

THE WINDSOR & ETON TRAIL (PT245)



- CONTACT:** Geoff Bullock - 11a Budes Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 1PL
Telephone - 07974 974236 E-mail – gblock11a@gmail.com
- DISTANCE:** 10km
- ENTRY FEE:** £1.00 per walker (Cheques made payable to Thames Valley Walking Club)
- AWARD:** There is currently no award for this walk. (Please indicate on the entry form if you would like an award if one is produced).
- START VENUE:** Windsor & Eton Central Railway Station, Thames Street, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1PJ (OS Explorer Map 176 GR: SU 966769).
- CAR PARKING:** There are various car parks around the town.
- FACILITIES:** Various cafe's & restaurants are available at the start venue and in Windsor town.
- TRANSPORT:** Train to the start venue & various bus services to Windsor.
- TERRAIN:** Roads, tracks and footpaths. Not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs.

The organisers are not liable for accidents, thefts and/or damage to property. Every effort will be made by the organisers to make this a safe, enjoyable and memorable event.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

(Updated 6th July 2023)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE GREAT CARE ON ALL ROAD SECTIONS OF THIS TRAIL

Leave the station by taking the green pedestrian footbridge at the rear of the platform. At bottom of steps, turn left & immediately turn left again to pass the Garden Cafe on your right. As you enter the coach park, turn right down steps to enter gardens. Turn right & go through gardens to exit onto road.

Turn left & as road turns right, go ahead crossing side road to reach the river. Turn right down steps & follow riverside footpath to reach bridge. Go up steps & turn left on bridge to cross river. Continue ahead (ignoring turning) passing 'The George Inn' on left. Follow road passing shops, cafe's & restaurants for approx. 600m to reach traffic lights. Continue ahead, bearing right passing Eton College. Cross bridge & immediately after 40mph signs, turn right through gate onto footpath. Go ahead on gravel footpath, bearing right towards bridge. Immediately before bridge, turn sharp left on 2nd path in direction of footpath sign. Follow footpath with river on right to pass cricket practice nets on left to reach footbridge. (2 km)

Question 1: On the left is a small sign saying that it is forbidden for who to cross at this point?

Go across footbridge to reach road. Cross road WITH CARE & continue straight ahead on footpath with metal fence on right. At end of metal fence, continue ahead on footpath towards bridge. Immediately before bridge, take 2nd footpath on left between wooden fences. Follow footpath with river on right for approx. 750m to reach road. (3½ km)

Question 2: On the fence to your left is a green Environment Agency sign – when is the close season?

Turn right & immediately turn left to cross road using pedestrian crossing. Bear right, then immediately left onto cycleway. Follow track with river on left to pass weir & footbridge. Continue on track and after turning right, go ahead on tarmac path under motorway. Path then turns left under railway to reach path junction.

Turn left & follow footpath back under motorway to reach path junction. Turn right on cycleway on gravel path with river on left. Cross bridge & continue on gravel path with river on left for approx. 450m. Follow path bearing left between wooden fences to cross river & round to left to reach path junction. Turn left on cycleway 61 & go under road.

Immediately turn left by lamp-post through wooden gate onto footpath. Follow footpath along left hand edge of field (with road on left). At corner of field turn right on footpath alongside barbed wire fence. Follow footpath past lone tree & towards house. At corner of field by footpath sign turn left through metal kissing gate. Go ahead following right hand edge of field, then cross wooden footbridge & through kissing gate. Turn right along right hand edge of field & head towards metal gate. Go through kissing gate & turn left on road. Follow road, bearing right passing the 'Greyhound' PH on left. Approx. 100m after passing Albert Place & opposite house number 33 is a bench under a large oak tree. (7 km)

Question 3: What was the name of Maud Rivers husband?

Continue ahead on road and follow round left hand bend to reach t-junction. Turn right, pass church on left & at next junction, turn left into Haywards Mead. Follow road with houses on left & children's play area on right. At end of tarmac, continue ahead on gravel track. After approx 35m turn right on tarmac footpath signposted 'Windsor, Eton, Slough'. Follow footpath (with views of Windsor Castle on your left in the distance) which then bears slightly left. At path junction go ahead on 'Thames Path' towards Eton. At path t-junction by river, turn left. Follow riverside footpath with river on right (note Royal Windsor Racecourse on the other side of the river).

At corner of field, footpath bears right to cross wooden bridge. Continue ahead on footpath leaving the riverbank for a short while. Path bears left to rejoin riverside & goes under road bridge. Continue to follow footpath with river on right. Cross 2 footbridges, then bear right & continue on riverside footpath to pass under railway. (9 km)

Question 4: Under the bridge on the left hand side is a plaque headed 'Windsor Railway Bridge' – when was the plaque unveiled?

Continue ahead on riverside footpath for approx. 550m. At the end of the meadow, go ahead on tarmac road to reach road junction. Bear right (passing 'The Watermans Arms' on left), then bear right again passing no-entry signs. As road turns sharp left, turn right over bridge & continue ahead to reach road junction. Go straight ahead towards castle. Follow road round right hand bend & past Theatre Royal. Continue ahead & follow road round left hand bend (with castle on left). Just after Lloyds Bank, turn right into 'Jubilee Arch' & go ahead to enter 'Windsor Royal Shopping'. Continue ahead between the shops & cafe's bearing right to return to the station. (10 km)

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To claim your IVV stamp, please use the 'Permanent Trail Completion & IVV Stamp Claim Form' which is downloadable from the BWF website and send with your record books to the walk contact.