

## Walkers



## Search & Rescue Challenge Badge

% of cases	Distance between place missing and place found
25%	600 metres
50%	1.8 kilometres
75%	3.2 kilometres
95%	9.9 kilometres

% of cases	Likely places found
25%	Found on tracks/paths
14%	Found in fields
13%	Found on roads
13%	Found in structures
12%	Found by streams or ditches
8%	Found by rivers, ponds or lakes
7%	Found in woods

### Other notes to consider

Walkers includes hill walkers, ramblers and hikers. They tend to be on roads, tracks and paths and are normally lost. This tends to happen at decision points like junctions or splits. Mostly this is due to map reading errors. Significantly more people in this category are found unhurt.

There is significant gender difference in relation to found locations, in that significantly more males were found in open ground, and significantly more females were found on a travel route.

Being overdue happens mainly due to poor estimates of fitness, travel times, lack of light and blisters (especially carrying heavy packs or not being used to walking). Many discard their equipment when lost or in trouble.

% of cases	Scenario
68%	Lost
16%	Overdue
7%	Injury

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Investigation
Establish Intended route
Establish destination
Determine favourite spots and routes

Place last Seen
Search 300 meters
Search tracks and paths
Search any structures in search areas

Immediate local area
Talk to other walkers
Thorough search of the 25% zone

### Investigative Questions

Establish the destination, proposed route and alternative routes.

Find out their experience, frequency and familiarisation of the intended route and destination.

What was the purpose of the walk, are there any checkpoints?

What are their navigational skills like, can they relocate, can they walk at night, what map were they using, and is there a copy?

What planning have they done for this walk?

Who do they normally walk with? Get their contact information.

Travel routes
Hasty search of roads, tracks, paths and other routes leading away from the place last seen
Look for decision points

Priority tasks
Check historical finds and destination
Previous lost locations
High hazard areas, other tracks and paths, and decision points