

PEOPLE'S VOTE MARCH TOGETHER FOR THE FINAL SAY 19 October 2019

Version 1.4 – 07 October 2019



ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE

The Together for the Final Say march is a protest march and rally being organised by the People's Vote campaign. The campaign, which calls for the public to be given the right to vote on the final Brexit deal, is powered by European Movement UK and Open Britain, in collaboration with other pro-European organisations.

The organisers seek to deliver a fully inclusive event that is accessible to all regardless of real or perceived: age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, ability or disability, marital or civil partnership status, religion, nationality, and national origin. To ensure maximum participation, the event is completely free following a successful crowdfunder.

An accessibility policy is in place, both for volunteers and participants, to ensure that people with limited or reduced mobility, or any other specific accessibility needs, can fully participate in, and enjoy, the event.

1. Event map



To load an interactive version of this map, where you can also view the nearest accessible toilets and water points to the route, to your phone or other device please visit <http://po.st/oct19map>.

2. Participating in the march

This section details our policy for ensuring maximum participation in the march.

2.1 Travelling to the march

Parking in Central London is extremely limited and, due to the nature of our event, a large number of roads are likely to be closed at short notice. For this reason, we encourage all participants to travel by public transport where able to.

2.2 Taking part in the march

Based on feedback received after our previous marches, people with accessibility requirements are advised to take part in the shorter march route **ONLY**, and not to assemble at Park Lane.

This is to ensure that you are near the front of the march when it arrives at Parliament Square and are not stuck behind a large crowd of people that may prevent you from being able to get to the accessible viewing should higher than expected numbers of people attend the event.

THERE WILL BE NO ADDITIONAL ACCESSIBILITY FACILITIES AT PARK LANE.

2.3 Shorter march

Arrival: A shorter, fully accessible, march will start at Waterloo Place, a short distance from Trafalgar Square. This route is approximately 1km long, compared to 3 - 4km for the full march, and is our recommended choice for people with accessibility requirements or reduced mobility.

The closest fully accessible Underground station to Trafalgar Square is Westminster, and Charing Cross railway station is nearby. If travelling by train, rail operators are able to provide assistance boarding and alighting trains when booked in advance. All London buses are fully accessible, with ramps and priority spaces for wheelchairs.

Volunteers will be on duty at the start point to answer queries and provide assistance. A photo and map showing this location can be seen on the next page.

Assembly: The shorter march will assemble at Waterloo Place, on the north side of Pall Mall, and the meeting point will be in the flat area surrounding the Crimean War Memorial. The flat access route is via the drop kerb at the south side of the memorial, at the junction with Pall Mall. The location code for Google Maps is: **GV48+WX**

You should aim to arrive at the assembly area at 12:30, to minimise the time you will spend waiting for the march to arrive. Volunteers be on duty from around this time, but may not arrive until slightly later depending on staffing levels on the day.

A map and photo showing the assembly area can be seen below.



Location of accessible assembly area



Photo of accessible assembly area

NB: THE MARCH ON 19 OCTOBER HAS A DIFFERENT ACCESSIBLE ASSEMBLY AREA TO PREVIOUS PEOPLE'S VOTE MARCHES.

The location of the accessible assembly area has been changed following feedback received after the People's Vote march which took place on 23 March 2019, in order to make the merge into the main march easier to manage.

When the march is approaching the accessible assembly area, the group will be moved into the road next to the memorial to facilitate easier merging into the march.

Starting the march: When the front of the main march is approaching, volunteers will direct you to the position from where you will merge with the main march. This will be at a step-free location.

People taking part in the shorter march will filter in behind the front of march banner. This will be facilitated by the people behind the banner slowing down to create a gap. This means that you will be among the first groups of people to finish the march, and have a better chance of accessing the raised viewing area in Parliament Square.

2.4 March procedure

While the march is moving, those who require additional assistance can march with the accessible section should they wish to. It will be accompanied by volunteer marshals. They will answer any questions, and upon arrival at Parliament Square they will direct you to the accessible viewing area, which is detailed in section 2.7.

Please note that volunteers have no legal responsibility for the accessible group, and are simply there to maximise your access and enjoyment of the event.

2.5 March route

The entire march route is on hard surfaces and flat ground. There are no steps along the planned march route. The main rally takes place on grass, but there are hard surfaces surrounding it which are flat and fully accessible.

2.6 Rally only

Should you wish to attend the rally, without taking part in the march, due to accessibility concerns, we recommend that you make your way to Westminster underground station. This station is fully accessible, and located directly across the road from Parliament Square, where the rally will be taking place.

When you exit the station, using the lifts to street level, turn right and make your way along the pavement. Parliament Square will then be located diagonally opposite you, and is easily accessible by step-free pedestrian crossings.

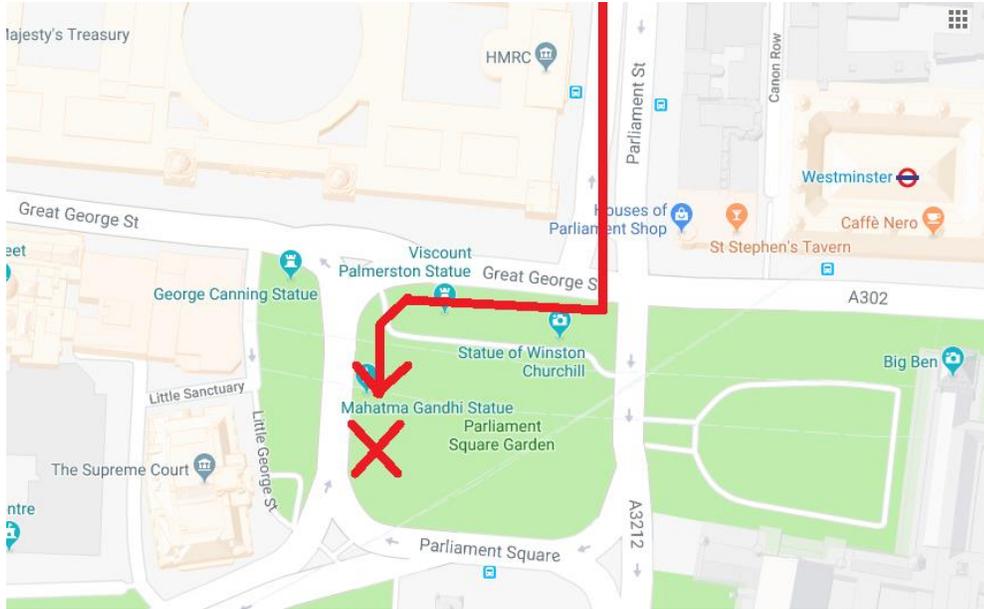
Upon arrival in Parliament Square, our volunteers will be able to direct you to the accessible viewing area and provide any additional assistance that you may require.

We recommend arriving at the viewing area early, as we expect the event to be very busy. Access to the viewing area is on a first come first served basis and it is possible that it may become full.

2.7 Viewing the rally

The wheelchair viewing area will be on the West side of Parliament Square, near the statue of Mahatma Gandhi. This location, while not next to the stage, has been chosen as it is raised, to give a better view of the stage, and is on a flat concrete surface which makes it more suitable than locations closer to the stage.

The accessible viewing area is accessed by travelling along the north edge of Parliament Square, from the statue of Winston Churchill, and then south along the west side of the square. It is unable to be accessed via other routes, due to steps.



Advised route to the raised viewing area



View from the recommended raised viewing area near the statue of Gandhi

2.8 For participants with visual impairments

Participants with visual impairments should make themselves known to volunteers at the earliest opportunity on the day, so we can facilitate a location closer to the stage.

2.9 For participants who are deaf / hard of hearing

At the time of writing, it is our intention to book a BSL interpreter / signer for the main stage in Parliament Square, although the exact details are not yet known.

If this is a service which would make the march more accessible to you, we recommend taking part in the shorter march or making your way straight to the rally so that you can pick a viewing location which is most appropriate for your individual needs before the square fills

2.10 For participants with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs)

The march is expected to be a noisy environment with large crowds of people. It is suitable for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders but, should you be sensitive to loud noises or large crowds, we recommend making use of the shorter march starting from Waterloo place.

If you need any other advice, please e-mail peoplesvotevolunteers@gmail.com and we will be able to provide tailored advice based on your individual requirements.

2.11 Following the event

Buses will be disrupted and diverted before, during, and after our event, due to road closures that will be in place. As a result, we recommend travelling home by London Underground or National Rail. Westminster underground station is next to Parliament Square, and is fully accessible. The route to it, and nearby National Rail stations, are on flat ground.

We advise against leaving the area south along Abingdon Street / Millbank, as there are fewer onward transport options in that direction.

2.12 Volunteers

Volunteers will be fully briefed on how to ensure that your access to the event is maximised, and that you have an enjoyable event.

2.13 Seating

Due to the outdoor nature of the event, there is no additional seating at the assembly point, rally location, or along the route. There is limited seating available in Parliament Square, on walls and other similar locations, and our volunteers will be instructed to ensure that priority is given to people who need to use them for accessibility reasons.

People who are unable to stand for an extended period may bring a folding chair. If you bring one, we recommend sitting in the accessible viewing area as described in section 2.7 to maximise your enjoyment of the event.

2.14 Noise levels

The assembly area, march route, and rally are likely to be loud. As a result, we encourage people with sensitivity to sound to bring ear plugs, or their preferred alternative method of hearing protection, with them.

2.15 Assistance animals

Guide dogs and other assistance animals are welcome at the event, on the march and at the rally. Water will be available from the marshals in Parliament Square, subject to availability, but we recommend bringing enough with you, along with a bowl.

NB: Water will only be available for assistance animals, and not pets. We recommend against bringing pets to the event, where possible, as it will be a loud and noisy environment which will not be suitable for animals that are not trained for it.

2.16 First aid

A medical provider has been contracted to provide first aid assistance. They will have a team in Parliament Square, and provision in other locations depending on operational needs on the day.

If you need medical assistance, contact your nearest member of event staff, a volunteer, or a member of the emergency services. Alternatively, in Parliament Square, make your way to the backstage entrance to the stage.

2.17 Accessible Toilets

There are several coffee shops near the accessible assembly area such as Pret, Café Nero, and Starbucks. Most of these have accessible entrances and toilets available. Our marshals will point you towards the one closest to the accessible assembly area.

Along the route, the recommended locations with accessible toilets are McDonalds at Trafalgar Square, and The Silver Cross on Whitehall. The Silver Cross has two entrances – the right one is accessible.

The closest accessible toilet to the rally is in Central Hall, Storey's Gate, SW1H 9NH. As it is a religious venue, there is a suggested donation for the use of their toilets.

The closest changing places toilet is at Embankment station.

Details of accessible toilets along the march route, and nearby, can be found on the interactive map described in section 1.

Other accessible toilets may be available, where information was not found online.

2.18 Signs

The accessible start points and viewing location will be indicated with signs attached to lamp posts or other similar locations, except where signs are not permitted.

All signs will use yellow writing on a black background to assist people with visual impairments. An example can be seen below.



NB: The above image shows an indication of what the signs will look like, but the exact wording may be different on the day.

2.19 Use of accessibility options

The use of all accessibility options is voluntary and there is no obligation to make use of them if you would prefer not to. They are simply an additional service for people who may wish to use them.

You will not be asked to prove the need to use the services, and anybody who self-declares as needing them due to accessibility requirements will be able to use them.

The event is completely free. There is no cost for the use of the accessibility options

3. Volunteering at the march

Volunteers are a core part of the event. They will be on hand to assist march participants that have accessibility requirements. In addition, we welcome volunteers with all abilities or disabilities who wish to help us make the march a success.

There are a small number of volunteer roles which may not be accessible to everybody due to the duties required and the terrain of Parliament Square. However, the organisers of the march have put in place procedures to ensure maximum participation for volunteers with disabilities.

A full accessibility guide covering volunteering at the event will be provided to volunteers who self-identify as having a disability or any accessibility requirements.

4. Briefing for staff and volunteers

Staff and volunteers will be given a full volunteer guide in advance of the event, and will be given a briefing upon signing on. Both the guide and the briefing will include an expanded version of section 4 above, and information about ensuring maximum accessibility and enjoyment for participants.

Specific advice given to staff and volunteers will include, but will not be limited to:

- Never assume anything about the abilities or disabilities of others
- Ask what help the person needs, don't assume you know what help to give
- Always address the person who needs help, rather than their carer or anybody accompanying them (if applicable)
- Avoid using gendered pronouns. For example, use "they" not "he" or "she", and address groups of people using "everybody" not "guys" or "ladies and gentlemen"
- When giving directions, ask questions to ensure maximum understanding. For example: "Do you see the red phone box there?" *points* *waits for answer* "Go past that phone box and take the next right"
- If you see a person who needs help, be proactive and ask how you can help
- Report all accessibility issues or complaints immediately to your Team Leader, the Volunteer Manager, or the nearest radio user on the day.

5. **Requirements not covered in this guide**

If you have specific requirements, either as a volunteer or a participant, which are not covered by this guide, please email peoplesvotevolunteers@gmail.com. The Assistant Organiser of the march, Scott, will work with you to maximise your enjoyment and accessibility of the event.

6. **Changes to this guide**

This guide is subject to future amendment, if necessary. When any changes are made, an updated version will be placed online at www.letusbeheard.uk. We recommend checking the website the day before the march, to download the latest version.

Changes to the volunteer briefing will be communicated directly to volunteers.

7. **About this guide**

This guide was created by a People's Vote staff member with extensive experience working at other large public events in Central London, including one with gold certification from a leading accessibility organisation. It has been updated after previous marches, based on feedback received, to maximise accessibility at the event.

**A large print version of this document
is available on request**