We're delighted to present three circular walks all starting and ending at The Red Lion. The Brakspear Pub Trails are a series of circular walks.

We thought the idea of a variety of circular country walks all starting and ending at our pubs was a guaranteed winner. We have fantastic pubs nestled in the countryside, and we hope our maps are a great way for you to get out and enjoy some fresh air and a gentle walk, with a guaranteed drink at the end – perfect!

Our pubs have always welcomed walkers (and almost all of them welcome dogs too), so we're making it even easier with plenty of free maps. You can pick up copies in the pubs taking part or go to brakspearaletrails.co.uk to download them. We're planning to add new pubs onto them, so the best place to check for the latest maps available is always our website.

We absolutely recommend you book a table so that when you finish your walk you can enjoy a much needed bite to eat too. At the weekend, please book in advance, as this is often a busier time, especially our smaller pubs.

And finally, do send us your photos of you out and about on your walk. We really do love getting them.

@BrakspearPubs

How to get there

- Driving: Postcode is OX11 9PQ and there is a car park for customers.
- Nearest station: Didcot Parkway train station is 4.3 miles away.
- Local bus services: The number 94 bus service from Thames Travel.

Respect - Protect - Enjoy

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:
- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs

For more info visit: www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code

Brakspear would like to thank the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment and the volunteers who helped make these walks possible. As a result of these walks, Brakspear has invested in TOE2 to help maintain and improve Oxfordshire’s footpaths.

Reg. charity no. 1140563
Brakspear recommends that all walkers bring a copy of the Chilterns Hills West Ordnance Survey map. You can borrow one from the pub for a refundable £10 deposit.
Route 1

Directions

01 Leave the Red Lion car park and turn sharp left and walk along the side of the pub car park. The walls on either side of this path are thatched.

02 At the green, bear left on a path which leads to Westbrook Street.

03 Turn left on Westbrook Street and in a few metres turn right onto the footpath.

04 Follow the clearly-defined path for 1.5km to reach Upton village.

05 At the road turn left and then right into Church Street continuing ahead to St Mary’s Church.

06 Retrace your steps from the church for 100 metres and then turn left on a broad track which passes Frogalley Farm after 500 metres.

07 Continue along the track, now known as Common Lane, and in a further 1km turn right.

08 Continue on the clearly defined path for a further 1km to arrive back at Blewbury (Commemorative stone is on the left).

09 Turn left into Church End and after 50 metres bear right to enter the churchyard of St Michael and All Angels.

10 On leaving the church turn right and follow the path beyond the churchyard

11 At the green bear left and walk alongside the green to pick up the footpath that was used on the outward leg and return to the Red Lion.

St Mary’s Church, Upton is very small with a flint exterior and a very old chancel roof.

A commemorative stone on the last leg of the walk marks the spot where once there was a building and burial ground for the Society of Friends (Quakers).

The large Church of St Michael and all Angels dating from the 11th Century bears witness to the historic wealth of the parish. Around the church there are many fine and historic houses and cottages.

St Michael and All Angels church

DID YOU KNOW? St Mary’s Church, Upton

DID YOU KNOW? The large Church of St Michael and all Angels dating from the 11th Century bears witness to the historic wealth of the parish. Around the church there are many fine and historic houses and cottages.

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Route 2
An easy walk over flat terrain.

Directions

01 Leave the Red Lion car park and turn sharp left and walk along the side of the pub car park. The walls on either side of this path are thatched.

02 At the green bear left on a path which leads to Westbrook Street.

03 Turn left on Westbrook Street and in a few metres turn right onto the footpath.

04 Follow the clearly defined path for 1.5km to reach Upton village.

05 At the road turn left and then right into Church Street continuing ahead to St Mary's Church.

06 After leaving the church, turn right, ignoring the footpath to the right, and follow the road round to the left.

07 Turn right onto the footpath and after about 70 metres go left under the railway bridge and then immediately right to walk on a clearly defined footpath which leads diagonally away from the old railway embankment.

08 Where the path forks, take the left fork and at the broad track turn left to arrive at the village pond in West Hagbourne.

09 Turn right and walk through the village. Just before a sharp right-hand bend turn right into Moor Lane.

10 Continue straight ahead, passing under the railway embankment.

11 After a further 1.25km, at a cross-path, turn right to follow a path along a row of trees.

12 At the end of the second field turn right between the trees and after 20 metres turn left over a low stile.

13 Continue on the clearly defined path for a further 1km to arrive back at Blewbury, (Commemorative stone is on the left).

14 Turn left into Church End and after 50 metres bear right to enter the churchyard.

15 On leaving the church turn right and follow the path beyond the churchyard.

16 At the green bear left and walk alongside the green to pick up the footpath that was used on the outward leg and return to the Red Lion.

St Mary’s Church, Upton is very small with a flint exterior and a very old chancel roof.

A commemorative stone on the last leg of the walk marks the spot where once there was a building and burial ground for the Society of Friends (Quakers).

The large Church of St Michael and all Angels dating from the 11th Century bears witness to the historic wealth of the parish. Around the church there are many fine and historic houses and cottages.

The Didcot to Newbury railway line is now disused; it serves as a cycle track to Didcot, and its embankment remains a visible landmark to the north.

Distance: 6.6km (4.2 miles) Time: 1.5-2 hours

© Phil Champion, Wikipedia Commons

Disused Didcot to Newbury railway line
Red Lion pub, Blewbury
From the Red Lion, turn sharp left on a footpath with thatched walls.

Bear right when the walled section ends and follow the path to arrive at the Church.

Go through the churchyard and leave via a gate at the back of the Church.

Turn right walk passed the Church Car park into Watts Lane (at this point a footpath).

Turn left in South Street and then first right into Bessels Lee Road.

At the T junction with Bessels Way cross the road on to a broad track and after 600 metres you will reach the base of Blewburton Hill turn left on to another track.

At this point you may want to climb up to the top of the hill to look at the hill fort and take in the view, otherwise follow the track round the foot of the hill, through the metal kissing gate follow the footpath to the right away from the hill to meet Hagbourne Road.

Turn right and follow the road as it bends right and then take the first left into Thorpe Street.

At the junction, turn left onto Moreton Road and then almost immediately right into The Croft and follow the road round a bend to the right to arrive at Aston Tirrold’s St Michael Church.

Go right at the Chapel on Fullers Road and take the next left onto Thorpe Street and arrive at Aston Upthorpe’s All Saints Church.

Just past the Church, turn left and follow the gravel track round to the right. Where it bends to the left go straight ahead up the steps on to a footpath.

Follow the footpath along the base of Blewburton Hill rejoining the track that formed part of the outbound route.

Retrace your steps to the Church and to the Red Lion.
The Red Lion
Opening Hours:
Monday: 11:30am-11pm
Tuesday: Closed
Wednesday-Thursday: 11:30am-11pm
Friday-Saturday: 11:30am-12am
Sunday: 12pm-6pm
• Dog Friendly • Family Friendly
• Garden/Patio • Park the Car • WiFi Access
The Red Lion
Chapel Lane, Blewbury
Didcot OX11 9PQ
Tel: 01235 850403
www.theredlionpubandkitchen.co.uk

Download the App
To follow Brakspear Pub Trails on your smartphone, simply download the free ViewRanger app from the Apple App Store or Google Play, then visit www.viewranger.com/brakspear to find the full collection of walks. Pick your favourite route, download it in the app, then follow it using ViewRanger’s offline GPS navigation.

www.pub-trails.co.uk
Brakspear, The Bull Courtyard, Bell Street
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 2BA
01491 570200 info@brakspear.co.uk

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