



READING
WALKS FESTIVAL

Reading Walks Festival 2023

10-14 May

42 guided walks in and around Reading over 5 days led by volunteer walks leaders



Festival overview

- 42 guided walks telling the stories of Reading.
- Sharing stories and walking
- Led by local volunteers and experts
- Mostly fully booked
- Majority free to attend
- From 1 hour wellbeing walk to 2-day pilgrimage walk
- History and heritage, nature and wildlife, rivers and town centres, University and architecture, brewing and mindfulness
- Selection of accessible, family-friendly and dog-friendly walks
- All walks linked into the public transport network – 70% people didn't use the car to attend
- 1000 places booked on the walks
- Organised by REDA, Reading's Economy and Destination Agency
- 93% of participants would recommend the Festival to friends



Day 1 – 10 May

Pilgrimage, Conservation Area, 17 Bus route, Wellbeing, Green Stories and Waterhouse



Day 2 – 11 May

Bridges, Wilfred Owen, Thames Path, Palmer, Brunel, Suttons, Shiplake to Reading, 17 Bus Route, Brewing, Open Air Museum, Tree Walk



Day 3 – 12 May

Romans & Pilgrims, River, Parks, Royal and Rock, Public art, Tilehurst trees, Mindfulness, Coley, Pilgrimage sites



Day 4 – 13 May

Dawn chorus, St James Way, Lost Railway, Sonning eye, Kennet Meadows, Whiteknights campus, River Kennet



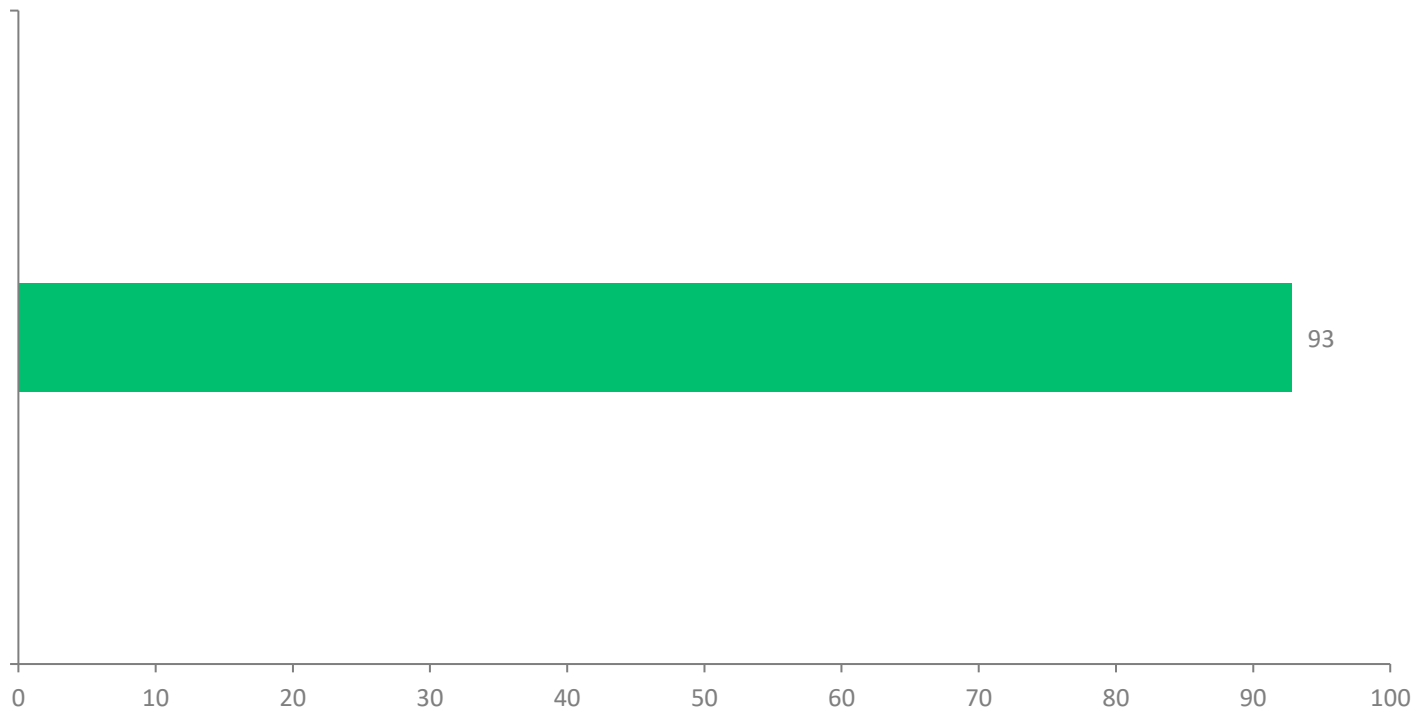
Day 5 – 14 May

Eldon Square, 6 Bridges, Burghfield to Reading, London Road campus, Abbey Quarter, Caversham tree walk, Shady side of town,



Overall, how likely would you be to recommend Reading Walks Festival to a friend or family member? (0 = unlikely, 100 = very likely)

Answered: 199 Skipped: 3



A selection of comments from participants

I would just like to say how much I enjoyed yesterday's walk.

I have never done anything like this before (or walked those distances) and can honestly say it was one of my best experiences. Thank you.

We wanted to drop you a note to say thank you for such an amazing day yesterday.

Thank you so much for leading yesterday's walk – it was a bit of a revelation! 40 years in Reading and never knew the area at all.

A walk with purpose really helped to put everything back in perspective. It is unlikely I would have ventured out on my own for such a long walk so many thanks!

The enthusiasm and generous sharing by the leaders was inspiring.

Great initiative Loved my walk!

Thoroughly enjoyed this walking festival, it is great that Reading has organised a festival like this & long may it continue

Please do it next year again! I want to attend longer walk or other type of walks

More comments

This was a great idea. I liked the range of walks and the length.

Brilliant, very diverse walks and interesting leaders. Roll on Reading Walks Festival 2024.

Brilliant walks all round, well done and thank you.

The Festival was fun, friendly and expertly run.

I walk a lot in the Chilterns but enjoyed the chance to find hidden gems within the Reading area

It was a great day out, meeting a lot of friendly people.

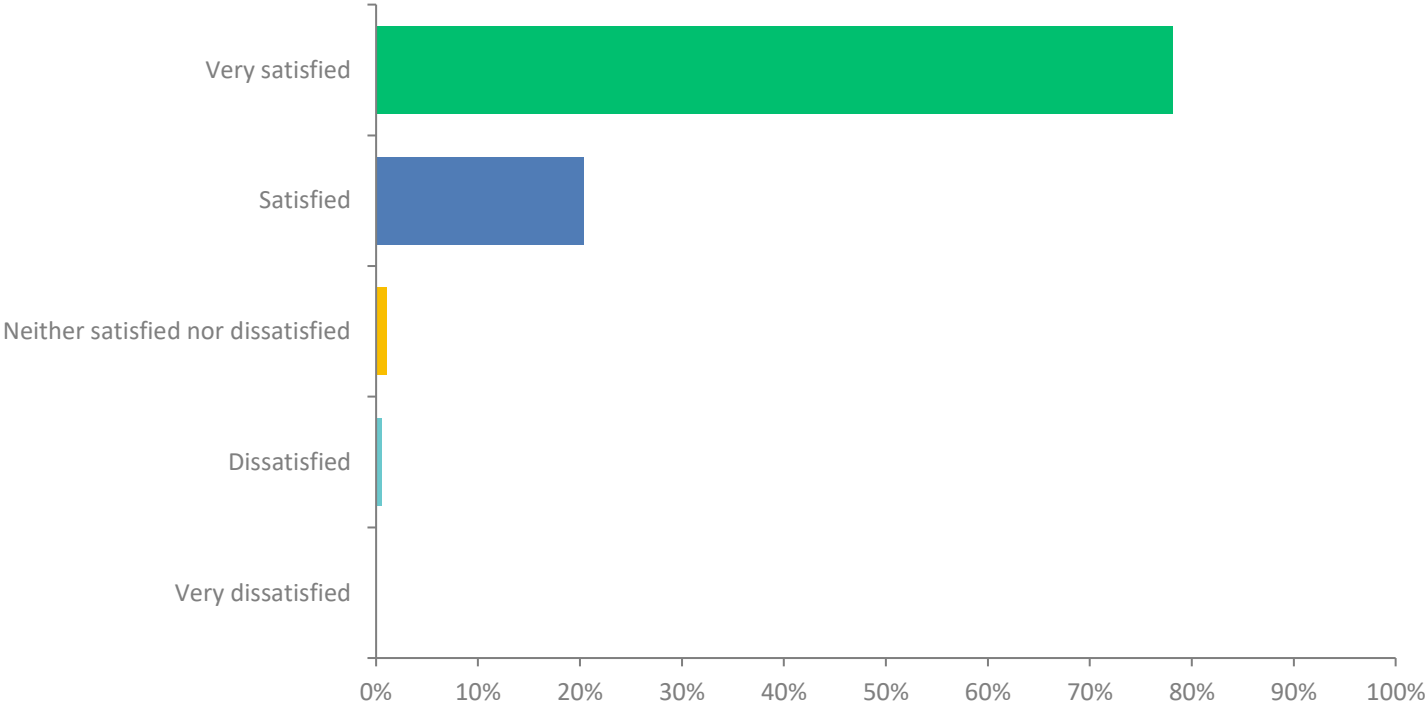
These walks are an excellent idea. Would like them to continue.

The two walks I attended were very well led, with leaders who clearly knew their subject, were enthusiastic and encouraged participants to contribute to the discussions.

I loved my time mentally and physical. It truly uplifted me. My spirit was through the roof, beautiful people and learnt so more about Reading walks was just around the corner from me.

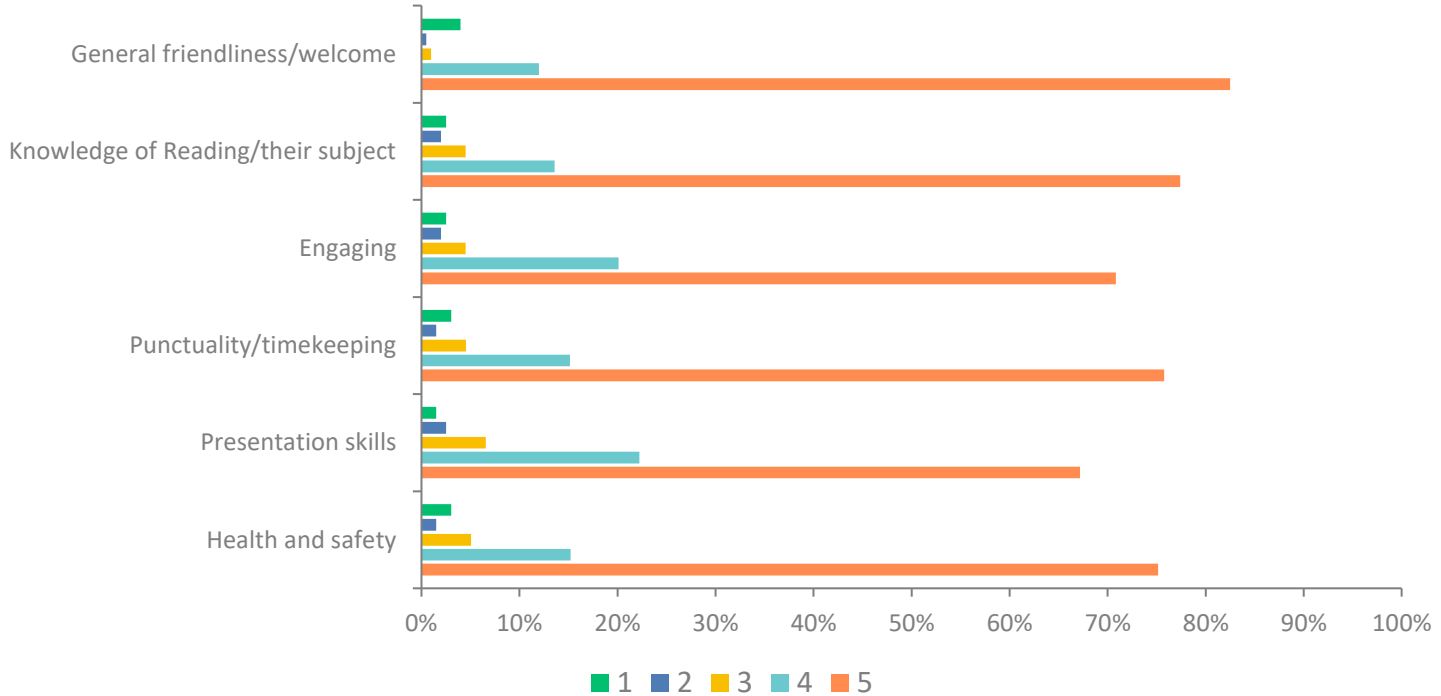
How satisfied were you with your chosen walk(s)?

Answered: 201 Skipped: 1



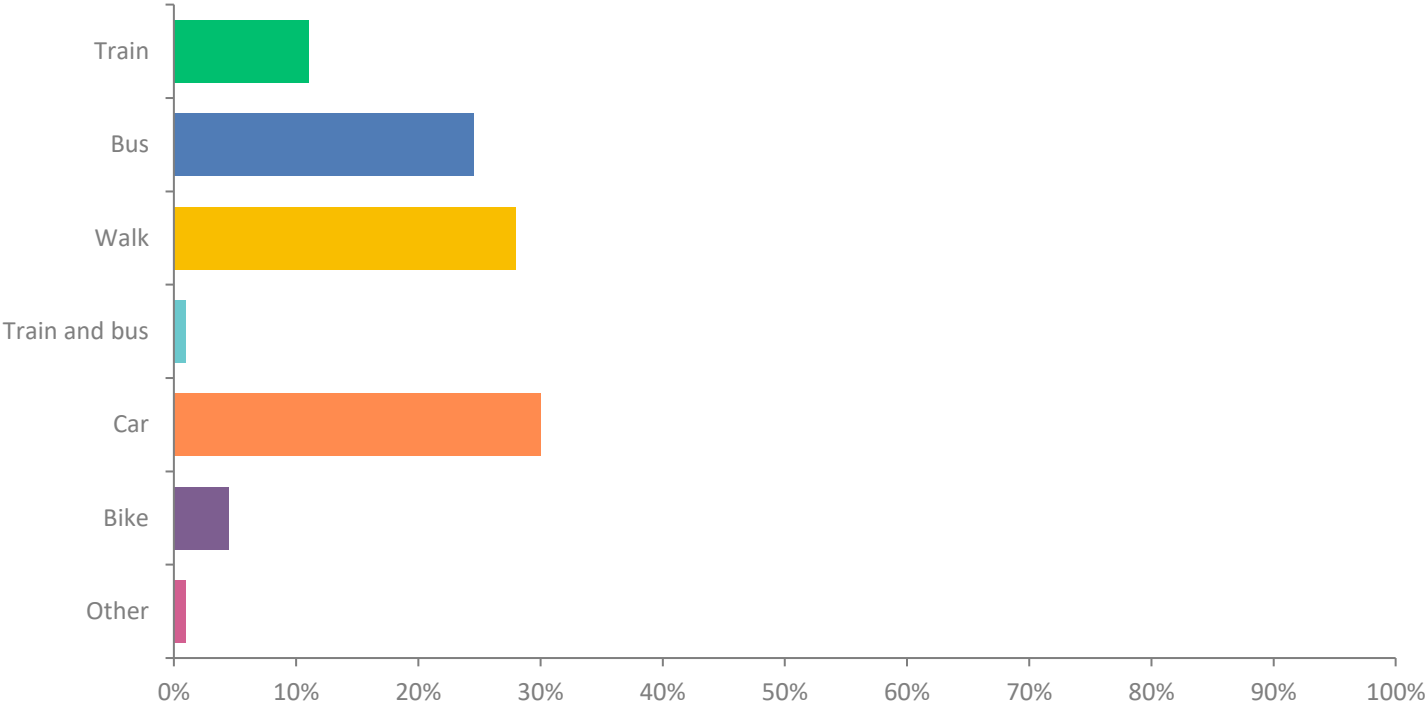
How would you rate your walk leader for the following?: (scale 1-5, where 1 is poor and 5 is excellent)

Answered: 200 Skipped: 2



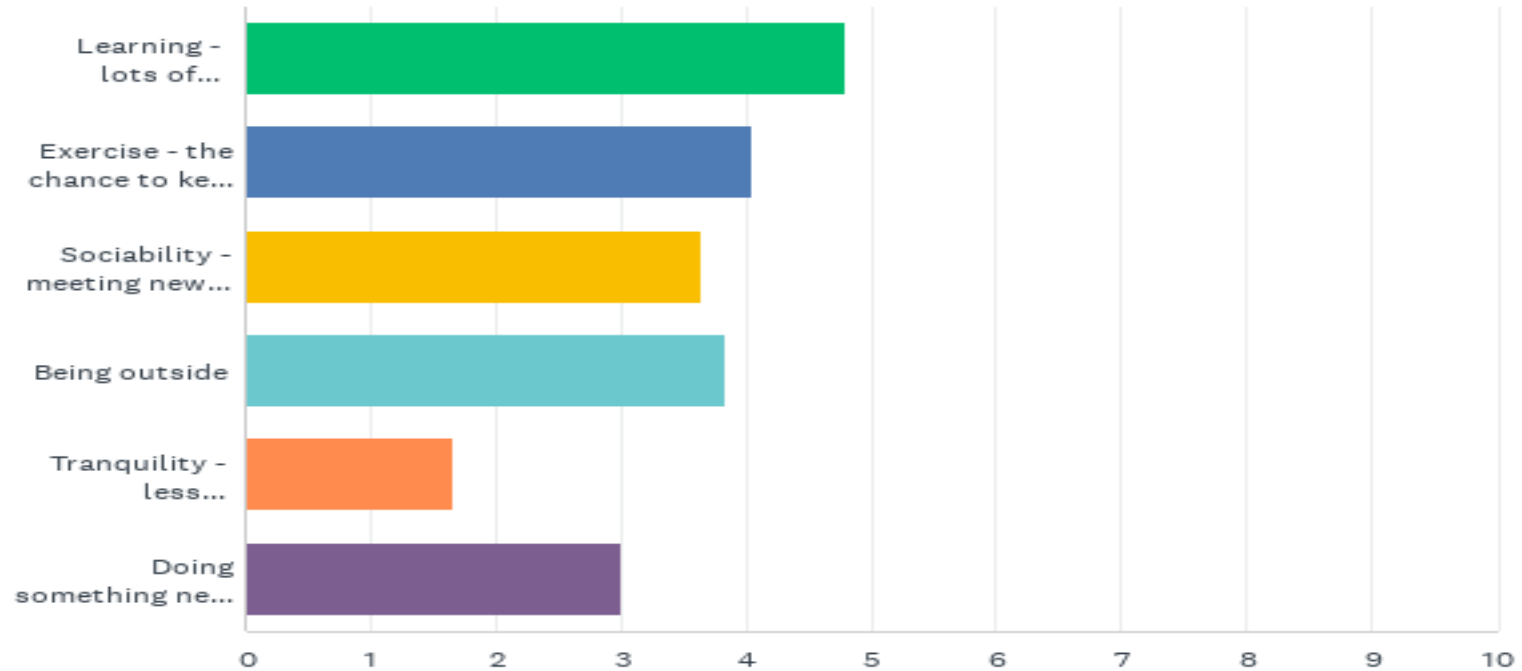
How did you reach the start point of the walk?

Answered: 200 Skipped: 2



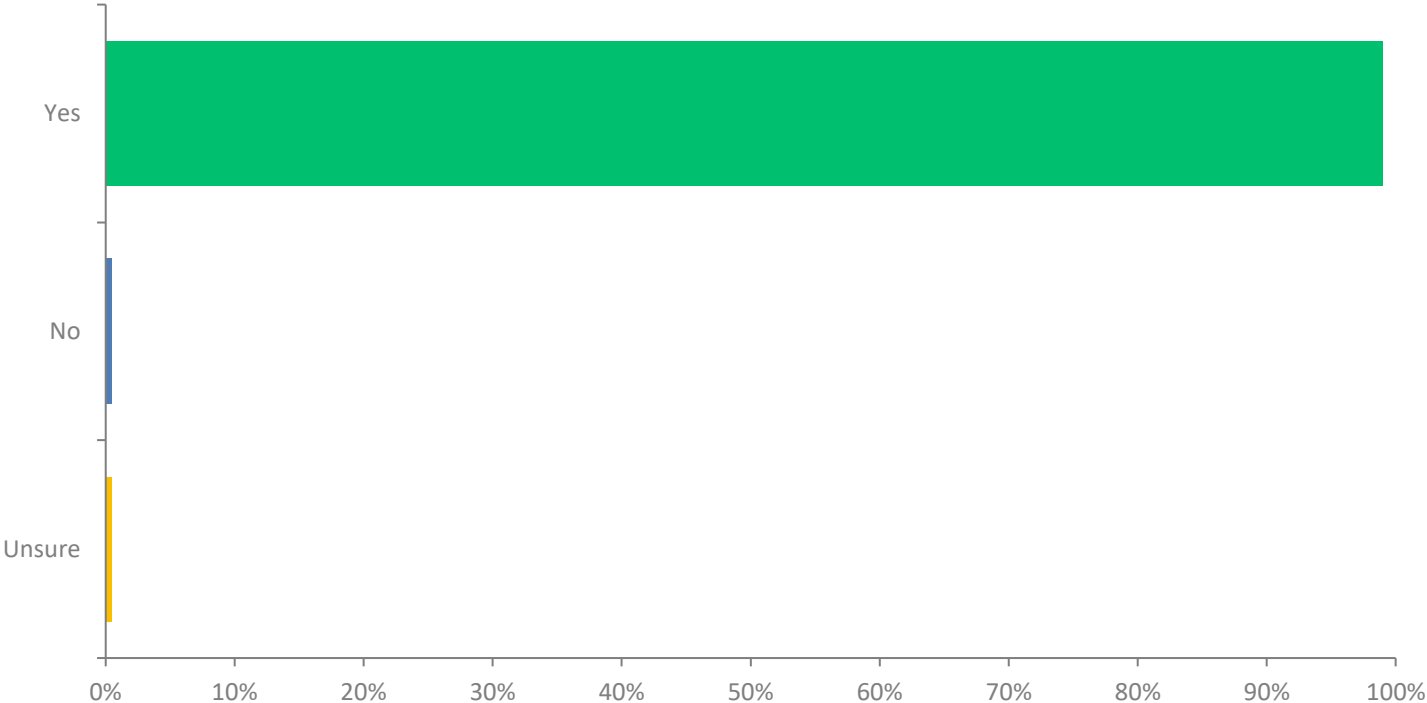
What did you most value about the walk (s) you did? Please rank these in order for you.

Answered: 194 Skipped: 8



Would you be interested in taking part in Reading Walks Festival 2024, if it were organised again?

Answered: 201 Skipped: 1



Reading Walks Festival 2024

If you would like to receive information about a future Reading Walks Festival, please subscribe to the Visit Reading newsletter.

Thank you to all the volunteer walk leaders, our supporters and everyone who walked with us. See you soon!

