

The Greensand Ridge Walk



Walk
1

Leighton Buzzard – Woburn

8.5 miles/13km

- 1 From the Town Centre follow Leighton Road to the road bridge which crosses the canal. Walk northwards along the towpath of the **Grand Union Canal** to The Globe Public House.
- 2 Pass the pub and turn right through a kissing gate into a large meadow. This section of the walk can become flooded at certain times of the year. Immediately turn left, heading down the bank and onto the boardwalks. At the end of the boardwalks turn sharp right and walk across the field to the edge of the river. At this point head for the bridge that crosses over the river.
- 3 Cross the bridge and head straight across the field to a track. Turn left, through the kissing gate and left again to join a large, sandy track known as Firs Path. Keep following this path with the wood on your right and river on your left until you emerge into a large meadow. Continue to follow the path up the hill and through the wood to the crossroads.
- 4 Turn left along Bragenham Lane for 50m and turn right onto the footpath. Follow the waymarked path to Oak Wood.

Oak Wood is part of **Stockgrove Country Park**. To visit the Park, follow the signposted path which is off the bridleway.
- 5 Turn right and after 200m turn left through the layby and down a narrow path. Follow the bridleway around the edge of **Rammamere Heath**. On leaving the heath, head towards Rammamere farm. Go through the gate and into open fields. Cross one field but do not go through the gate. Instead turn right and follow the fence line. Follow the waymarked path until you get to the corner of the field by a wood. At this point turn left over a stile and footbridge and into another field. **King's Wood National Nature Reserve** is on the right hand side.
- 6 Cross the road with care and follow the cross-field footpaths until you reach Sheep Lane. At the road turn left and after 150m turn left again through a gate and along a grass ride.
- 7 Enter the wood following the bridleway known as Nun's Lane to a junction with a large sandstone marker. Turn right and follow the path to the road, passing Job's Farm.
- 8 Just before the road turn left along the field edge path. Cross the road and continue along the pavement for 400m. By the former Maryland College there is a fingerpost on the opposite side of the road. Cross the road with care and follow the waymarked path across a field and then along the fence line.

Pass the pond and over the bridge. Continue on the main path until you reach a T- junction. Turn right up the hill, through the conifers and past the cottages and clock tower. This brings you out onto Brickhill Road.

From this path, take the first left to go into Woburn, or the second left to follow the Greensand Ridge Walk to the fire station on George Street.

All maps are reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Central Bedfordshire Council 100049029 2012.



Grand Union Canal
Before the use of roads and lorries for major transportation of materials the Grand Union Canal was used to transport sand from the sand quarries in Leighton Buzzard and Heath & Reach to London.

Linslade
The Linslade area was part of Buckinghamshire until 1965, with the river marking the old County boundary. In the distance you can see Old Linslade Church, which shows the position of the original village of Linslade.

Rushmere Country Park
Rushmere Country Park is jointly owned by Central Bedfordshire Council and the Greensand Trust. It consists of 400 acres of woodland, heathland, grassland and lakes. Parts of the site are important habitats such as Bakers Wood Site of Special Scientific Interest a semi ancient woodland. Several new permissive footpaths, cycle routes and horse routes have been established through the Park. There are family cycling routes around the site which are free to use. There are also mountain biking routes; for which a **permit** is required which can be purchased from Rushmere visitor centres. Refreshments and toilet facilities are also available in the visitor centre.
An optional diversion is available which runs through the Park and via the facilities.

Woburn
Woburn village has a delightful Georgian town centre, and is well worth visiting. The Woburn Heritage Centre in the old church of St. Mary's in Bedford Street will tell you about the history of the village and surrounding area.

