



Ridgmont Station, Heritage Centre & Cafe

Refreshments and Toilets at Ridgmont Station and Heritage Centre,
Woburn Safari Park Entrance, Ridgmont village.

Ridgmont village has a shop, cafe, accommodation and Pub
and is just over 1 mile from the station.

Ridgmont Station is on the Bedford/Bletchley line with services
every hour Monday to Saturday. There is no Sunday service.

A small free Car park at Ridgmont Station.



Some great views which can only be experienced by doing this walk.

The walk uses good well marked paths but some parts can be very muddy when wet.

Moderate walking with just over 140 metres of ascent and descent.

There are several road crossings, one railway crossing and two stiles.

Sections of the walk are unsuitable for buggies or pushchairs

however the walk is suitable for children.

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Bedfordshire Railway Walks
Marston Vale Line

Three Hills Walk

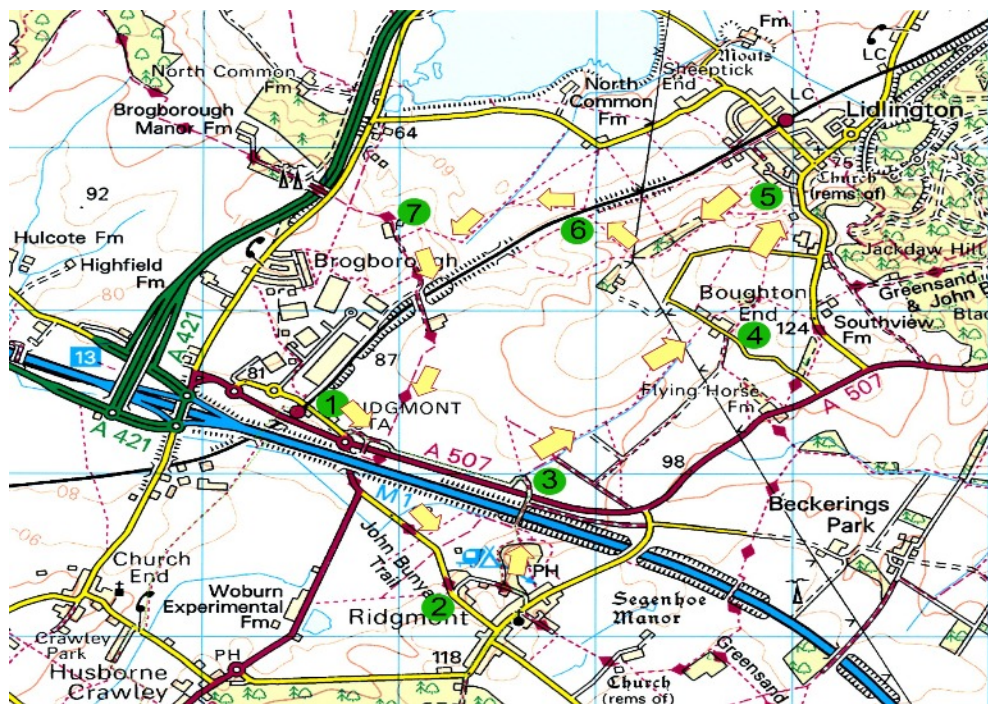


A 9.km (5.6 mile) circular walk

Around the hills of Ridgmont, Lidlington & Brogborough
between 2.5 hours -3.5 hours duration

140 metres of Ascent/descent

With an option to make it a shorter linear walk



1 Leave Ridgmont station and turn right past the Heritage Centre and Cafe, Continue along the road to the roundabout and use the footbridge to cross The A507. Go under the M1 motorway and turn left at the road junction Towards Ridgmont. Continue along the roadside path ignoring any footpath signs on the left. Soon the road starts to go up hill and there are houses on the left. 2 Where a road comes in from the left and a sign turn left along this road (Lydds Hill) past the cottages. At the edge of the wood and a Greensand Ridge path sign turn left and continue along this path as it contours the wood on the side of the hill. (The Greensand Ridge Path is a 40 mile Linear East/West trail across Bedfordshire. Starting at Leighton Buzzard and ending at Gamlingay Cinques just over the border in Cambridgeshire. Great views of the traffic on the M1.) The path turns left drops down a few metres and turns right along a field edge. At an obvious cross field path turn left and cross the field, towards the motorway, then through a gap and up through the trees to a gate. Turn right and cross first the M1 then A507. Continue down the slope to a hedge. 3 Go through the hedge, turn right and continue ahead for about 1500 metres to reach the hamlet of Broughton End.. 4

At the road turn right and after the last building on the left turn left left on to the path signed Greensand ridge path and continue uphill through a small copse to a path junction. At this junction* continue ahead uphill to reach a road.. (*the Greensand Ridge path makes a right turn). At the road turn left then go through the first kissing gate on the right and continue on the surfaced path to reach a tables and seating area and an information board. 5 (This is an ideal place for a break. From here you can see Lidlington/Brogborough Lake, Views over to Cranfield, Marston Vale and in the distance Bedford and Cardington hangers).

Face the information board, turn left and follow the obvious paths across to a seat on a hill With a hedge behind.

(At this point should you wish to shorten the walk and return to Ridgmont by train take the path in front of the seat and head towards the the village of Lidlington. Before Reaching the first hedge bear left and continue downhill, the unmade path connects to a surfaced path leading to a kissing gate at the corner of the field. Go through the kissing gate turn right along a track which becomes a road and leads to Lidlington Station. It is one stop back to Ridgmont and you can pay on the train).

To continue the circular walk go through the gate behind the seat, cross the track and up some steps and through the trees emerging in a field. Continue ahead with the field on the left and the trees on the right ignoring the cross Path, for approximately 500 Metres when the path descends through the trees at an angle before heading across Fields downhill to the railway line. 6 Cross with care and bear left to cross a field to a marker post and gap in the hedge. Cross the ditch turn left and continue with the hedge On the left to the end of the field. Turn right and with the hedge now on the left continue Uphill. Where the path becomes steeper keep left and follow the path as it twists round to the left then right to emerge through a gate into an open field. The path continues with the hedge on the right uphill for a short distance before leveling off and reaching a track. (At the junction you may wish to view the old Brickwork ruins to the right. 7 At its peak the brickworks had 25 chimneys and was reputedly the second largest in the world). Turn left and continue ahead. (This last part of the walk joins Bedfordshire premier 70 mile circular Bunyan Trail and The Clay way a 12 mile linear walk between Ridgmont and Bromham). After going through some concrete blocks bear right and then left on to a Farm track and bridge over the railway. Continue along the farm track with the hedge on the left. After passing the farm turn right and follow a field edge path. At a hedge junction bear slightly left and continue with the hedge on the left over two fields then cross a third to a gate leading to a footbridge. Take the ramp up and at the top turn right and follow it Down to the road which leads back to the station. 1