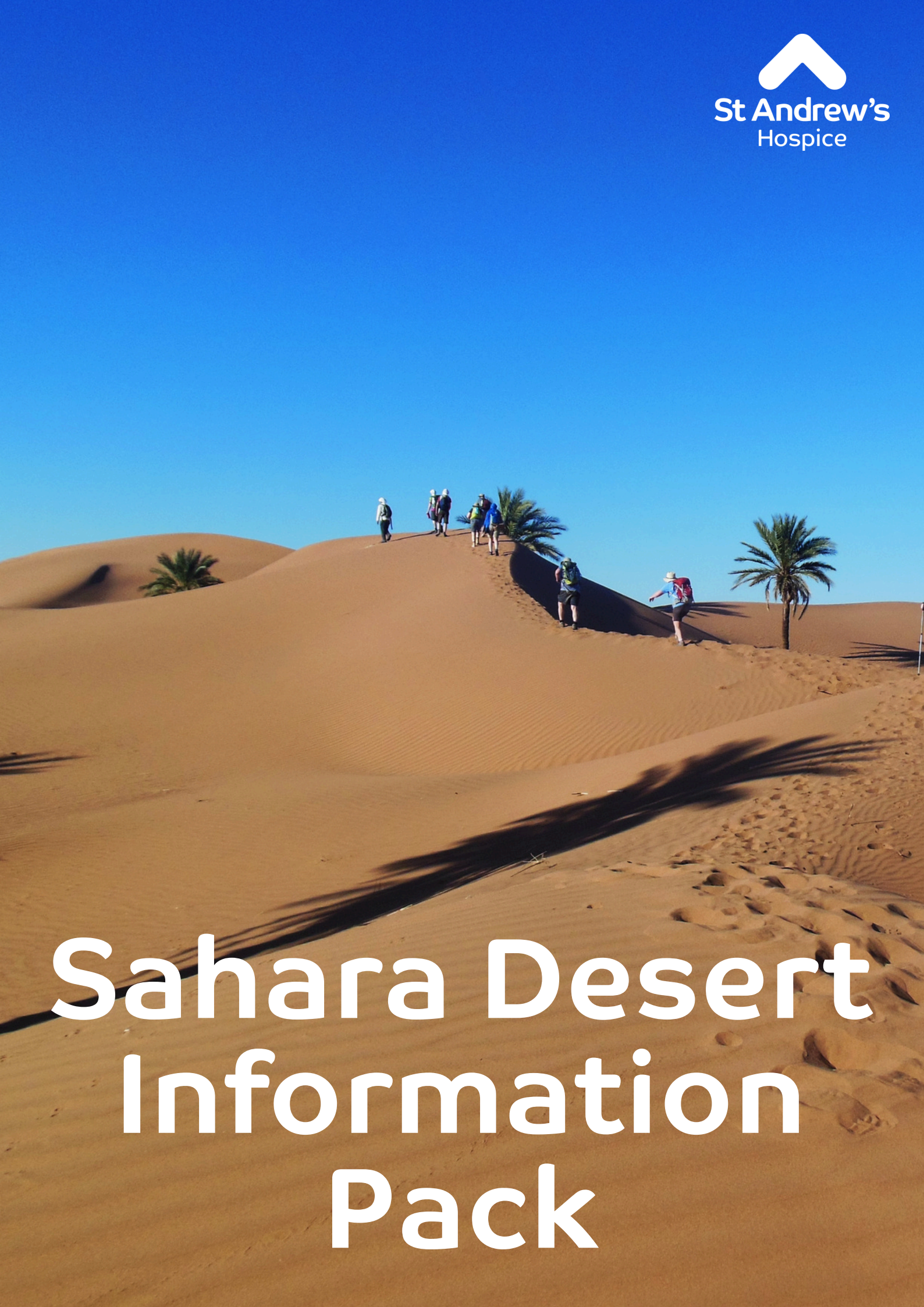




Sahara Desert Information Pack

Ready for the adventure of a lifetime?

Join us from 8th - 13th November 2027 for our Sahara Desert trek and take on an unforgettable journey across one of the world's most breath-taking landscapes, all while raising vital funds for our patients suffering from a life-limiting illness and support for their families.

Here's everything you need to know before taking part in this incredible fundraiser!



About us

St Andrew's Hospice provides free holistic care for both adults and children from North East Lincolnshire and surrounding areas, alongside support for their families.

By taking part in our Sahara Desert trek, you're helping us provide vital support and services to people with life-limiting conditions, people who are coming to the end of their life, and support for their families. Every step you take helps us provide care to people that need it the most.

Our care ranges from outpatient visits, overnight stays and respite care to wellbeing programmes and bereavement counselling, alongside many other services that we offer our local community.

What is the Sahara Trek?

Ran by The Different Travel Company this charity challenge offers a remarkable insight into one of the world's most iconic landscapes while immersing you in the traditional Berber way of life.

You'll spend two full days and two half days trekking through ever-changing desert terrain, including ancient dried riverbeds, rolling dunes and vast sun-baked plains. The journey is both rewarding and awe-inspiring, offering moments of challenge, peace, and breath-taking natural beauty.

Each night you'll camp under expansive desert skies, giving you the chance to witness incredible star-filled nights (weather permitting). Gather around the campfire, share stories with fellow trekkers, and enjoy the tranquillity of the desert after dark.

Your Berber support team will prepare delicious traditional Moroccan meals each evening - hearty, flavourful and the perfect reward after a day's trekking. Their warm hospitality and deep connection to the region make this experience extra special.

By joining this trek, you'll be raising vital funds for St Andrew's Hospice, making your desert adventure not only a personal challenge, but also a meaningful way to support an important cause.



This trip is operated by The Different Travel Company (ATOL no 6706) on behalf of St Andrew's Hospice Limited is a Registered Charity (England and Wales) no. 1011117. The flight-inclusive holiday in this brochure is financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked (flights, hotels and other services) is listed on it. Please see our booking conditions for further information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to www.caa.co.uk.

What's included?

Included in your trek:

- UK departure
- Local transfers and transport in Morocco
- Accommodation in 3-star hotels, tents and sleeping mats on trek
- English-speaking local guides
- Local guides, support crew and camels
- Meals throughout
- Different Travel UK tour manager
- Farewell dinner

What's not included on your trek:

- Any necessary vaccinations
- Drinks, laundry and personal expenses
- Spending money (tips and gratuities, souvenirs)
- Transport to/from UK airports
- Personal trek kit - view kit list [here](#)
- Travel insurance
- Optional trip extension



Trip itinerary

Day one - Monday 8th November 2027 **UK to Marrakech**

We fly together to Marrakech where we are met by our guide and transfer to our hotel for the night. Depending on flight arrival times we may start the journey to the desert today and stay in Ouarzazate tonight instead (approx. 4-5 hours). We will be staying overnight in a hotel with an evening meal provided.

Day two - Tuesday 9 November 2027 **Marrakech to Sahara**

If staying in Marrakech we set off early having breakfast, and then starting to cross the Atlas Mountains and following ancient caravan routes into the arid Sahara Desert, stopping for lunch in Ouarzazate on the way (journey time approx. 9 hours including stops.)

If starting in Ouarzazate the journey takes approximately 4-5 hours. This afternoon we will arrive in the desert and be welcomed by the rest of the trek team and the camels before commencing our trek into the vast and arid Sahara Desert, stopping for dinner and overnight to camp under the stars of the Sahara.

The approximate trek distance this day is 5km.

Days three and four- Wednesday 10 to Thursday 11 November 2027 **Sahara Desert**

Our trek continues through the desert as we traverse sand dunes and rocky, lunar landscapes for the next three days. We are aided by our local Berber team comprising of the guides, cook

and camel owners (the camels are our porters, carrying our luggage and equipment). Each day you enjoy the varied Saharan landscape and learn about how important it is to respect and comply with the forces of nature in the desert.

As the trek progresses, we learn how the nomadic people of the Sahara live: from cooking to sleeping out under the stars and reading the magnificent Saharan night sky.

All three meals are provided this day. The approximate trek distance this day is 15-20km.

Day five - Friday 12 November 2027 **Sahara to Marrakech**

This morning it's the final leg of the trek back to the village where we bid farewell to the trekking team and head back to Marrakech (approx. 9 hours' drive). Enjoy a farewell dinner tonight and overnight stay at a central hotel.

All three meals are provided this day. The approximate trek distance this day is 5km.

Day six - Saturday 13 November 2027 **Marrakech to London**

After breakfast, enjoy some free time to explore the exotic city of Marrakech before your flight back to London (subject to flight times).



Trip costs and how to pay

There is a non-refundable registration fee of £395 and then you can choose from either, sponsorship of £1,605 or self-funded option of cover £1,105 in trip costs* and fundraise £500 for St Andrew's Hospice.

Sponsorship

This option is for those who wish to fundraise to cover both the costs of the trip (flights, accommodation, food, guides etc.) and a donation to St Andrew's Hospice.

- A non-refundable registration fee of £395 is payable at the time of booking.
- A total of £1,284 (80%) must be paid to St Andrew's Hospice by 16 August 2027.
- The remaining £321 must be paid to St Andrew's Hospice by the date of departure.

Self-funded

This option is for those who want to pay the trip costs* (flights, accommodation, food, guides etc) themselves while still raising a minimum of £500 for St Andrew's Hospice.

- A non-refundable registration fee of £395 is payable at the time of booking.
- Trip cost balance of £1,105* is payable to Different Travel by 30 August 2027.
- You are also asked to fundraise a minimum of £500 for St Andrew's Hospice. Any money that you fundraise over and above £500 will also go directly to St Andrew's Hospice.
- 80% of your fundraising must be paid to St Andrew's Hospice by 16 August 2027.
- The remaining 20% must be paid to St Andrew's Hospice by the date of departure.
- Any fundraising undertaken cannot be used for your trip costs.

*Trip costs are based on overall group size and are subject to change. This is the most you would be required to pay.

Optional trip extension

The different travel company offer the option to extended your stay in Morocco for two days after the trek has finished. More information about cost, hotel arrangements and flight details can be found [here](#).

Top tips for fundraising!



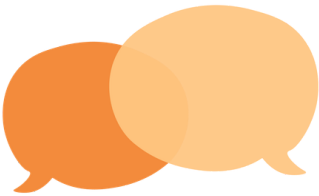
Set up a JustGiving

The easiest way to fundraise and promote your fundraiser is by setting up a JustGiving page. By adding a target, photos and regular updates can help you raise more!



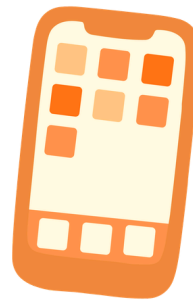
Let us help you!

By letting us know you are fundraising for the hospice we are able to help you in a number of ways to boost your fundraising efforts, give you any supplies or support you may need.



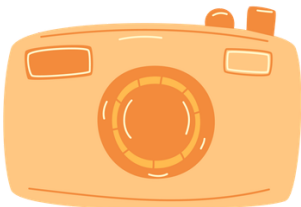
Make it personal

Talking to your family, friends, and colleagues goes a long way, sharing your event and little updates in person is one of the most powerful fundraising tools you have!



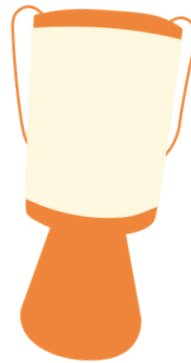
Share on social media

You can help spread the word by sharing events, fundraising posts and JustGiving links on social media to friends and families.



Document!

We love to see what you get up to and how your fundraising is going, and so do your supporters! It's a great idea to take photos to show off your amazing efforts. Please tag us or send them to us so we can also show you off!



Collection Boxes

We have a number of collection boxes and buckets that you can borrow while you are fundraising. It's an excellent way to collect spare change! Please contact the fundraising team to organise a box or bucket.

giftaid it

Gift Aid it

Gift Aid allow us to claim 25p for every £1 you donate. Make sure that when people donate that they complete the Gift Aid declaration on your fundraising page or sponsorship forms.



Match funding

Check if your employer can match the money that you have fundraised! Some employers like to help out their employees and the local community too.

If you need need help with anything fundraising based our friendly fundraising team are always willing to help! To contact them please email sahos.fundraising@nhs.net or call them on 01472 350908, and ask for the fundraising team.

How can I hit the fundraising target?

£1,605

Congratulations you have reached your fundraising goal. Well done and thank you!

£200

Host a raffle and invite your family and friends. Local business may help you with prizes!

£150

Throw a coffee morning or a bake sale at work for your colleagues

£200

Sell your unwanted clothes, electronics and house hold items on Vinted

£300

Ask your employer if they can match the money that you have fundraised!

£150

Have a collection pot at your work place, local shop or any events you are hosting

£100

Instead of gifts, ask your friends and family to donate towards your fundraiser

£505

Share you fundraising page across your social media asking friends and family to sponsor you

FAQ's

Who can participate?

This challenge is open to adults aged 18 and over. Participants aged 16 or 17 may be able to join if accompanied by a parent or guardian.

How tough is it?

This trek is moderately challenging and suitable for those with a good level of fitness. The most demanding element of this challenge can be the heat, with desert temperatures historically reaching up to 40°C. Consecutive days of trekking in these conditions can be physically tiring, so good preparation is key.

Where will we be staying?

During the trek, you will camp in the desert, sleeping in shared tents and if the conditions are suitable, there is the option to sleep outside under the stars, a truly unforgettable experience. Before and after the trek, you will stay in hotels (in Marrakech and Ouarzazate, if applicable), with en-suite facilities.

Who will I be with?

You will be in a group with other participants that are helping raise vital funds for St Andrew's Hospice, alongside English-speaking Berber guides, a support team including cooks and camel handlers, and a Different Travel Company UK tour manager to provide support for the whole of the trip.

What do I need to bring?

Equipment such as tents, sleeping mats, all plates, mugs, cutlery, and cooking equipment are all provided by The Different Travel Company. All documents, flight essentials, clothes, toiletries, sleeping bag and liners, LED head torch, trek snacks, hydration system, water bottle and personal first aid kit are provided by the participant. Full kit list can be found [here](#).

What happens if I don't reach my fundraising target?

If you are unable to pay your remaining balance or fundraise the agreed target, you are able to pay the remaining balance or lose your non-refundable registration fee and no longer be able to participate.

If you need help our friendly fundraising team will be on hand to provide any fundraising support that you may need. To contact our fundraising team, please email sahos.fundraising@nhs.net or call them on 01472 350908, and ask for the fundraising team.

Information and pictures of the Sahara Trek have been created and collected by The Different Travel Company.

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