

Thame Circular via Tiddington

This route is made up of two halves and can be completed as a loop or as two separate walks using bus services X7, X8 or X20 for the 10 minute journey between Thame and Tiddington.

Thame to Tiddington via Shabbington

8.8km (5.5 miles)

Please note, some parts of this walk are overgrown, liable to flooding, in poor condition or poorly marked.

- 1. From Priest End at the rear of St. Mary's Church take the Old Long Crendon road up to the by-pass. Cross this and take the road opposite to a stile on the left signed "Thame Valley Walk" (TVW). Cross this and follow the TVW waymarks across three fields to a track. Cross the track and continue on the well-marked path over several more fields in the same direction until reaching a road.
 - 2. Turn left on the road to find a footpath sign on the left, just beyond where the road bends to the right. Go through the pedestrian gate, to follow the TVW sign diagonally right to cross the meadow. As the meadow narrows, look out on the left for a footbridge and a waymarked stile in a gap in the hedge. Cross this and turn right to head for a further stile and footbridge to the right of 2 trees.
 - 3. Follow the left side of the next meadow for some distance to a gate in the far left corner of the field. Go through this to follow a reasonably clear path to reach, in the bottom left corner, a footbridge and gate. Go through the gate into a field and continue to another gate, keeping a fence on your right. Then follow written footpath signs in a generally straight line across several small fields, separated by barriers opened by removing the central pole, to reach a gate to the road opposite Shabbington church.
 - 4. Go through the churchyard to the right of the church and take the footpath bearing right to some farm buildings. Cross the stile in the hedge, then follow the path to the right of the bungalow opposite, over a stile and into a meadow. Cross this meadow and, after exiting it via a stile, turn left on a footpath with the hedge on your left for 125m before bearing right to cross the meadow. Go through two gates separated by a footbridge and cross several fields to arrive at the Ickford Bridges.
 - 5. Turn left on the road and after 200m take the footpath on the right. Follow the path diagonally left across several stiles and footbridges, to reach another road (in the second field, don't miss the gate on the right in the hedge!). Turn left here and after a short distance take the footpath on the right. Follow this across three fields. At the corner of the third field, the path to the right leads into the Waterstock Golf Course. Turn left here initially with the hedge on your right, but turning left across the field after 200m, just after a telegraph pole in the hedge, to reach the main road (A418) at Tiddington.
 - 6. Walk left along the road towards the Fox & Goat PH. From here either take the bus back to Thame or continue on the Tiddington to Thame route via Rycote Park.
- Tiddington to Thame via Rycote Park**
8.8km (5.5 miles)
- 7. Take the road opposite the Fox and Goat PH which passes the entrance to the Village Hall for 250m until you see the Oxfordshire Way (OW) signs.
 - 8. Turn left on the OW and follow it past the church at Albury and through Rycote Farm (Home Farm on OS maps). After passing between the farm buildings go through a gate and bear left with a hedge immediately on your left to a gate leading into a small wood. Follow the OW to Rycote Chapel (note the ancient yew tree). From here, continue on the OW into another wood. Where the wood ends, go straight ahead along a path enclosed by a hedge on the left and a fence on the right. Then go through a gate into some more woods and follow the path until you reach a busy main road (A329). Cross this and over the stile immediately opposite into the Oxfordshire Golf Course.
 - 9. Follow the OW waymarks across the access road to turn sharp right and, leaving the OW, take a tarmac path on the left. Follow this until you see a bridge over the lake on the right and take a right fork to cross the lake by this bridge. Follow the waymarked tarmac path, initially with the lake on your left, until the footpath leaves the golf course to meet a bridleway.
 - 10. Turn left here and follow the track into the village of Moreton. Take the road through Moreton, ignoring the roads off to the left at the War Memorial and off to the right at the pond.
 - 11. Where the road ends take the narrow paved track to the right and follow this path through Bates Leys, across the Phoenix Trail and on to Moreton Lane. Go past the Recreation Ground, turn left at the mini-roundabout on to Southern Road. Follow this to the High Street. Here turn left for 150m and take Church Road on the right back to the St. Mary's Church.

LONG WALKS

Four long circular walks around Thame of about 5 and 6 miles

Key

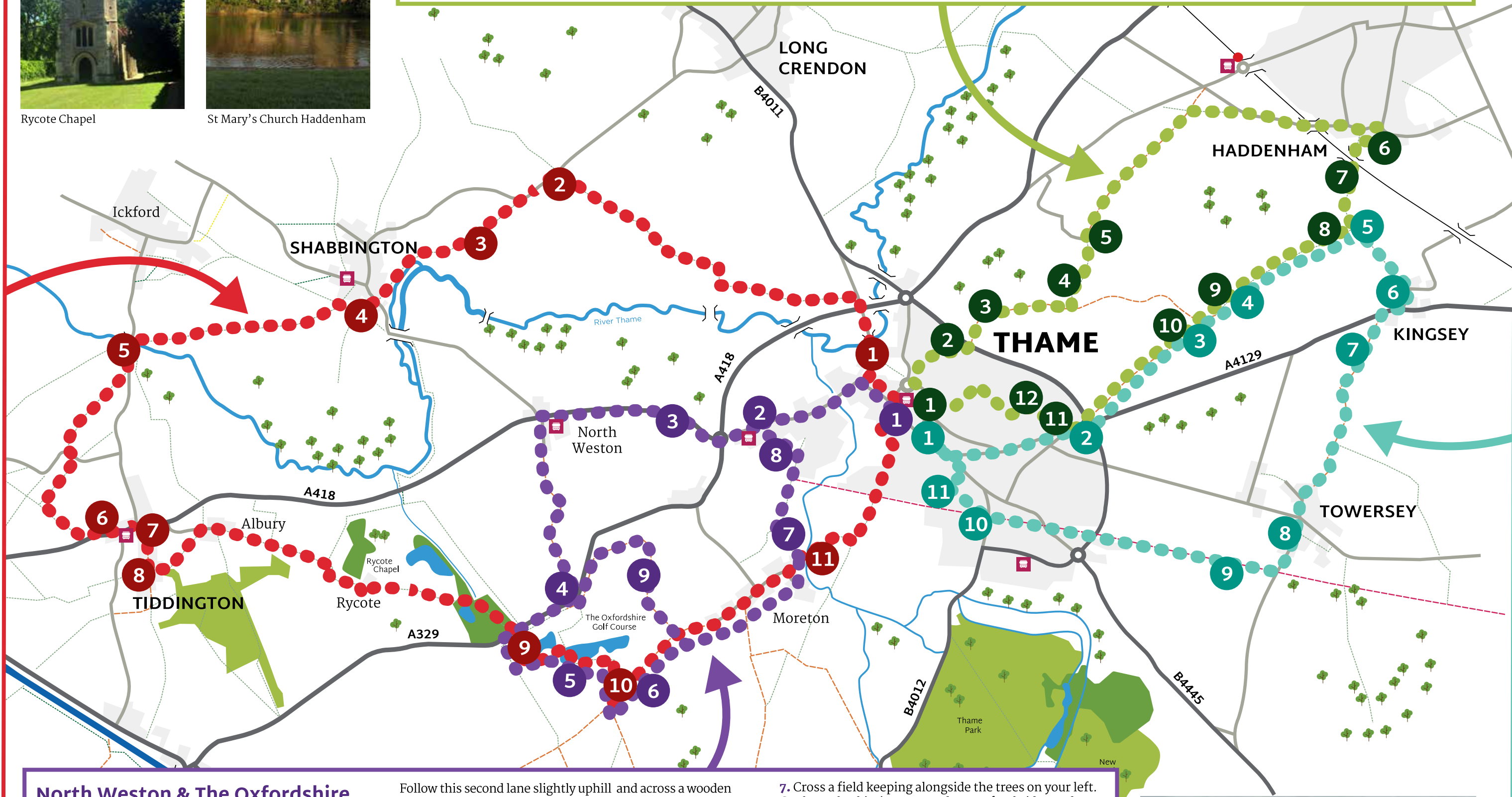
- Bridleway (cycleway)
- Footpath
- Bus Stop



Rycote Chapel



St Mary's Church Haddenham



North Weston & The Oxfordshire

8.1km (5.0 miles)

- 1. From the town centre make your way to the Leisure Centre car park to the west of the town just off the Oxford Road.
- 2. Turn left out of the car park and walk down a path at the side of the road. Go past some houses and continue along the track ahead of you, bearing right at the fork. Cross the road by the roundabout and carry straight on to the cycle track that runs parallel to the main road (A418).
- 3. Follow the cycle track for 0.75 mile to North Weston then, where it runs out, turn left into a minor road. At the end of the road continue along the bridleway, passing over a bridge under which ran the Thame - Oxford railway. After the lane opens out carry straight on for about 200 metres and then, after going under some telephone lines, turn right across a small patch of ground to a lane running between hedges.

Haddenham

9.4km (5.8 miles)

- 1. Start at the Cattle market car park. Cross over the top of Moorrend Lane and turn right down Lashlake Road. Keep walking straight into Brookside until you reach a bend. Turn right up the stairs/ramp, and immediately right to follow a footpath around the back of Lambert Walk, curving to the left to meet Roundhead Drive.
- 2. Cross the road and continue straight ahead into Queen Elizabeth Circle park. Walk through the park to the other side and cross Tythrop Way at the pelican crossing. Turn right, away from the skate park, and follow the path through metal gates into a field. Walk across the field to the far-left corner to join a path that leads round the perimeter fence of some sewage works to join Moorrend Lane - an ancient trackway.
- 3. Turn left onto this track and follow it round to the right, eventually passing the entrance to Ham Wood on your left - an area you are welcome to explore. Go past a farm on and bear slightly right, under a power line and then, after 100 metres, turn left off the track at a sign posted to Haddenham via Millers Way, then go through a gate on the right.
- 4. Follow the left hand field edge to a footbridge with gates at each end. Over this and bear right 45 degrees to a

concrete bridge. Continue across another field to the gate and bridge in front of you. The stream marks the county boundary.

- 5. Continue through a small wooded area and past Scotsgrove Mill. Then head up the wide grassy track in front of you for about 0.75 mile to a metal gate on your right. Through this and follow the path straight ahead. Continue on a permissive path running parallel to a road, until you see the "jomph" sign. Go through a gate onto the road, turn right over a railway bridge and follow the road to an open green area with the church and pond on the right. This is Haddenham Church End.
- 6. Leave the pond and church on your left and turn right into Flint Street. Where the road bends to the right, bear slightly left onto a footpath. Follow this through a metal gate and under a railway bridge to a path junction and bear left through the gate.
- 7. Go straight on following the right hand field edge until you reach a kissing gate on the right. At this point bear half left towards a gate at the edge of a wood. Go through the wood and, as you leave it, turn right onto a path cutting diagonally across the corner of a field to a gate.
- 8. Continue in the same direction across another field passing barns to the left head to a gate towards the far left hand corner. Go through this and follow the path alongside a fence, a hedge, then a wood and then across a large open field to a gate.

9. Follow the path around the right hand side of a small field and bear slightly right past a cottage. Cross the bridge, which marks the county boundary, and go through a metal gate. Continue through an avenue of trees, which was part of the old carriageway from Thame to Tythrop House, then cross the stile on the right.

- 10. Bear left onto a path signposted Thame via Rugby Ground, through crops with views of the Chiltern Hills and Whiteleaf Cross to the left. The track eventually widens, passing some allotments and Chinnor Rugby Club. At the main road, cross over and take the footpath opposite alongside the Kingsey Road.
- 11. Take the second footpath on the right alongside a wall to a recreation field. Cross the field diagonally to the left corner, take the road in front of you and after a few metres turn right slightly downhill.
- 12. At the end of Onslow Drive turn left into Cromwell Avenue and follow this road, eventually coming to a green area on your left. This is The Moats - an ancient fishponds site. At the far side of The Moats turn left into Chalgrove Road, then take the second right into Parliament Road. Follow this road round and at the end turn right onto a footpath which leads you back to the Cattle Market.



Along the old railway track

Kingsey, Towersey and the Phoenix Trail

9.9km (6.2 miles)

- 1. Start from the Upper High Street car park. Walk up the Upper High Street away from the town to the mini roundabout and turn left into East Street. Continue past the Health Centre and go straight on at the next mini roundabout into Kingsey Road. Where the pavement runs out use the parallel roadway in Churchill Crescent.
- 2. Just before reaching the main road bear slightly left onto a pathway. Go across the main road to a wide track leading past the Chinnor Rugby Club, and some allotments. The track narrows to a path through crops with views of the Chiltern Hills and Whiteleaf Cross to the right.
- 3. At the end of the field go over the large stile to the right and continue on through an avenue of trees. This is part of the old carriageway from Thame to Tythrop House. Go through a metal gate and cross the bridge which marks the county boundary. Pass the cottage on your left and bear left across a storage yard, through a gate and across a small field to a gate on the far side.
- 4. Continue in the same direction across a large field aiming for the left hand edge of the wood in front of you, then continue along the path with the wood to your right. Over the next gate and bear slightly left across a field passing barns on the right. Cross the gate in the fence ahead of you and go across to the corner of the next field through the crops.
- 5. At the path junction turn right and follow this grassy path slightly uphill. Tythrop House is ahead to the right and the path converges on an iron fence. Follow this and through a gate to a drive on the edge of the village of Kingsey.
- 6. Take the drive slightly to the right and at a road turn right along it until you reach the main Thame - Princes Risborough road. Cross this and turn right along the grass verge for about 80 metres until you reach a track to the left signposted "Public Bridleway".
- 7. Take this track and at the end of the horse paddocks bear slightly right to go over a bridge and past the car park for a fishing lake. The track narrows for about 0.75 mile until you reach the village of Towersey. Bear left along the road, passing the pond on the right and the church on the left. At the crossroads carry straight on along the road in front of you.
- 8. Pass the "Three Horseshoes" pub and continue until you reach a bridge across the road. This is the Phoenix Trail which follows the line of the old railway between Thame and Princes Risborough. Just before the bridge take the path to the right which leads up onto the trail and turn right towards Thame.
- 9. Follow the Phoenix Trail all the way to Thame noting the various artistic structures which were designed and constructed by students from Rycotewood College. When reaching the bypass use the the pelican crossing to continue straight across towards the centre of town.
- 10. Soon after passing under the second bridge, turn right off the Phoenix Trail and bear left onto a footpath alongside houses. Go past the John Hampden Primary school grounds and turn right into Elms Park.
- 11. Go straight across the park and leave it at the iron gates. Turn left into Park Street and follow this past the mini roundabout and back to the Upper High Street car park in front of you.



Oxfordshire Golf Course

Leaflet designed by Sam Osborne with support from Thame Town Council, 21st Century Thame, and Thame and Wheatley Ramblers.

Historic Town Trail 1	Local Walking Guide
Historic Town Trail 2	Thame Outer Circuit
Historic Town Trail 3	Thame Inner Circuit
Midsomer Murders Trail	Cuttle Brook Nature Reserve
Commemorative Plaques Trail	Public Art Trails

Thame walking guides:

MARKETS

- Weekly Market. Every Tuesday, 8.30am–3pm
- Local Produce Market. Second Tuesday of each month, 8.30am – 1.30pm
- Cattle Market every Wednesday and Friday

LOCAL INFORMATION

4 For information about events, places to eat, one of the many pubs, cafes and restaurants. place to shop and enjoy good food and drink in The historic market town of Thame is a great

www.thametowncouncil.gov.uk
Open Mon–Fri. Call 01844 212833.

accommodation and attractions visit Thame Information Centre in the Town Hall.

For information about events, places to eat, one of the many pubs, cafes and restaurants. place to shop and enjoy good food and drink in The historic market town of Thame is a great

SHORT WALKS

Four short circular walks in and around Thame of between 3 and 5 miles

Key

Bridleway (cycleway)

Footpath

Bus Stop



Long Crendon Church and Courthouse

Around Moreton 5.2km (3.2 miles)

- 1. Main Route.** Start at the Town Hall. Cross the High Street, turn right and between the shops turn left into a passageway. Go straight across the car park and through a small residential area to a roundabout. Still going straight ahead cross the road into Moreton Lane.
- 2.** Proceed down Moreton Lane passing the Recreation Ground on the right. Where the road bends to the left carry straight on into a lane which leads to the Phoenix Trail. Cross the trail and continue straight ahead. Pass Bates Leys Farm on the right and, after an S-bend in the path, carry straight on along a grassy path ignoring the tarmac path to the right.
- 3.** Follow the waymarked track into the field, cross the footbridge over the Cuttle Brook and continue straight on through the next two fields, keeping parallel to the hedge on the right. At the end of the second field go through a gap in the hedge in front of you and turn right onto a bridleway.
- 4.** After about 50 metres go through a small gate and across the next field following the hedge on the right. In the far right hand corner go through a large metal gate onto Judd's Lane and turn right towards Moreton. At the war memorial turn left along the road.
- 5.** Just before a bungalow on the right, turn right onto a footpath. Go through one gate, then, at the end of the enclosed footpath go through another gate into a field.
- 6.** Cross the field following the hedge on your right to a gate. Through this and up a slope to join the Phoenix Trail. Take the path straight ahead through a metal barrier, passing the Lord Williams's School playing fields on your left. At the end turn left into Sycamore Drive.
- 7.** Take the first right into Beech Road and, soon after the road bends to the right, take the path in the corner on the left between houses. Follow this over a bridge and up a slight slope. At the top of the slope turn right alongside the Recreation Ground. At Southern Road turn left and, at the end, turn right into the High Street and back to the Town Hall.
- 8. Short Cut Option 1.** Near the end of Point 2 above take the tarmac path to the right and follow this over a small bridge to the outskirts of the village of Moreton. On entering the village, turn right along a path with a pond on your left. Go through a kissing gate and across a field keeping alongside some trees on your left. Go through the next kissing gate and turn right, rejoining the main route at Point 6.
- 9. Short Cut Option 2.** Take option 1 above but instead of turning right on the outskirts of the village, carry straight on, ignoring the side road on the left and passing houses on both sides of the road. Take the next road on the right by the war memorial and join the main route at Point 5 above.



Long Crendon 8.0km (5.0 miles)

- 1.** This walk may be started at either (1A) from Priest End by St Mary's Church or, (1B) to avoid crossing the busy A418 bypass, from the far side of the by-pass in the Old Long Crendon Road. (1A) Starting from Priest End bear left, keeping the church on your right, and cross the bridge over the River Thames (the county boundary). Take great care crossing the by-pass, then cross over a stile a few metres up on the left signposted "Thame Valley Walk" (TVW). (1B) Starting from the Old Long Crendon Road go through a gate and take the same stile a little way down on the right. (1A & 1B) Follow the path straight ahead with hedge/fence on right across two fields each with double stile and footbridge.
- 2.** Follow the TVW waymarks across the next field to a track. Cross the track and continue on the well-marked path in same basic direction across next two fields following waymarks. Then, with stream and hedge on left, go across the following two fields each with double stile and footbridge. Cross next field to a stile which leads onto a road.
- 3.** Turn right onto road and follow this for 0.75 miles to a fork. Take the right fork, Frogmore Lane, and follow this steeply uphill passing the Manor House on the right. Continue to centre of Long Crendon with shops on left.
- 4.** At main road go straight across into High Street and follow this, passing many interesting old houses and

- thatched cottages. At the end of the High Street note the ancient Courthouse (NT) on the left and the church straight ahead.
- 5.** Before reaching the church take the waymarked lane on the right which leads to an enclosed footpath. At the end of the path carry straight on with hedge on right, then through gap in hedge to continue with hedge now on left. Cross two fields then turn right onto track which comes in from the left. Follow this across two fields, passing a small wooded area and a pond on the left. Then through a gap into an industrial area.
 - 6.** Follow the red brick path to the end of the first road, then left and right into Hikers Way (note green sign). At end of Hikers Way turn right and follow the red tarmac path through the rest of the estate, emerging at a stile and footbridge into a field.
 - 7.** Go diagonally left across two fields and stiles then bear half right to follow hedge on right. Over another stile then up a slope with hedge still on right and trees over to left. Over the next stile to a main road and turn left along the pathway.
 - 8.** Cross the road when safe to do so and continue along the pathway on the other side. Take the first right off the main road to bring you back to the start.

To The Bucks Border 5.7km (3.6 miles)

- 1.** Start at the Cattle market car park. Cross over the top of Moorend Lane and turn right down Lashlake Road. Keep walking straight into Brookside until you reach a bend. Turn right up the stairs/ramp, and immediately right to follow a footpath around the back of Lambert Walk, curving to the left to meet Roundhead Drive.
- 2.** Cross the road and continue straight ahead into Queen Elizabeth Circle park. Walk through the park to the other side and cross Tythrop Way at the pelican crossing. Turn right, away from the skate park, and follow the path through metal gates into a field. Walk across the field to the far-left corner to join a path that leads round the perimeter fence of some sewage works to join Moorend Lane – an ancient trackway.
- 3.** Turn left onto this track and follow it round to the right, eventually passing the entrance to Ham Wood on your left – an area you are welcome to explore. Go past a farm and bear slightly right. This area can be muddy. Ignore the gate on the left which leads to Haddenham.
- 4.** The track becomes narrower and enters a section through a tunnel of trees which can be muddy. Use the small path through trees on the right hand side as an alternative.
- 5.** Go through a gate and follow the path around the edge of a field, over a wooden bridge. Continue along the edge of the next field beside a stream until you reach the corner of the field with a large stile in front of you. Do not cross the stile but turn right, back towards Thame.
- 6.** Follow this path between fields of crops. It eventually widens into a track. Admire the views to the left of the Chiltern Hills, Whiteleaf Cross and the BT tower at Stokenchurch.
- 7.** The track continues, passing some allotments and Chinnor Rugby Club. At the main road, cross over and take the footpath opposite alongside Kingsey Road.
- 8.** Take the second footpath on the right alongside a wall to a recreation field. Cross the field diagonally to the left corner, take the road in front of you and after a few metres turn right slightly downhill.
- 9.** At the end of Onslow Drive turn left into Cromwell Avenue and follow this road, eventually coming to a green area on your left. This is The Moats – an ancient fishponds site. At the far side of The Moats turn left into Chalgrove Road, then turn right into Parliament Road.
- 10.** Follow this road round and at the end turn right onto a footpath which leads back to the Cattle Market.

To Towersey 6.4km (4.0 miles)

- 1.** Start at the Upper High Street car park. Cross the road and walk down Nelson Street, passing the Fire Station and the Players Theatre. At the end turn left into Elms Road and where this bends to the right carry straight on along a footpath.
- 2.** Go past Elms Park and the grounds of John Hampden Primary school. Where the path ends and joins the road, turn right, pass parking bays and join the Phoenix Trail through the space in the hedge. Turn left onto the trail and follow this under two bridges and across a pelican crossing.
- 3.** Continue along the Phoenix Trail passing a light industrial complex and noting the artistic structures which adorn this old railway line. After about 1 mile turn

- to the left off the Phoenix Trail just before it passes over a road bridge. Go down the slope to the road and turn left along the road into the village of Towersey.
- 4.** Pass the Three Horseshoes pub and at the crossroads turn left back towards Thame. Cross the road to the pavement and continue along it for about 1 mile until you reach the main road. Cross this with care and go through the metal barrier opposite into Towersey Road.
 - 5.** Continue along Towersey Road passing Lord Williams's Lower school and at the T junction turn left into Queen's Road. Take the second on the right into King's Road and at the mini roundabout turn left into East Street. Follow this past the Health Centre and at the next roundabout turn right into the Upper High Street and back to the car park.



Towersey village green

See reverse for long walks around Thame

Four short walks and four long walks in and around Thame

HADDENHAM • LONG CRENDON
MORETON • TOWERSEY • KINGSEY
NORTH WESTON • TIDDINGTON

POWERED BY
LEVELLING
UP

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