

Bexhill Ramblers Walk Leader – Check List



This check list is provided to help a walk leader with the process of planning, assessing, and leading a walk.

Before the walk

Choose the route

- Area, length/timing, circular/linear, consider terrain/elevation/ascent/season/strength of party.
- From map or guidebook or combination research points of interest.
- Transport options, check timings, lunch options, rest stops, bad weather alternatives/escape routes.
- Write route card

Recce (preferably with backmarker).

- Walk full route, note critical navigation points and bearings, assess risks, adjust route/escape routes if necessary, check timings, check rest and toilet stops.
- Describe in Walking Programme.

The Day Before.

- check and assess weather forecast, review alternative routes if necessary.
- Check personal gear and first aid kit.
- Check public transport, warn pub.

On the Day – At the Start.

- Be early, be welcoming, especially to newcomers.
- Check fitness and equipment of party, identify anyone with special needs.
- Appoint a backmarker.
- Introduction: welcome, yourself, walk details, points of interest, refreshment and rest stops, estimated return time.

- **Count party/names and signal start.**

On the Day – The Walk.

- **Stay at or near the front, check often as you can see your backmarker.**
- **Set a reasonable pace, watch for stragglers.**
- **Concentrate on navigation, check timing against route card.**
- **Manage: flow of party/regrouping/passage past gates and stiles/impact on countryside/rest stops.**
- **Be alert to problems (individual, weather, road walking etc.) involve others in party as necessary.**
- **Follow the Countryside Code.**
- **Enjoy the walk.**

At the End of the Walk.

- **Check everyone has returned and can get home.**
- **Report any incidents and obstructions to the Club Officers.**

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