

Quaker Silent Walking Vigil for Peace, Central London, 19 September 2026

Introduction

You are invited to attend a **Silent Walking Vigil for Peace** in Central London, witnessing for peace, showing solidarity for the planet and care for everyone impacted by violence, conflict and war. Our route will take us along Whitehall, through Trafalgar Square and finishing at St Martin in the Fields. **Please plan to arrive at 11.45am** for a 12.00pm start. We hope to finish around 3pm. We are looking for a peaceful presence of Quakers and supporters from other faiths - and with no faith affiliation - walking our route from Victoria Embankment Gardens to St Martin in the Fields. Please do not bring banners, posters or placards unless agreed in advance with the organisers.

Meeting Point Location

We will meet in Victoria Embankment Gardens in a section known as the MoD Gardens. Gather at the South end. It is shown by the red dot on the plan below. (What3words reference: **///relate.begun.upper**).

Transport

The closest and easiest underground station is Westminster which is on the Jubilee, District and Circle Lines. Charing Cross Station is a 10 minute walk away, and Victoria Station a bus or tube ride to Westminster. Many bus routes run down Whitehall including: 12, 24, 88, 159 and 453. Space to store luggage will be available in Friends House (173-177 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ) on the day.

What should I bring?

1. Your sense of humour and most cooperative spirit
2. Weather-appropriate clothes and shoes - we invite you to wear something white, if you can
3. Water and a snack. The "Quaker Vegan Witness" group will be providing homemade vegan snacks as we gather at the start of the vigil
4. Any medication you may need
5. Something to sit on - there are two Meetings for Worship planned
6. Please do not bring posters, placards or banners unless agreed with the organisers in advance
7. Please note the event is entirely legal and has been agreed in advance with the Police.

Meeting Place and Route Plan

In order for the vigil to be dignified and calm, please gather as mentioned above. The walking route is shown below with blue arrows. The vigil will end in the courtyard at the back of the church of St Martin in the Fields, just off Trafalgar Square, marked with a green dot on the plan.



Stewards (wearing hi-viz) will control the walking group. Please cooperate with them. We will have “Quakers for Peace” banners at the front, middle and back of the walking group. Please stay within the group. If for any reason you are uncomfortable please make yourself known to a steward, preferably on the pavement side. They will help you leave the group and stay with you as long as necessary.

Police Liaison - if necessary the lead steward will liaise with Police, please refer any questions from the Police to a steward.

Toilet Facilities - The closest public toilets are at the South end of Whitehall in the underpass, and in Charing Cross Station. St Martin in the Fields also has facilities.

Photographs - Please be aware photographs will be taken of this public event. We are unable to guarantee that you will not appear in a published photograph.

People with restricted mobility - For those who may not wish to walk the full route, it is suggested you join at the beginning, and leave when you wish by stepping onto the pavement.

Young People and Families - Support for young people and families is being coordinated by the [Young Quaker London Link Group](https://quakervigilforpeace.org/about/accessibility/). Further information can be found at <https://quakervigilforpeace.org/about/accessibility/>.

Pastoral Care - We have a small group holding responsibility for spiritual and pastoral care at the vigil. They will be wearing purple sashes.

Spiritual Preparation for the Vigil - we invite you to explore the material available at: <https://quakervigilforpeace.org/get-involved/preparing-for-the-vigil/>

Timetable for the Silent Walking Vigil – 19 September

- 11.15 - Stewards - please arrive for a briefing session
- 11.25 - Briefing for Stewards
- 11.45 - Walkers - please try to arrive by 11.45 for a prompt 12.00 noon start
- 12.00 - Stewards' Briefing for vigil walkers
- 12.10 - Assemble for the silent walking vigil
- 12.15 - Words of welcome followed by silent reflection
- 12.40 - Move off
- 14.15 - Arrive at St Martin in the Fields
- 14.30 - Silent reflection and closing words
- 15.00 - Time for refreshments, etc - there are many cafes and bars in the vicinity.

Silent Walking Vigil for Peace website: <https://quakervigilforpeace.org/>