

Oakley Countryside Walks

The Oakley area has an excellent network of public footpaths for all to enjoy. The website describes 12 local walks that were first published in the Oakley Informer during April 2015 to March 2016. Most have been updated in January 2020.

For people coming by car from outside of Oakley the best place to park is the Oakley Village Hall car park in the centre of the village.

The walks include:

- Walk 1: circular walk Oakley-Brill-Oakley via Span Green (6.6km, 4 miles, approx. 90-120 minutes)
- Walk 2: walk Oakley to Bernwood Forest, circular walk in the forest and then return to Oakley (7.0 km, 4.3 miles, approx. 90-120 minutes)
- Walk 3: footpaths directly around Oakley village (3.5 km, 2.2 miles, approx. 45-60 minutes)
- Walk 4: Oakley – Brill – Oakley via Leatherslade Farm (6.4 km, 4.0 miles, approx. 100 to 120 minutes)
- Walk 5: Butterfly Trail – Bernwood Forest (4.0 km, 2.5 miles, approx. 60 to 90 minutes)
- Walk 6: Oakley – Fennemore – Honeyburge circular walk (6.0 km, 3.7 miles, approx. 90 to 120 minutes)
- Walk 7: Farm walk to the east of Oakley (8.3 km, 5.2 miles, approx. 120 to 150 minutes)
- Walk 8: Bernwood - forest and field walk (5.3 km, 3.3 miles, approx. 80 to 100 minutes)
- Walk 9: Oakley motorway and power line walk (3.5 km, 2.2 miles, approx. 50 to 70 minutes)
- Walk 10: circular walk Oakley-Piddington-Brill-Oakley (11.3km, 7 miles, approx. 3 to 3½ hours)
- Walk 11: Oakley – Brill – Dorton with return via Chinkwell Wood (12.3 km, 7.7 miles, approx. 2½ to 3 hours, but 1¼ to 1½ hours if starting and finishing in Brill)
- Walk 12: Bernwood Forest - Circular walk including perimeter of southern part of Bernwood (10.4 km, 6.5 miles, approx. 2½ to 3 hours)

The footpaths around Oakley tend to be muddy, especially in winter, because of the local clay soil. Hence, gumboots or walking boots are essential except in very dry weather.

The Countryside Code (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code/the-countryside-code>) must be observed when walking:

Respect other people:

- consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment:

- leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors:

- be safe, plan ahead and be prepared
- follow advice and local signs

For all the walks it is best to use Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 180 (can be purchased at the Book House or Martins in Thame). This provides clearer mapping than the mini-maps in the text accompanying the walks.