcome on all routes and at the Cricket Club. Please note that the distance may be too long for some breeds. Dogs cost £5 for all routes and they will receive their very own medal at the finish line!

How much do I have to fundraise? The entry fee only covers the cost of organising the event. *We ask you to raise as much money as possible to support the work of Weston Hospicecare.* It is your sponsorship and fundraising efforts that go to the hospice, helping us care for local people affected by cancer and other life-limiting illnesses.

Can I not register at the Cricket Club and go straight to the starting point for the 20 and 30 mile routes? No, all participants must register at the Cricket Club before the event and de-register at the end.

What happens after I have registered for the walk? After you have registered, you will receive your confirmation email and final event details will be sent to you via email prior to the event.

Is it only possible to register online? If you do not have access to the internet, just call 01934 423900 and ask to speak to the events team.

What should I wear? Remember that you are potentially going to be walking for many hours and weather conditions can change (particularly on the hills) very quickly. Wearing layers of clothing that can gradually be removed or replaced as your body temperature changes will help. A good set up might be a t-shirt, sweatshirt, fleece and a waterproof coat. Wearing longer trousers will reduce the potential spread of ticks. A hat is an important part of your clothing as it will protect you from the sun in good weather and reduce the large amount of body heat which is lost in cold weather.

Where can I park/how do I get there? There is parking available at the Cricket Club, however with more than 1,000 participants expected on the day please car share, use public transport or catch a lift where possible. Please allow plenty of time to park before registering.

What if it rains? In the event of extreme bad weather, we would consider cancelling the event. For the most up-to-date information on this matter, or on the Mendip Challenge in general, please visit this website or our social media pages. So, even if you think the weather is bad on the day, do come along unless you hear from us.