



Hiking Buddies UK - GDPR Statement

At Hiking Buddies UK, we take your privacy seriously and are committed to ensuring that your personal data is protected in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

What Data We Collect

We collect and process the following personal data:

- Information you provide when joining our Facebook group, including your name and profile information.
- Content you share, such as posts, comments, photos, and event details.
- Private messages sent via Facebook Messenger or through our website (www.hikingbuddiesuk.uk).
- Any additional information you provide when registering for events or engaging with the group.

How We Use Your Data

We use your data for the following purposes:

- To facilitate group discussions, event planning, and sharing of hiking experiences.
- To respond to inquiries sent via Facebook Messenger or our website.
- To manage and moderate the Facebook group and ensure a safe environment.
- To communicate important updates, group guidelines, or event details.
- To analyze group engagement and trends, ensuring we improve our services.
- To generate aggregated, anonymized statistics or insights, which may be sold for research or industry reports. No personally identifiable data will be included in such reports.

Who We Share Your Data With

Your data is not shared with third parties outside of Facebook or our website, except in the following cases:

- If required by law or regulatory obligations.
- If necessary for the moderation and security of the group.
- If consent has been explicitly given for a specific purpose.
- Aggregated, non-personal statistical data may be shared or sold for analytical purposes.

Data Security & Retention

- Your data is stored securely within the Facebook platform and our website hosting provider.
- We do not download or store personal data outside these platforms unless necessary (e.g., for event registrations).



- Event registration data is stored on an encrypted, password-protected laptop, which is kept securely locked when not in use.
- Messages sent via Messenger are treated confidentially and only accessed by designated group administrators.
- Personal data will be retained only as long as necessary to fulfil the intended purpose or comply with legal requirements.

Your Rights

Under GDPR, you have the following rights:

- **Access** – Request a copy of your personal data.
- **Correction** – Request correction of inaccurate or incomplete data.
- **Deletion** – Request deletion of personal data where applicable.
- **Objection** – Object to the processing of your data in certain circumstances.
- **Portability** – Request a transfer of your data where applicable.

If you wish to exercise any of these rights, please contact us via **Messenger** or through our website at www.hikingbuddiesuk.uk.

Changes to This Statement

We may update this GDPR statement from time to time. Any changes will be communicated via the Facebook group or our website.

For further information on how Facebook processes your data, please refer to **Facebook's Privacy Policy**: <https://www.facebook.com/policy.php>.

By participating in the **Hiking Buddies UK** Facebook group and website, you agree to the terms of this GDPR statement.

Last Updated: 13/03/2025