



ISE VALLEY VAGABONDS



Wellingborough Country Park & Town Permanent Trail - BWF App No PT15

START & FINISH: Embankment Car Park, The Embankment, Wellingborough, Northants
NN8 1LD

OS map 152 Grid Ref SP901667 Distance 12km
Fee £1.00 Souvenir sticker available on request

Alternative start & finish location - if the Embankment area is flooded :

Jackson`s Lane Car Park (off High Street)
Post Code NN8 4LB Grid Ref SP 888680

Route last updated on 23 January 2016

This route description is valid from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016

This walk has been established by members of the Ise Valley Vagabonds Walking Club (BWF Club No 70) and is a qualifying event in the IVV award scheme. It can be walked at any time.

In the car park, take the tarmac path by the toilet block, passing the play area and picnic benches to the river. (If you cannot access the riverside due to flooding, go out the entrance, turn left to the roundabout then turn left towards the road bridge and pick up the route description at ***) Turn right alongside the River Nene to reach the bridge. Turn right and go up to the main road. Turn left and pass over the river and then *** ahead under the road bridge to reach Daniels Road, at the Little Irchester sign. Turn left along Daniels Road and follow to reach white metal gate. Turn right through metal barrier into Irchester Country Park. Ahead on gravel track for that will swing left away from Irchester Narrow Gauge Railway Museum, to reach buildings (*café & toilets*). Go straight ahead past buildings and adventure playground into gravel car park. Half way along car park, turn left between wooden post towards Jungle Parc. Ahead between overhead wires / adventure walkways to T-junction. Turn right to reach cross track in dip. Turn left, on higher path (red & black arrows) and ahead towards metal fence with lay-by behind it. Follow path around to right, away from road, to next cross track, at bench. Turn left (orange & black arrows) and at next bench, ignore track ahead and go right in direction of red arrow. Ahead on track, uphill, to reach T-junction with main tarmac track.

Turn right on track (black arrow) and continue ahead to next large track on your right. Continue ahead for 10 metres and then fork right on dirt track into trees, which passes between sculptures.

QUESTION 1: WHAT ARE THE SCULPTURES?

At junction with track, turn left back to main track, then turn right and continue alongside disused quarry workings to reach main entrance drive into country park. Turn right on drive. When drive swings left, fork right on path and go down steps, then ahead across grass to return to the café/toilet buildings. Turn left on road and go past green barrier and retrace steps along gravel path for 200 metres to reach structure on your right with stones attached to it. Look inside. Continue on track and at railway museum, turn right. After a further 200 metres, fork left up wooden steps and pass behind allotments. Go through

metal gate and ahead on road. Turn left along Milton Road to main road, where turn right. Cross end of Daniels Road and ahead under road bridge to reach "Tesco" roundabout. Cross via traffic island on right hand side and continue straight ahead with Tesco on your left, to reach Lidl. Turn left to main road and cross via island. Turn right.

At Denington Road, turn left. At far end of blue hoardings (on your right), turn right along alleyway and follow to exit between houses into residential street. Turn right and ahead to junction. Cross road and turn left along Broadway to traffic lights. Cross and continue ahead in same direction along Croyland Road. At mini roundabout, turn right along Monks Way and follow road around to left (*café /toilets can be found at Morrisons, which can be accessed via road to your right before Abbots Way sign*).

Continue ahead on Abbots Way, ignore various closes to your right and left, to go uphill. At Spring Gardens, turn right on cycleway. Immediately after 'The CE Academy', there is a blue sign on the large gateposts.

QUESTION 2: WHAT SQUADRON OF THE AIR TRAINING CORPS?

(Major Edward 'Mick' Mannock VC, DSO & bar(x2), MC & bar was Britain's most successful WW1 fighter pilot, with 73 recorded victories, only 7 less than Germany's Baron Manfred von Richtofen 'The Red Baron'. Born in Ireland in 1897, he ended up living in Mill Road, Wellingborough (where there is a blue plaque). He worked in the town before the war as a telephone engineer. He joined the Wellingborough Territorial Attachment of the Royal Army Medical Corps and later transferred to the Royal Engineers. In November 1915 he had become a pilot with the Royal Flying Corps. He was killed on 26th July 1918, when he was shot down by German ground fire behind enemy lines. He was awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously).

Ahead and fork right along 'old' road to reach main road. Turn right to pedestrian crossing, go over road then turn left then right along West Villa Road to green metal gates on your left. Go through and enter Bassetts Close park. Straight ahead on main path, with bandstand on your left, to exit park on far side. Turn right along Westfield Road to T-junction. Turn right then right again along Broad Green, with the War Memorial on your left. Continue downhill to cross the end of Jackson's Lane.

(Alternative start location – "leave car park by the way you came in and reach main road. Turn right" – now follow route description from this point **) Cross road at first pedestrian crossing and turn right, ** continuing downhill, to traffic lights. Cross and turn left along Church Street. Turn right along Orient Way, passing café, and follow road around to left into the site of Wellingborough Market. Turn left into parking area of market, then turn left into churchyard signposted 'Bus Terminal' to reach entrance to church. Turn right, keeping the church on your left to reach main entrance. Continue past main entrance and follow path around to left to exit churchyard in right hand corner. Turn right, downhill, passing 'The Gloucester'. At pedestrian crossing, turn right along Market Street, passing the excellent 'George Alan Outdoor Wear' shop, then fork right passing the entrance to the Swansgate Shopping Centre to go into the Market Square. Go to the right hand side of the pagoda/kiosk.

QUESTION 3: HOW MANY PEOPLE WERE KILLED ON 3RD AUGUST 1942?

Go straight ahead to reach pedestrian crossing at The Hind Hotel. (*Just to your left, building #37 has a double gable end. There are 2 indistinct carvings that were done in 1886 and this property is called 'The House That Jack Built'*) Cross road and ahead with

hotel on your left, heading towards a lion statue, with the Tithe Barn on your right. Fork left, with play area and large swans statue on your right. At end of white colonnade, go through gap and immediately fork left between Croyland Hall & office building, to go through car park to road. Turn right and immediately left along alleyway between old stone gateposts, to reach main road. Behind you, there is a plaque on each gatepost.

QUESTION 4: WHEN WAS WELLINGBOROUGH ZOO PARK OPENED TO THE PUBLIC?

Turn right and cross end of Doddington Road, towards pedestrian crossings. Do not cross, but turn right through car park of Swanspool House / Borough Council of Wellingborough. At start of black railings, turn left into Swanspool Gardens. Take left hand fork and follow past seat. In 10 metres, at first path on left, turn left and immediately pass to the right of the small notice board (Woodland Walk), on wood chip path, passing carved wooden statues of wildlife. At road, turn right and pass between pavilion (*toilets*) and tennis courts, to go through green gates to reach road. Turn left and go down steps to main road. Cross **WITH CARE** and directly ahead into Castle Road. Fork right into cemetery, to pass a large information board. Go straight ahead and path will swing past 2 disused chapels. On the first chapel there is a circular plaque.

QUESTION 5: WHAT WAS JOHN ASKHAM?

Ahead to go through green gate to reach road. Turn left (*this is Irthlingborough Road*) and ahead to pass mini roundabout. 10 metres later, turn left into park and follow path downhill to cross tracks. Turn right, with bandstand on your right, and go through barrier. Turn right along path and exit park through green barrier. Cross road and turn left.

At Chapman Road, turn right into estate. After house #31, turn left on estate road to reach main road. Turn right (*this is The Embankment*). Walk along The Embankment as it bends to the right and use the pedestrian crossing to cross and return to the car park. (If you have started at the alternative start point, "continue along road to "Tesco" roundabout. Turn left towards the road bridge" and pick up the route description at ***)

We hope you have enjoyed the walk!

The Ise Valley Vagabonds have established other Permanent Trails at Bedford (2), Daventry, Kempston, Kettering, Kings Lynn, London (2), Marston Moretaine (2), Oxford, Rugby, Rushden, Stamford, Stratford upon Avon and Warwick.

They are all qualifying events towards the IVV award scheme. Further information about these walks, the IVV, the club and all its activities can be found by visiting our Web Site www.vagabonds.org.uk

THE ORGANISERS ARE NOT LIABLE FOR ACCIDENTS, THEFT, AND/OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE BY THE ORGANISERS TO MAKE THIS A SAFE, ENJOYABLE AND MEMORABLE EVENT

**ISE VALLEY VAGABONDS
PERMANENT TRAIL REGISTRATION FORM**

TRAIL	PT15 Wellingborough Country Park & Town Permanent Trail	
ROUTE UPDATED	23/01/2016	(2016/2)
DATE WALKED		
NAME		
ADDRESS		
ADDITIONAL WALKERS		
ENTRY FEE	___ Walkers @ £1.00 (€2,00) each	Total £
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED		£
Please put my IVV stamps on a new set of Insert cards Yes/No		
ANSWERS		
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
Comments		
<p>If you have a problem with this trail, please try and resolve it with the organiser. If you are unable to resolve the problem, then please contact the BWF Trail Officer.</p>		
<p>Please enclose a STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE (at least C6 (114 x 162mm) or DL (110 x 220mm)) with this form and send it to</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Carol Jones 138 Rushden Road Wymington Rushden Northants NN10 9LE</p>		