

# The Glyme Valley Way

A sixteen mile walk from Chipping Norton to Woodstock, exploring a thousand years of Oxfordshire's history

The Glyme Valley Way was devised by BBC Oxford and Oxfordshire County Council's Countryside Service as part of Oxfordshire 2007 which is celebrating a thousand years of the County's history. To find out more about the development and historical aspects of the route, and to hear a special radio programme, check the BBC website at [www.bbc.co.uk/oxford](http://www.bbc.co.uk/oxford) and also [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/walksandrides](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/walksandrides)

## Walk Information

The Glyme Valley Way is a pleasant all-day walk of 16 miles along public rights of way. The terrain is generally undemanding, but as with all paths, some areas could be muddy and slippery after rain and there could be seasonal vegetation on the route as well. There are a number of stiles and kissing gates on the route. Make sure you are prepared by wearing appropriate clothing, taking refreshments and a charged mobile phone with you and making sure people know where you are. There are three small sections that cross or pass along main roads. Please take special care in these places.

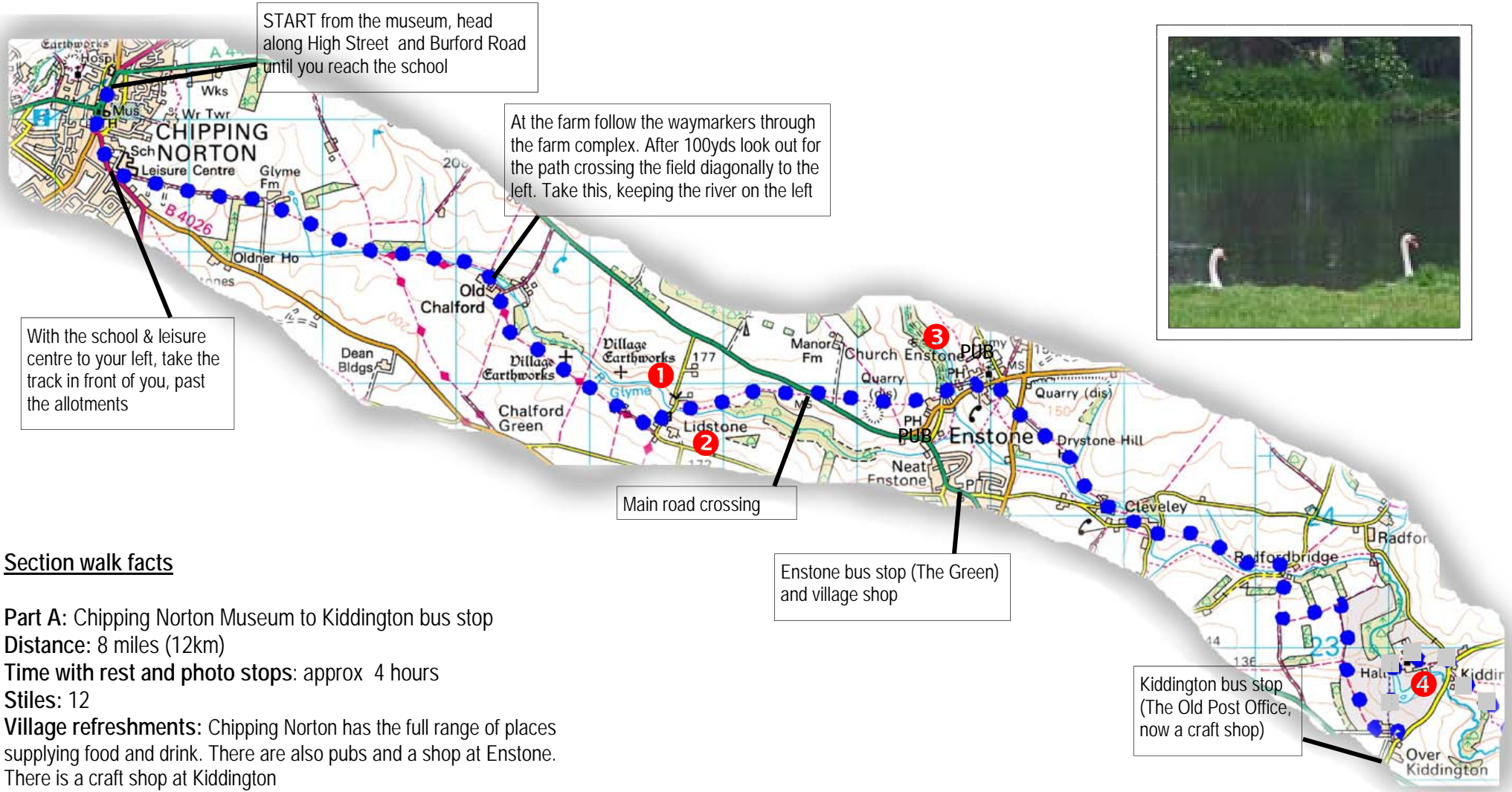
**MAPS.** We recommend that you use this leaflet in conjunction with Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 180 Oxford, Witney & Woodstock and Map 191 Banbury, Bicester & Chipping Norton.

**Public Transport.** We have split the route into two sections that are accessible by public transport so why not catch the bus from Oxford? The Stagecoach 20, 20A (Mon-Sat) and x50 (Sundays) services stop at Enstone and Kiddington regularly. Timetables and more details can be found via the Oxfordshire County Council website above, from Traveline's website [www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk) or their helpdesk 0871 200 22 33. (UK landline calls to Traveline cost 10p per minute)

**REFRESHMENTS.** Chipping Norton and Woodstock have the full range of places supplying food and drink. There are also pubs at Enstone and Wootton, and shops at Enstone, Wootton and Glympton. Given the length of the walk it is advisable to take plenty of fluids with you.

## Points to Remember

- If you bring your dog with you, Keep it under close control, and on a lead when near to livestock. Please keep to the line of the path
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Remember that the countryside is a working place; leave crops, buildings, machinery, and livestock well alone. Leave gates and property as you find them
- Park your car responsibly, do not obstruct gateways, narrow lanes and village facilities. Consider leaving valuables at home
- Please enjoy your walk and spend your money in the local facilities—they need your support!



START from the museum, head along High Street and Burford Road until you reach the school

At the farm follow the waymarkers through the farm complex. After 100yds look out for the path crossing the field diagonally to the left. Take this, keeping the river on the left

With the school & leisure centre to your left, take the track in front of you, past the allotments

Main road crossing

Enstone bus stop (The Green) and village shop

Kiddington bus stop (The Old Post Office, now a craft shop)

**Section walk facts**

**Part A:** Chipping Norton Museum to Kiddington bus stop

**Distance:** 8 miles (12km)

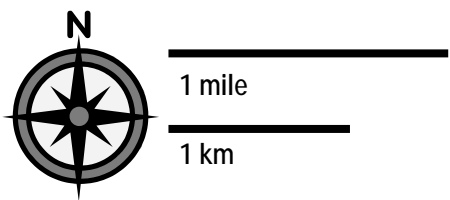
**Time with rest and photo stops:** approx 4 hours

**Stiles:** 12

**Village refreshments:** Chipping Norton has the full range of places supplying food and drink. There are also pubs and a shop at Enstone. There is a craft shop at Kiddington

In addition to the wonderful sights and sounds of nature, there are the following historical points of interest along the route:

- ① Nether Chalford — one of three abandoned villages along the Glyme
- ② Lidstone Parish — contains the remains of an ancient burial chamber—the Hoar Stone
- ③ Church Enstone — mill below the pub is the last of 6 in the parish, it stopped working in the 1960s
- ④ Kiddington Hall — first garden by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown in Oxfordshire



## Section walk facts

Part B: Kiddington bus stop to Woodstock Museum

Distance: 8 miles (12km)

Time with rest and photo stops: approx 4 hours

Stiles: 10

Village refreshments: Woodstock has the full range of places supplying food and drink. There are also pubs and a shop at Wootton and a small shop/post office at Glympton.

## Points of interest

- 5 Glympton Village—mediaeval stocks, plus a village shop and waterfall
- 6 Grim's Ditch—a pre-Roman earthwork, thought to be a barrier against chariots
- 7 Wootton was a small industrial centre making fine gloves
- 8 The Black Prince pub hosts the Old Woodstock Mock Mayor ceremony in August each year. Dates from 1786. A mayor and corporation for Old Woodstock are elected with 'mock formality' and then ceremoniously pitched into the River Glyme
- 9 The site of the Royal Manor, now within a Capability Brown parkland setting and close to Blenheim Palace. Marked by a plinth erected in 1961, on the north bank of the lake, on raised ground just to the east of Vanbrugh's bridge (no public access to bridge or Old Manor site)

