



BRAKSPEAR

ESTABLISHED 1779

**PUB
TRAILS**



**THE SIX BELLS
WAR BOROUGH
OXFORDSHIRE**

**3 CIRCULAR WALKS
4.4, 6 & 6.7 MILES**



INTRODUCING BRAKSPEAR PUB TRAILS

We're delighted to present three circular walks all starting and ending at The Six Bells. The Brakspear Pub Trails are a series of circular walks.

We thought the idea of a variety of circular country walks all starting and ending at our pubs was a guaranteed winner. We have fantastic pubs nestled in the countryside, and we hope our maps are a great way for you to get out and enjoy some fresh air and a gentle walk, with a guaranteed drink at the end – perfect!

Our pubs have always welcomed walkers (and almost all of them welcome dogs too), so we're making it even easier with plenty of free maps. You can pick up copies in the pubs taking part or go to brakspearaletrails.co.uk to download them. We're planning to add new pubs onto them, so the best place to check for the latest maps available is always our website.

We absolutely recommend you book a table so that when you finish your walk you can enjoy a much needed bite to eat too. At the weekend, please book in advance, as this is often a busier time, especially our smaller pubs.

And finally, do send us your photos of you out and about on your walk. We really do love getting them.

   @BrakspearPubs

How to get there



Driving: Postcode is OX10 7DN and there is a car park for customers.



Nearest station: Culham 6.4 miles away.



Local bus services: The number X39 and X40 (Thames Travel) bus service stops on Henley Road 1 mile from The Six Bells.



Brakspear would like to thank the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment and the volunteers who helped make these walks possible. As a result of these walks, Brakspear has invested in TOE2 to help maintain and improve Oxfordshire's footpaths.

Reg. charity no. 1140563

Respect – Protect – Enjoy

Respect other people:

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment:

- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors:

- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs

For more info visit: www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-country-side-code



The Six Bells
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 Warborough
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 Tel: 01865 858265

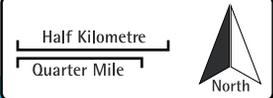
▲ **Route 1:** Warborough – Roke – Berrick Salome – Warborough
 Distance: 7.1km (4.4 miles) Time: 1.5 hours – 1 hour 45 minutes

■ **Route 2:** Warborough – Berrick Salome – Warborough
 Distance: 9.64km (6 miles) Time: 2-2.5 hours

● **Route 3:** Warborough – Dorchester – Little Wittenham – Shillingford
 Distance: 10.8km (6.7 miles) Time: 3-4 hours



Brakspear recommends that all walkers bring a copy of the Chiltern Hills West Ordnance Survey map. You can borrow one from the pub for a refundable £10 deposit.



Route 1

A short and pleasant walk over flat terrain with a pub break on the way. (In winter or periods of heavy rain, waterproof walking shoes are recommended.)

Directions

Distance: 7.1km (4.4 miles) Time: 1.5 hours – 1 hour 45 minutes

- 01 With your back to the pub turn right and follow the road (The Green South) keeping the cricket ground on your left.
- 02 Continue in the same direction as the road becomes a track at the outskirts of the village.
- 03 After about 1km the track turns slightly to the left, at this point leave the track, and walk across a small footbridge over a drainage dyke.
- 04 Ignore the 'Millennium Walk' sign follow the path in the same direction and after another 1km, on your right you will pass a fairly well hidden large pond (part of water cress beds) and shortly afterwards you reach a road.
- 05 Cross over the road and walk along the lane opposite into the village of Roke and after 500m leave the road and take the footpath on the left marked by a finger post.
- 06 Follow the footpath until you reach another road, turn left and walk along the road until you reach a road junction, bear right here and continue walking along the road for just under 200m then leave the road taking the footpath on the right indicated by a finger post and next to a thatched cottage (and a derelict phone box).
- 07 Follow the footpath across a field and exit via a kissing gate on to a lane opposite a St Helens Church.

DID YOU KNOW?

St Helens Church is a beautiful old church that dates back to 1087. One of the oldest features in the church is the Norman font situated in the nave. The name of Berrick Salome is thought to originate from "Berewic" meaning corn farm and a corruption of Sulham the name of a local manor.

- 08 Turn left and walk along the lane until you reach a crossroads with the Chequers pub on the left.
- 09 Cross over the road into Green Lane opposite and continue along the lane then at the end of the row of houses follow the track round to the left and continue on through a metal gate.
- 10 Walk straight across the field and go through a wooden gate and turn sharp right, then follow the bridle path around the edge of the field. After the path turns left in the corner of the field follow the bridle path in same general direction for about 1.6km and you will reach the outskirts of Warborough.

DID YOU KNOW?

Warborough has all the characteristics of a typical pretty Oxfordshire village, church, pub, cricket green and as such has appeared in many episodes of Midsomer Murders. The Six Bells has featured under its own name and others such as the Quill Inn and the Black Swan.

- 11 Follow what is now a small lane (Green Lane North) past the cricket ground.
- 12 Turn left into Green Lane North, walk towards the side of the cricket pavilion then turn right and follow the road between some cottages and turn left to emerge by a green with the Six Bells pub opposite.



St Helens Church



Warborough Cricket Green

Route 2

A fairly long walk but with no steep hills or other challenging obstacles.

Directions

Distance: 9.64km (6 miles) Time: 2-2.5 hours

01 With your back to the pub turn left and walk along The Green towards the War Memorial then turn right at the main road and walk past St Lawrence Church then cross over the main road with care and walk along a small side road (Henfield View) opposite.

DID YOU KNOW?

St Lawrence Church in the centre of Warborough, dates from the 14th C but with some features such as the font (late 12th C) and the east window from the early 13th C. As can be seen from outside the building the bell tower was rebuilt in 1666.

02 After about 50m leave the road and follow the footpath indicated by a finger post and follow the footpath across the field with a fine view towards Wittenham Clumps.

03 When the path meets another path turn right and walk along the path until you reach a wooded area, at this point through a small gap you should notice a large man made pond, turn right here and follow the path under a power line.

04 When you reach another path turn left along this path and at the next intersection turn right and follow the path (Pain Way) until you reach a concrete access road marked by a waymark post as a bridle path.

05 Follow the access road until you reach a main road, carefully cross the main road and then turn left and walk along the verge for about 50m.

06 Turn right on to a bridle path marked by a finger post and follow it for about 1.3km, then on the left look out for a small gap in the hedge concealing a footbridge, cross the footbridge into a large field.

07 Continue following a path diagonally across the field past a tree in the middle of the field cross over a track and continue on following a path bearing slightly left across the field until the hedge line.

08 Turn sharp right and follow the hedge line to the southern corner of the field then continue to follow the path into the next field still following the hedge line.

09 After about 250m turn left through the gap in the hedge and cross over a footbridge then bear right towards another gap in another hedge line.

10 Go through the gap and cross another footbridge then aim for the left hand corner of the field and go through a metal gate by a greenhouse in the back garden of a house.

11 Then follow a track round to right past some houses until you reach a public road with The Chequers pub opposite. (You might consider this a time to take a break as you now 2/3 the way round the walk).

12 Turn right (turn left if you are exiting the pub car park) and walk along the road for 1.5km until you reach a fork in the road.

13 At this point turn right and walk along a tarmac access road to Lower Berrick Farm, after 40m bear right and cross a footbridge and go through a kissing gate to enter a small field. Cross the field diagonally and exit via another kissing gate.

14 Follow the path through a small copse and exit via a kissing gate then bear left and walk along the edge of a field and then go through a kissing gate into another field.

15 Follow the path along the edge of the field and when it turns sharp left in the corner of the field then continue to follow the path in same general direction for about 1.6km until you reach the outskirts of Warborough.

16 Follow what is now a small lane (Green Lane North) past the cricket ground.

17 Turn left into Green Lane South and follow the lane past the cricket pavilion and between some cottages. You will then emerge by a green with the Six Bells pub opposite.



St Lawrence Church Warborough

Route 3

A long and very interesting walk with a number of interesting sites to see with one (optional) steep climb.

Directions

Distance: 10.8km (6.7 miles) Time: 3-4 hours

- 01 With your back to the pub turn left and walk along The Green South towards the War Memorial then turn right at the main road and walk past the Church.
- 02 Cross the main road and walk another 250m along the other side of the road then turn left into Sinodun View, then almost immediately right into Hammer Lane. On your left you can see the low Sinodun Hills with the Wittenham Clumps at the Western end.
- 03 Where the lane turns to the right walk straight on along a footpath for about 700m, ignoring the first turn on the left. When you meet another footpath turn left on to the other path.
- 04 Follow this footpath until it goes through a subway under the A4074 then after a further 200m turn right through a gap in the hedge line and follow the path turning right on to a access track then right again to pick up a narrow footpath that passes Overy Mill and the mill pond.
- 05 Continue over a stile into Hurst Water Meadow, an 18-acre island lying between the River Thames and the Overy millstream, and follow the path in the same direction through the meadow.
- 06 Pick up a broad track as you leave the meadow and after about 150m turn left into Manor Farm Road (leading to Queens Street).
- 07 After 200m bear right and at the end of the Manor Farm Road turn left into Queen Street then turn left into Henley Road and walk past the George Hotel a coaching inn dating back to the 14 century, and opposite is the entrance to Dorchester Abbey.
- 08 Continue for another 50m than bear right at the Fleur de Leys pub and walk to the end of the cul-de-sac.
- 09 Turn sharp right and take a footpath past some allotments. Take time to stop and read the information board about the recent excavations of a Roman house.
- 10 As you leave the allotments turn left on to a tarmac access drive then after a few metres bear right leaving the drive and taking a footpath to Days Lock.
- 11 Follow the footpath until you meet a bridle path, turn right on to the bridle path, then take the right hand fork where the path splits and continue on to Days Lock. (Note If you prefer you can miss out Days Lock by taking the left hand fork and walk directly to the light coloured, curved footbridge that you can see to the left. This stretch can be flooded during winter months of high rainfall.)
- 12 At Days Lock turn left then follow the Thames Path for 50m and cross the Thames using the Little Wittenham footbridge.
- 13 Walk up the slight incline until you reach Little Wittenham, go through the gate opposite the Church of St Peter.
- 14 If you have the energy then carry on straight up the hill to the Wittenham Clumps, when you reach the top of Round Hill you will be able to see Little Wittenham, Days Lock, Dorchester and in the

opposite direction Didcot Power Station, the views are well worth the effort. (Alternatively you can avoid the climb and head straight towards Shillingford by bearing left and taking the other footpath at the foot of the hill then pick up the instructions at point 16.)

- 15 Turn right (eastwards) and walk into the dip and up to Castle Hill. Then walk down the hill from the eastern side in a north easterly direction, follow the path along the edge of the field then just after going round the corner of the field turn left and follow the track into the woods after 200m you will reach an intersection with another track turn right and follow this track.
- 16 When you reach a steel gate with a sign indicating no public access turn right and walk up a slight slope past a horse paddock, then turn left and walk past North Farm.
- 17 Cross the access drive to the farm and continue to follow the footpath along a grassy track for about 100m then turn left and follow the path until you meet the River Thames.
- 18 Turn right and follow the river through an area adjacent to the Thames given over to Earth Trust's River of Life Project.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2010 Earth Trust acquired 35 hectares of land next to the River Thames that added 2.5km of river frontage to the Earth Trust's estate. The Earth Trust's River of Life project has used this land to create a unique wetland landscape that over time will 're-wild' this stretch of the Thames.

- 19 Carry on following the river until you reach the Shillingford Hotel car Park, turn left and cross over the river using Shillingford Bridge.
- 20 When reaching the northern bank turn left straight away and follow the Thames Path along an access drive.
- 21 After 180m bear right and follow a narrow footpath between a fence and a hedge, after passing Shillingford Court turn left at a steel barrier.
- 22 After 40m you will reach Wharf Road. If you look at the wall to your left you will see a stone set in the wall that records the flood in 1807.
- 23 Turn right and walk along Wharf Road when you reach the main road (A4074), cross the road with care and walk along Warborough Road.
- 24 Continue along this road until you reach another junction with a major road.
- 25 Cross the road, again taking care, and pick up the footpath opposite then follow the footpath into the centre of Warborough.
- 26 When you reach the War memorial turn right and make your way back to the Six bells.

The Six Bells
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