

# Guided Walks: 2009 Season

Whether you are a local or just visiting, what better way to discover more about Bedford's fascinating history than to take a Guided Walk!

## Led by the Bedford Association of Tour Guides

Let one of the experienced guides take you on an entertaining journey back through the ages and introduce you to some of the places and characters that are part of the fabric of Bedford's fascinating history.

### When:

Sundays at 11am, Wednesdays at 7pm and selected Thursdays at 2pm between May & August.

### Where:

Walks start at the Bedford Tourist Information Centre, at the Old Town Hall building in St Paul's Square.

NB: The Silent Faces of Bedford walk starts at the War Memorial opposite Rothsay Road.

### Duration:

Each walk is designed to last approximately 90 minutes at an easy pace and should be suitable for those with limited mobility. Wheelchair users should notify the Tourist Information Centre at the time of booking, so adequate routing provisions can be made.

### Cost:

The programme of summer walks are free of charge.

### Important Information:

Pre-booking is essential as places are limited.

Please ensure you keep your safety in mind at all times on any of these walks.

It is advisable to wear suitable outdoor clothing and footwear appropriate for the weather conditions.

### Please Note:

Every effort will be made to keep to the programme in this leaflet, however the TIC reserves the right to amend or cancel walks if conditions arise beyond their control.



John Howard Statue

## Tinker, Taylor, Soldier, Spy

Bedford has been home to tinkers, tailors, soldiers and spies. Down the ages strong characters have emerged to lead and shape the town. Discover more about some of Bedford's more colourful sons and daughters.

**Sundays: 17th May, 28th June, 16th Aug**

## I Never Knew That

Bedford has a story waiting to be told around every corner. This walk will give you the answers to all those questions about the town, but didn't know who to ask.

**Sundays: 5th July, 23rd Aug**

**Wednesdays: 10th June, 24th June 22nd July, 12th Aug**

## The Life & Times of John Bunyan

Follow in the footsteps of the 'Immortal Tinker' the author of the famous 'The Pilgrims Progress' to various town sites connected with his life and works. This includes the Bunyan Meeting Free Church, one of the sites at which Bunyan preached and the statue dedicated to him.

**Sundays: 24th May, 12th July, 30th Aug**

**Wednesdays: 3rd June, 17th June, 1st July, 29th July**

## The Jewel in Bedford's Crown

During the Victorian and Edwardian periods the banks of the River Great Ouse in Bedford was the place to spend one's leisure time. This entertaining and informative circular walk along the riverbank, described as being one of the finest riverside settings in England, takes in the Victorian Embankment, its bridges and ornamental gardens.

**Sundays: 31st May, 19th July**

**Wednesdays: 20th May, 5th Aug**

**Thursdays: 18th June, 2nd July**

## The Rise and Fall of Bedford Castle

A Royal Charter, a not so 'civil' war and a castle removed stone by stone. View the site where Bedford's motte and bailey castle once stood and enjoy views over the River Great Ouse from the recently restored castle mound.

**Sundays: 7th June, 26th July**

**Wednesdays: 27th May, 8th July, 19th Aug**

**Thursdays: 7th May, 27th Aug**



Castle Mound

## WWII Bedford Walk

Discover Bedford's wartime secrets. How the town became a centre for the nation's entertainment, played its part in the secret war and as a 'liberty town' played host to the 'friendly invasion'.

**Sundays: 14th June, 2nd Aug**

**Wednesdays: 13th May**

## The Silent Faces of Bedford

Why not find out more about statues and memorials in the town.

NB: This walk starts at the Embankment War Memorial opposite Rothsay Road.

**Sundays: 10th May, 21st June, 9th Aug**

## Around the Squares

This 60 minute walk lifts the lid on the hidden treasures of St Paul's Square and Harpur Square.

**Wednesdays: 6th May, 15th July, 26th Aug**

## Group Walks

If you would like to arrange a group guided walk please contact the Tourist Information Centre for a booking form. Any of the walks outlined in this leaflet can be tailored to meet your requirements. There is a limit of 15 per guide and group walks are chargeable.

## Ghost Walks

Don't miss the opportunity to visit sites and hear the tales of ghostly happenings, you will see Bedford in a whole new light. Ghost walks are available from October to March for group bookings of up to 15 people. Look out for dates of public ghost walks.

### Prices

Adult £3 Concession £2.50

Children over 8 years £1.50



Butterfly Bridge



Tourist Information



War Memorial