## Wokingham Way - Section 7 Bramshill Plantation to Beech Hill

This stage takes in part of The Devil's Highway, a Roman road, crosses the River Loddon and twice goes under the A33 Basingstoke Road.

Distance: 5½ miles

OS maps: Landranger 175, Explorer 159

Start: Well House Lane, Bramshill. Access to limited roadside parking on Well House

Lane from Ford Lane to the west of Bramshill Plantation Grid ref <u>SU753632</u>, Postcode RG27 0RJ.Postcode only works when you are south of the Blackwater

River. Otherwise it takes you to the wrong side of the river.

Finish: Beech Hill, Grid ref SU702644, RG7 2BN roadside parking on Wood Lane

With your back to the metal barrier, turn left for 100 yards then turn right to take a path over stile by Well House Farm with the fence on your left and keep left of two brick pillars to reach an enclosed path. This path twists and turns until it crosses a bridge over the River Blackwater. One hundred yards beyond the bridge turn left over a stile into a field. Keeping the river on your left, continue over three stiles and a small bridge and a gate, and 40 yards beyond the gate, turn left through another gate and continue until you reach the road at Jouldings Farm.

Cross the road, through the gap in the hedge and cross the stile (ignoring unmarked permitted footpath to the left). Go half left across the field to a stile on the far side. Turn right and continue across several fields keeping the river on your left until you reach the road (Ford Lane). Cross the road, go through a gate then turn half left to cross a footbridge. Turn left, pass through a kissing gate and rejoin Ford Lane. On reaching road turn hard right and 300 yards after a bridge where the road forks, take the left-hand fork. Follow this road for a short distance until you reach the cross roads with Three Gables Cottage on your right.

In many cases stiles have been replaced by kissing gates installed by Loddon Valley Ramblers.

1 Go straight over the crossroads then past Banks Cottage, where the tarmac ends, and continue along The Devil's Highway bridleway. This section can be very muddy. On your left is Wellington Country Park, part of the estate of Stratfield Saye. At the road with Riseley Memorial Hall on the right cross the road diagonally to the left and enter a fenced footpath. Go along this footpath with a new housing estate on your left until reaching the Basingstoke Road (B3349). Cross Basingstoke Road to Sun Lane and pass Cold Harbour Cottages on the left. At the end of Sun Lane, turn left into Bull Lane and go through the underpass under the A33. Continue along Bull Lane until the T-junction.

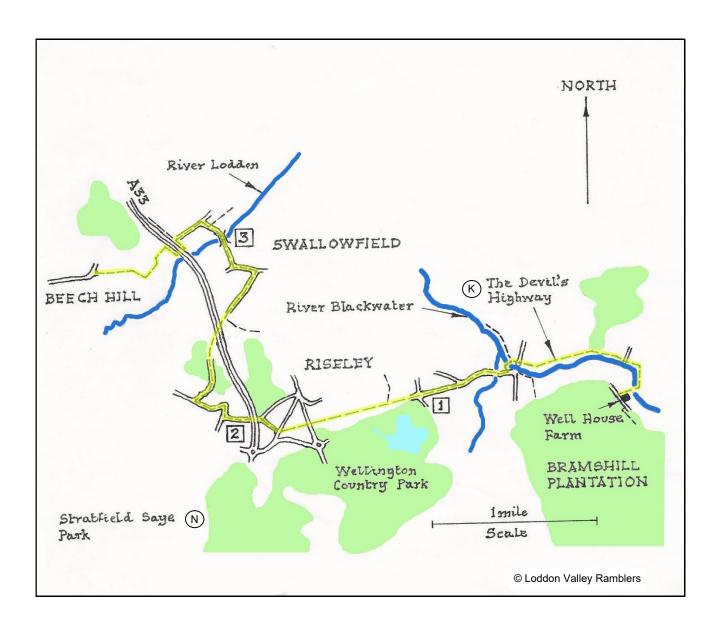
Turn right and follow the road, which swings left, and in about 400 yards, turn right down a marked byway opposite New Barn Farm. This byway crosses the A33 via a wide bridge. Ignore the byway on the right and keep straight on, eventually reaching a tarmac surface (Spring Lane). Continue along Spring Lane to a T-junction and turn left on to a minor road (Barge Lane) and then next right on to Kingsbridge Hill.

3 Cross the River Loddon and shortly after turn left onto a public bridleway, Lambs Lane. At a metal barrier turn sharp left and proceed down a bridleway adjacent to the A33 to pass under the A33 and up the ramp on the other side. After 150 yards turn left through a kissing gate into a field. Keep the field edge on your left and cross a wooden bridge with a gate into another field. Aim for the middle of the fir trees, go through a gate, cross the farmyard, through another gate, passing to the left of a large brick building to reach a road by a white house. Turn right up the road for approximately half a mile to the T-junction at Beech Hill.

For information on public transport back to the start point, click here

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When you walk this route, if you find any problems with map or instructions, please advise the Loddon Valley Ramblers' Footpaths Officer at <a href="mailto:paths@lvra.org.uk">paths@lvra.org.uk</a>, with a description of the problem and enough information to identify the location, ideally with a grid reference. Thank you!



## Legend

1 Text reference

A Point of interest

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