



This route is mainly along a stretch of the Thames Path National Trail between Bourne End and Marlow. On the way out we deviate north circling around a large flooded gravel pit, which incorporates a wild life sanctuary.

For lunch we visit the pub at Little Marlow before rejoining the Thames Path and continuing towards Marlow. We will return along the length of the Thames National Trail to our start point at Bourne End. Route of ramble ———

Start point: (S) Wakeman Road Shoppers Car Park, Bourne End, Bucks. (GR SU 893874)

Toilets: disabled accessible toilets are available at the start point (public toilet, RADAR key operated, and in the Community Centre, at the lunch stop, and en route near Marlow). Remember to bring your RADAR key with you.

Lunch: pub lunch at Little Marlow, or bring a packed lunch and refreshments...

How to get there !

1. Travelling from Maidenhead town centre. Follow the A4 towards Slough, but turn left at the roundabout just before the historic Maidenhead Bridge (crosses the Thames at the edge of town). This is the A4094 signposted Cookham, Bourne End. Continue past Cookham village (ca 2 ½ miles), and cross the Thames on a single lane, traffic light controlled bridge. After a further mile you enter Bourne End village. At the mini roundabout, turn left. This is the shopping centre. Very quickly turn right into Wakeman right (just by the Total filling station) and park in the car park there.

2. From the M40, exit at Junction 4, signposted Maidenhead, and follow the A404 towards Maidenhead, down a long hill. At the junction just before the bottom of the hill, leave the A404 and follow the A4155 signed Bourne End. After 2 miles you enter Bourne End village. At the shopping centre, turn left into Wakeman Road, situated immediately by the Total filling station. Park in the car park situated there.

Ramble :

NOTE YOU WILL NEED YOUR RADAR KEY TO OPEN GATES ALONG THE TRAIL AND FOR THE PUBLIC TOILETS

From the car park, cross the main road and go left along the pavement until you reach Wharf Lane (on your right). Follow this down to the river, crossing the railway line by the level crossing just before the marina. Continue to the right past houses until the path opens out. Leave the riverbank at this point and follow the road up past the Chef and Brewer restaurant/pub, passing the car park on your left. Soon the road bends right. At this point take the footpath to your left, crossing a low grassy bank. The footpath follows the field boundary to your right. After approx 200 metres, a well marked path leads off left and very quickly to reach the edge of a large flooded gravel pit. Turn left and follow round three sides of this large stretch of water. Continue into Little Marlow village where you will find a choice of pubs for lunch. Retrace your route due south following a well marked path parallel to, but a little away from the lake. Go straight on and cross the railway line (**take great care!**). Soon you reach the Thames riverbank. Turn right and follow the Thames Path National Trail towards Marlow. Pass under the A404 Marlow bypass, where you will find a small park. At the opposite corner there are toilets, including one which is disabled accessible. Leave the park at this point and follow the road back under the A404. Continue along the trackway by the railway line and you will soon be back to the Thames riverside. Return to Bourne End along the Thames Path National Trail.

Scenery:

Beautiful Thames side scenery and a lovely peaceful flooded gravel pit.