



Circular walks

in Oxfordshire



*More downloadable leaflets available for free from
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/walksandrides*

A walk from
Redbridge Park &
Ride or Hinksey
Park in Oxford,
taking in:

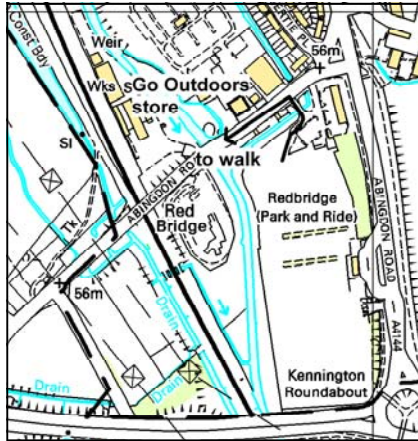
- * South Hinksey
- * The Chilswell Valley
- * Views of Oxford's dreaming spires



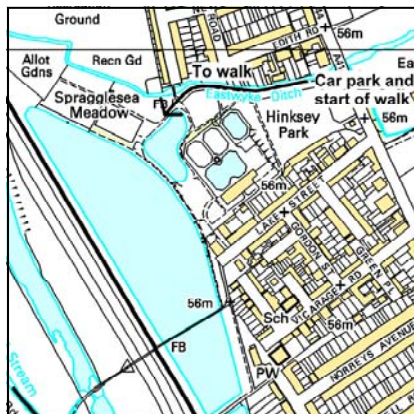
Getting to the start



Start point A



Start point B



There are two alternative start points for this walk.

Start point A: This starting point is from Redbridge Park and Ride, OX1 4XN, which is situated at the south end of Abingdon Road, on the outskirts of Oxford City. It is signposted from the main roads in the vicinity. Parking is free of charge.

Start point B: This starting point is from Hinksey park, OX1 4PZ. There is a car park at the entrance to the park, which is situated half way up Abingdon Road, on the left. Parking is free of charge.

Limited street parking is also available in South Hinksey along the route.

Public transport

For timetable enquiries, go to www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk or call Traveline on 0871 200 22 33.

You will also find information and Oxfordshire County Council public transport timetables in most Oxfordshire libraries and Tourist Information Centres. Alternatively, write enclosing an A5 stamped addressed envelope to: Oxfordshire County Council, Public Transport, Speedwell House, Speedwell Street, Oxford OX1 1NE.

Easy-to-follow routes

The walk is marked with metal signposts where the path leaves the road, and with waymarks on gates and stiles at every change of direction.

The appropriate Ordnance Survey map to use on this route is OS Explorer 180.



When out walking, it is always wise to let someone know where you are going or, if possible, have someone with you. Take your mobile with you, and make sure it is fully charged. If you use your car to access the route, please park with care – do not block farm gateways or village facilities, and do not leave valuables in view.

Please follow the Countryside Code:

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

Points of interest

- A** **Chilswell Valley** is one of the steepest valleys in the Oxford area. The springs on Boars Hill form small streams that plunge into miniature gorges. These features are created by erosion as limestone is dissolved by rainwater. The shape of the gorge may be the result of the collapse of underground channels.
- B** The only road access to **South Hinksey village** is via the A34 bypass. Pedestrian and cycle access to the village from Oxford is via the Devil's Backbone, a historic raised pathway across the neighbouring flood plains that features in Matthew Arnold's poem *The Scholar Gypsy*. It has always been difficult to get between North Hinksey in Oxford and South Hinksey. In the 19th century John Ruskin tried to organize the making of a road between the two villages, as the ground between them was very boggy. Since the 1930's they have been connected by the A34 Southern By-Pass Road.
- C** There is a **camping and caravan site** by Redbridge Park & Ride. It has a tiny shop at reception that sells drinks, snacks and ice cream, but this has limited opening hours.
- D** **The Garden Café** within the garden centre that the route passes on its way back serves breakfast, lunch, tea and a range of cakes. There is also a toilet next to the café.
- E** **Hinksey Outdoor Pool** in Hinksey Park is open for outdoor swimming between 30 April and 25 September. Phone 0844 893 3222 or go to www.oxford.gov.uk/leisure for more information.

If you would like to give us feedback about these walks, you can email countryside.reviews@oxfordshire.gov.uk You can also upload photos of your walk online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/countrysidephotoupload Alternatively, call 01865 810226 or write to: Oxfordshire County Council, Countryside Service, Signal Court, Old Station Way, Eynsham, Oxford OX29 4TL.