

ROCKINGHAM FOREST WALKERS



The Castle Meander – 12km
Permanent Trail PT237
BWF Grade 2
Start / Finish :-
New Sun Inn, 20 High Street,
Kimbolton, Cambridgeshire, PE28 0HA
Explorer Map 225, Grid TL:099/677



Entry Fee £1.00 – no award, souvenir logbook sticker available on request.
Limited bus service from Bedford and St Neots

The organisers are not liable for accidents, thefts and/ or damage to property. Every effort will be made by the organisers to make these safe, enjoyable and memorable events

From the front of the New Sun Inn, cross the wide street with care and then turn right. On the bend opposite the church turn left into Grass Yard after 25 metres turn right passing 11 Ryelands on your left. Follow Public Footpath around passing Fire Station on your right, through zig-zag to exit next to 10 Castle Gardens. Turn left and continue straight ahead into Pound Lane.

Continue ahead to sports field on your right, go through gap in short white fence and follow the footpath sign half left across the grass aiming for single tree. Pass through rough ground to the right of the tree and continue across centre of the field. Follow the Public Footpath sign and ahead with trees and hedges on your left.

Enter into Honeywell Wood keeping ahead on hard rubble track, exit from the wood and continue ahead to cross the field aiming for the marker post to reach the track (Byway).

Q1. Awaiting update.

Turn left along the lane to the corner of the wood on your right, follow the lane left then right to reach a junction. Turn right following the green Byway sign, wood again on your right. 24 metres after the lane bends left, turn left through gap in hedge to cross plank bridge (marker post on other side of

hedge). If you reach the gate for Spanoak Wood you have overshot, retrace back for 39 steps.

Turn right along the wide field edge with hedges on right, following the edge as it bends left. After 200 metres turn right over the concrete bridge, up the field following the YWM, hedge on right. Continue straight ahead for 1.3km to reach road by farm buildings.

Cross road with care, turn left along road for 287 metres to just after the bend to a Footpath sign on the right, go through wide gap into field then half left across field to far corner to cross wooden footbridge. Turn right following YWP, continue along field edge for 1.6km, keeping the stream on your right.

Cross sleeper bridge and aim for white farmhouse in Pertenhall. Go left then right around farmhouse, follow waymarker on barn wall turning right then almost immediately left to follow track to road.

Q2. On the large barn on your left there is a blue sign near to the top of the barn - what is the number below the Balsham name ?

At the road turn right, cross white-railed bridge, turn next left to go slightly uphill along lane. At T-junction at the end of the lane turn left along grass verge, keeping behind bollards. At the red post box with Footpath sign turn left and through gap to the right of the gate towards church. At church go around either side to the rear, go through graveyard and ahead along tree-lined track crossing concrete bridge and passing through kissing gate and ahead up field with hedge on left and through kissing gate in left hand corner of field.

Cross road with care, go through gap at side of gate and ahead with hedge on left. Just before end of field turn left through gap and immediately right with hedge on right, Continue to end of field turning right then left with fence and then small stream on left. Continue to road and cross to track opposite.

Q3. At the beginning of the track, on your right is a Public Footpath sign. How far is it to Kimbolton ?

Continue ahead uphill keeping hedge and trees to your right, at the end of

the field turn left and then right through gap still heading uphill in the same direction with hedge on right. Follow path right and then left to arrive at T-junction with track, turn right to pass farmhouse and buildings on your right.

At junction of tracks, take second track on left and then turn half right across field towards lone tree (for alternative wet weather route see below). After passing tree continue in same direction until you reach the waymarker post at the edge of Kimbolton School. The public footpath through the school grounds is waymarked well so please do not wander off path.

Exit the school grounds through the main gates (if the gates are closed follow the diversion to exit through a smaller pedestrian gate). When you reach the road (High Street), turn left back to the start.

Alternative wet weather route

Continue downhill along track eventually passing to the left of double gate (if closed) and continue on track passing sports field on your left. Continue ahead along Pound Lane to junction with Castle Gardens, opposite Footpath sign on left hand verge turn right along path next to 10 Castle Gardens and retrace your steps to the start.

We hope you have enjoyed your walk. Have a safe journey home.

Route checked & updated 9th Dec 2017

When you have finished the walk please send your answers on a Permanent Trail Entry Form, your IVV cards, payment of £1.00 per walker (please make cheques payable to **Rockingham Forest Walkers**) and a stamped addressed envelope for return of cards to:

Phil Percival,

The Permanent Trail Officer

Rockingham Forest Walkers

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Bedford, Bedfordshire, MK41 0WN