

ROUTE DESCRIPTIONS

This year we offer a choice of walks, of approximately 2, 6 or 10 miles. The routes are marked on the ground with various signs incorporating the Rotary wheel symbol (above). They all start in the same direction, with the Short Walk diverging from the others in less than a mile, and the Medium / Long split occurring at 3.5 miles. (You can change your mind at these points if you wish). The Short and Medium walks are unchanged from 2025; the Long walk has a slight change across Blackheath common.

OS grid references are included for those who wish to follow the route on a map or with a GPS

Walk	Route description (Start: SU997485)
<p>Short Walk 1.9 miles (3.0 km)</p>	<p>Cross Shalford Park downhill and follow the footpath through the woods to the river. At the riverbank turn left, cross the footbridge, and then go underneath the bridge to follow the towpath upstream to St Catherine's lock (SU995477). At this point (A) the Short walk diverges from the Medium and Long walks.</p> <p>The Short walk continues by crossing the river bridge immediately before the lock, and then the bridge over the by-pass weir stream, then follows the footpath upstream on the opposite (east) bank of the river. When you reach the cottage the path passes between the cottage and the river, then crosses another weir bridge. Follow the path and boardwalk across the water meadows. A short steep rise and a gate brings you to the shared pedestrian and cycle path Dagley Lane (SU998473).</p> <p>Turn left and follow the cycle path north, to behind the Seahorse pub. When the path bends right, fork left down some steps to follow the path to the water works. Continue along the path to the rear of Shalford churchyard to return to Shalford Park.</p>
<p>Medium Walk 5.5 miles (8.8km)</p>	<p>Follow the Short Walk to point A above, but do NOT cross the river.</p> <p>Continue along the towpath past the lock on the west bank – you may see walkers on the Short route on the opposite bank. Pass under the railway bridge, and shortly afterwards (SU994472) turn right up a short rise to the pillbox. Follow the path along the disused railway embankment as it loops to the west. After passing close to the existing railway line, the path goes underneath a bridge on the A248.</p> <p>Continue along the path (which is also a shared cycle route), across the river Wey, and passing between the fields of Unstead Wood nature reserve, to reach the A281 (SU999462). Carefully cross the road and continue along the disused railway line (Wey-South path / cycle route) to where the next road bridge crosses the path.</p> <p>Immediately after the bridge, turn left across the disused canal bridge and follow the path up to Tannery Lane. Continue ahead along the path raised up from the road in front of the houses, crossing Drodges Close, to reach the junction with Chinthurst Lane. Go straight across and take the bridleway opposite (muddy in places). At the top of the hill bend right to continue following the path east. Admire the views to the left of St Martha's Hill with the North Downs behind. At the T-junction turn left, then shortly branch right into the Chinthurst Hill car park. (3.4miles. water point, TQ014462). Follow the access track from the car park out to the B2128, and carefully cross the road. At this point (B) the Medium and Long Walks diverge.</p> <p>The Medium walk continues by turning left along the pavement besides the B2128 to the A248 (New Road) junction. Turn right and follow the A248 pavement until the bend at the junction with Hornhatch Lane. Cross the road carefully (marshalled), then follow Hornhatch Lane to the railway. Cross through the level crossing foot gates and follow East Shalford Lane downhill then uphill to reach Manor Farm. Turn right into the farm, right again between the barns, then left along a field edge to reach the footpath junction immediately behind the farm. Turn left into the field. (The Long walk re-joins here from the right).</p> <p>(Point C, TQ011476). Follow the path west along the left-hand edge of the field. At the top of the rise you will see the green spire of Shalford Church ahead of you, and as the path bends to the right the tower of Guildford Cathedral. On reaching the road, turn right and follow Clifford Manor Road to its junction with Pilgrims Way. Turn left to reach the A281, and carefully cross the road to return to Shalford Park.</p>

Long Walk
10.1 miles
(16.2km)

Follow the Short/Medium walks to point **B** above at the B2128 crossing just after the water point.

Turn right along the B2128 pavement (the Medium walk turns left), and shortly afterwards turn left towards Great Tangle. After around 300m, where the track bends left, continue ahead on the narrow footpath east. The path continues steadily uphill for about 0.5 miles. At the angled cross path, continue straight ahead between properties, then follow the track to reach Sampleoak Lane (TQ032464).

Cross the road and take the path branching immediately right off the track into the woods. Follow this path across Blackheath Common, ignoring side turnings; noting the war memorial at the top of the hill on your left. After about 0.25 miles cross a quiet paved road then take the left fork and follow the path ahead: there are houses about 100yds to your left behind the road. After about 200 yds, fork left to reach the path alongside the fence beyond the houses. Turn right and follow the fence (on your left).

On reaching the fence corner (TQ041463) continue ahead for a short distance, and then turn diagonally left to follow a slightly vague path through the pine trees. Continue down into a small valley, then take a narrow path north between fields to Postford Farm cottages. Turn right along the access track which drops down to and across a stream. At the top of the rise on the other side, look for the stile on your left; cross it and go diagonally right uphill across the field to and across the railway level crossing. Follow the footpath (steep drop on the right) to the road, then turn left and follow the quiet lane downhill, keeping ahead at the junction, to reach the A248 in Albury village. (6.4 miles, water point, TQ048477).

Turn left along the A248 and follow the pavement on the left of the road. **Take care:** the pavement is missing for 30m over the river bridge; either wait for a gap in traffic or cross and then re-cross the main road. Continue along the pavement around the bends, passing the Water Lane and Guildford Lane junctions, until you reach the "Toads crossing" road sign at the foot of the hill by the entrance to Vale End Fishery. Carefully cross the road, and take the footpath that goes diagonally left (**not** the one to the right) through a narrow gate. The path passes between Waterloo pond on the right and Tilling Bourne stream on the left. At the end of the pond, continue ahead along the paved track to the Albury Mill development, where the stream emerges from the pond on your left and passes under the road at two separate channels. (TQ039479)

At the track junction immediately after the second channel, go straight ahead on a narrow footpath between fences. Where the path emerges into a field at a stile, continue ahead across the field, following the line of a ditch to your left, to reach a second stile, then diagonally right across a further field to a third stile at the track between Lockner Farm and Chilworth Manor. Turn right, cross the small stream, and then turn immediately left on a path through the former Chilworth Gunpowder Mills. This is a historical site under the management of Guildford Borough Council, and QR codes explain the history of the buildings.

Follow the path through the Mills to Blacksmith Lane (TQ024475). Turn right and follow the road back across the Tilling Bourne to the right angle bend where the road changes to Halfpenny Lane. At the bend, fork left to take the footpath uphill (the first 50m is heavily eroded). On reaching Halfpenny Lane again at another bend, turn left onto the road for a few yards, and then left again through the field gate. Take the undulating track along the left-hand side of the field, past a disused barn, then between hedges.

After about 0.75 miles you approach the buildings at Manor Farm, and just before the buildings, turn right into the field. The Medium walk rejoins from the left at this point; follow the directions above from point **C** to the end of the walk.