

Sunset Walk – Frequently Asked Questions

Can I bring my dog?

Yes, well behaved dogs are very welcome provided they are kept on a lead at all times. Please be considerate of other walkers and clean up after your dog. If your dog struggles with crowds or low light, you may wish to leave them at home.

Please note, dogs are not permitted inside the Branksome Dene Room.

Is parking available?

Yes. There is parking available at the Branksome Dene surface car park, BH13 6JP. Details include charges are available on the BCP Council website. There is additional free on street parking on Pinewood Road, a short walk away.

Where possible, we encourage car sharing or using public transport.

What time does the event start?

Please arrive between 5:30pm and 5:45pm in good time to allow for registration and safety briefings. Full timings will be confirmed closer to the event.

Where does the walk start and finish?

The walk will start and finish at the Branksome Dene Room.

How long is the walk?

The route is designed to be enjoyable and accessible for most walkers. Participants can choose from either a 5km or 8km route.

The 8km route will take walkers from the Branksome Dene Room to Evening Hill and back, while the 5km route will go to the end of the promenade, near the Jazz Café, before returning to the Branksome Dene Room.

We encourage participants to walk at their own pace and take breaks if needed.

Are children welcome?

Yes, children are welcome to take part. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. Please note, there are no baby changing facilities at this site.

Can I take part with a pushchair or wheelchair?

Some sections of the route may be challenging for pushchairs and wheelchairs due to sandy surfaces. The road route from Shore Road to Evening Hill is a moderate incline. There is pushchair/wheelchair access from the promenade to the Branksome Dene room as well as a disabled toilet accessible with a RADAR key.

If you have specific accessibility requirements, please get in touch with us in advance so we can advise and support where possible.

What happens if the weather is bad?

The Sunset Walk will go ahead in most weather conditions, so please dress appropriately and wear suitable footwear. In the event of severe weather, participants will be contacted with any important updates.

What should I wear?

We recommend comfortable clothing and sensible walking shoes or trainers. As the walk takes place in the evening, you may wish to bring a warm layer and a waterproof, just in case. All participants will receive a Forest Holme Sunset Walk T-shirt, which we encourage you to wear on the night so we can create a wonderful sea of colour together.

As the return leg of the route will be dark, you're very welcome to add a little sparkle — whether that's fairy lights, glow accessories, or hi-vis details. Torches are also welcome to help light the way and add to the atmosphere. Sparkles and lights are completely optional, but they're a great way to make the evening extra special.

Will there be refreshments?

Yes, complimentary pizza and refreshments will be served after the walk. We'd love you to stay and join us as we come together to reflect, remember and celebrate the lives of those we love, and to share this special moment with fellow walkers and the Forest Holme community.

Are there toilet facilities?

Yes, public toilet facilities are available at the Branksome Dene Room including a disabled access toilet accessible with a RADAR key.

Do I need to register in advance?

Yes, advance registration is required to secure your place.

Why should I fundraise?

By taking part and fundraising, you'll be helping Forest Holme Hospice continue to provide vital care and support to patients and families in our community.

Is there a minimum fundraising target?

There is no minimum fundraising requirement, but we encourage everyone to donate or raise as much as they feel able. Even a small amount can make a big difference, and every donation is very much appreciated.

How do I start fundraising?

The easiest way is to set up an online fundraising page to share with friends, family and colleagues. A sponsorship form is also included in your fundraising pack if you prefer to collect donations by cash or cheque.

Who can I contact if I have questions?

If you have any questions before the event, please contact our fundraising team:
fundraising@foresthalmehospice.org.uk
01202 670 644