

At MWB we have lots to celebrate. For more than 60 years the Mission has worked in some of the poorest communities in Eastern Europe, bringing practical and spiritual support to enable children and families to lift themselves out of poverty and sharing the hope found in Christ Jesus.

In 2022, we will be holding a 13.5 mile fundraising walk along the Pilgrim's Way finishing at Canterbury Cathedral, where the dramatic murder of Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury took place in 1170 by knights of Henry II. It would be great if you could join us.



Godmersham Park



Chilham



Canterbury Cathedral

WHAT IT INVOLVES

This fully supported event with guides includes overnight accommodation, a presentation on the historic backdrop to the Pilgrim's Way, regular rest stops with drinks, packed lunch, time in Canterbury Cathedral and transport back to Ashford.

Take on the hike with family, friends, members of your church, work colleagues and enjoy fellowship along the way. You will be rewarded with great views and stories which will bring history alive.



13TH MAY

Evening arrival - Welcome and presentation on the Pilgrim's Way. Overnight accommodation in Ashford.

14TH MAY

Breakfast followed by meeting and transfer to start at Boughton Lees.

Walk takes in Godmersham Park where Jane Austen once lived.

Lunch stop at Chilham Square.

Walk passes Tattinger/Domaine Evremond vineyards and Bigbury Iron Age Camp.

Enter Canterbury via St Dunstan's Church and West Gate finishing at the Cathedral. Celebratory afternoon tea and cake.

Transport back to Ashford.

Depart.

EVENT ROUTE

Overnight accommodation and breakfast prior to the walk is provided in Ashford with transport to the walk start at Boughton Lees. Shortly after this we arrive at All Saints Church at Boughton Aluph. Pilgrims gathered here before travelling to Kings Wood, finding safety in numbers from robbers who then frequented the forest. The church also has a wall painting dating back to the 14th Century.

We follow the old drovers' trail as it ascends through woodlands, looking out for deer descended from those introduced by King John. Then it is on through the grounds of Godmersham Park, where Jane Austen kept house for her brother Edward, and which is thought to have been the inspiration for Mansfield Park. We continue past parkland to Chilham Square, with its fine medieval buildings, and views of the Jacobean Mansion. The square has been used as a film set many times, including for Jane Austen's Emma, and Poirot. Chilham has two inns and a teahouse, and a packed lunch will be provided.

After lunch the walk ascends to the North Downs where we walk through apple orchards and lavender fields. On the south facing, chalky slopes there are 2 vineyards, and we pass close to the Tattinger/Domaine Evremond plantings, which produced their first crop in 2019. Reaching more woodland before Canterbury we walk through Bigbury Iron Age Camp, where Julius Caesar defeated the British tribes in 54 BC.

Entering Canterbury through the village of Harbledown ('Bobbe-up-and-down' in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales) there is a short detour to the Black Prince's Well, where in 1174 King Henry II dismounted and began his penitent walk to Canterbury. On reaching the city we will pass St. Dunstan's church, where Henry put on a woollen pilgrim shirt and continued barefoot. Thomas More's daughter, Margaret, lived close to the church, and this is where his head was brought for burial following his execution. Entering the city centre through the West Gate, we reach the Cathedral and the end of the days walk.



JOIN US

We would love people to join us on this Walk and help raise vital funds for our work in Eastern Europe. We are asking people to raise minimum sponsorship of £279 per person.

For individuals who may only be able to join us on the morning of the 14th we would ask that they raise minimum sponsorship of £149.

To find out more about this event or to register please go to our website www.mwbuk, email j.chamberlain@mwbuk.org or telephone MWB on 020 7940 1370.

We would like to register all walkers coming on the 14th May by the end of March 2022.

WALK DIFFICULTY – moderate with some hill ascents.

The walk is organised by Walk Awhile, a locally based family run business. Since 2002 Walk Awhile has been organising long distance walks in the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and beyond.





