

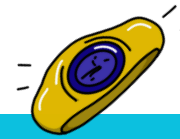
This walk takes about one hour. Remember the Countryside Code. Walk in a sensible manner, do not climb over walls or fences, use proper stiles, do not disturb farm animals and keep dogs on a lead. Please walk beside Hadrian's Wall and not on top of it.

Imagine you are a Roman Soldier, who has been tasked with patrolling Hadrian's Wall on the lookout for Barbarian attack. You are making your way from Magna Fort to turret 45b for the next watch shift.

When they were training, Roman soldiers would have walked 25 miles per day, carrying 60 kg on their backs. This walk is 2.7 modern miles, which is 3 Roman Miles (2.9, but we have rounded up!). So, imagine you are doing this walk 8 more times every day, with the equivalent of a TV on your back!



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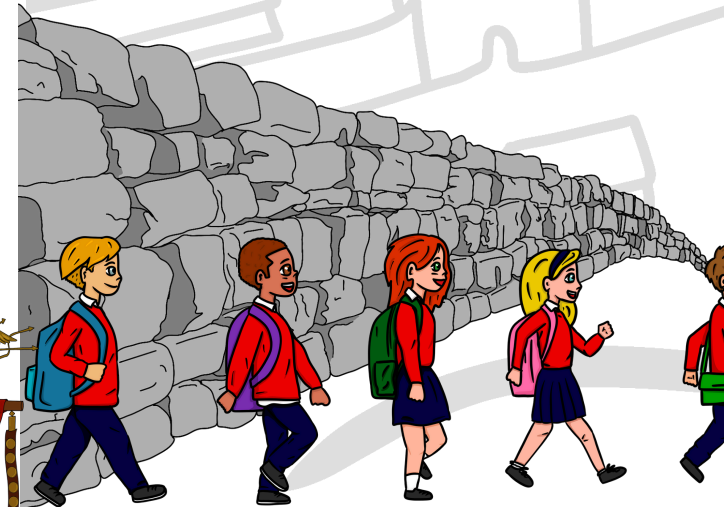
Walk the Wall



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**Self-led school resource:
Exploring Hadrian's Wall.**



Walk out of the Roman Army Museum car park, turn left and follow signs to Walltown Quarry.

Walk through the car park, kiosk, and through the gate.

Follow the path that bears to your left around the quarry pond, walking for approx. 10 minutes until you reach a

bench with 'Wall Town' carved into it and a kissing gate to your left.

Go through the kissing gate and walk up the steep hill to reach Hadrian's Wall.



As you go through the kissing gate, stop the class. Discuss the idea that soldiers were recruited from across the Empire (from places like Syria and Romania) to here on Hadrian's Wall.

Just like today, there were lots of different languages and cultures. To create a cohesive army, the official language was Latin. This means all the soldiers could understand each other and, crucially, commands.

Do you remember how many miles a day the Roman Army would walk? (Hint – it's 25 miles!). To keep altogether, the soldiers would chant left, right, left, right.

We can learn two Latin words here today, the Latin for left and Latin for right. Latin for left is sinister and Latin for right is dexter. However, this is a bit of a mouthful when you are marching! So they would shorten it to sin and dex. Shall we have a practice?

Let's march up the steep hill to the remains of Hadrian's Wall. Can we say sin, dex, sin, dex...

Continue along until you find the remains of Turret 45a. Along Hadrian's Wall you will find a milecastle every Roman mile – you are stood between Milecastle 46 at Magna and the Roman Army Museum in the west and Milecastle 45 towards the east.

Between each milecastle, there are two turrets. They are placed every third of a Roman mile and used for signalling and observation.



Now we are at Turret 45a, we are going to play a game! Imagine you are trying to get a message between the turrets and milecastles along Hadrian's Wall. Form a line standing one behind each other, see if you can pass a message from the first person to the last person without it getting jumbled up!

The number of people who get the message correct, is the number of miles the message travelled along Hadrian's Wall.

Now, turn east (right) and walk alongside the Wall. On the north side of the Wall, the whinstone ridge slopes steeply away. Scrub trees and herbs can also be found. It is said that the herbs were planted in Roman times. What do you think they might have been used for?



As you reach the top of the hill next to Hadrian's Wall, look out across the landscape. Discuss why this was a good place for the Romans to build a Wall? Can you see into the distance, to keep an eye on enemies? What do you think the local people would have thought when the Romans built Hadrian's Wall?



Follow the Wall along to the east and you will see some of the highest standing structures. Can you find the highest point? Notice the difference between the nicely cut facing stones and the inner rubble. Why would the Romans use two different stones?

This is a great opportunity for a class photo!

Now it's time to return to the Roman Army Museum & Magna Fort.