Wokingham Way Section 9 Madeiski Stadium to Thames Valley Business Park

This short section takes you through the heart of Reading to the Business Park alongside the Thames.

Distance: 41/4 miles

OS map: Landranger 175, Explorer 159

Start: Madejski Stadium Park & Ride Grid ref <u>SU705697</u> Postcode RG2 0FL

Parking not advisable on match days - See Reading FC fixtures list here

Finish: Wokingham Waterside Centre car park Grid ref SU736740 RG6 1PQ

With your back to the Madejski Stadium and Hotel, cross the car park to the west corner to enter a path with steps leading to a road with a bus stop marked '250 Brook Drive'. Cross the road and turn left for a few yards to follow FP11 towards a watercourse and a footbridge over, with metal railings to each side. Immediately after crossing the bridge, turn right down some steps and over a wooden bridge onto a footpath keeping the lake on your right, and office buildings to your left.

Still keeping the lake on your right, cross a metal and wood footbridge and turn immediately left until you emerge at a road (Longwater Avenue). Cross the road, turn right and, immediately after the bus stop on your left, go down a gravel slope that leads to footpath 10 ahead which eventually passes a large recycling building on your left. When you reach the road take the metalled lane opposite to reach the Kennet and Avon Canal by Fobney Lock.

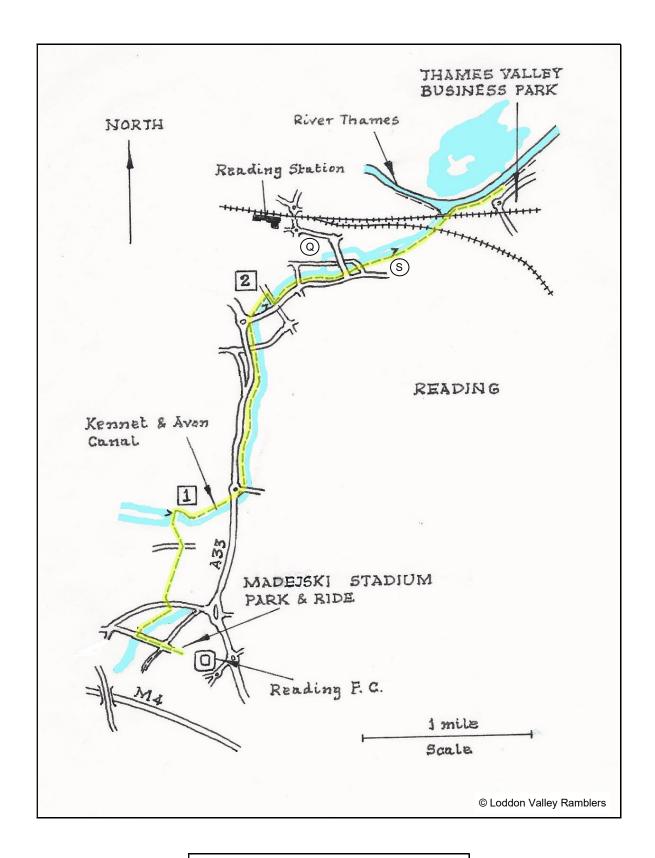
Here you cross the canal bridge and go behind the Fobney Waterworks and proceed along the left bank of the canal going east towards Reading. Continue along the towpath, passing under four bridges (carrying the A33, Rose Kiln Lane, Berkeley Avenues and the Reading Inner Distribution Road). Shortly after passing County Lock, reach another bridge over the canal, and cross over to the opposite side of the canal near The Oracle Shopping Mall.

Various historic sites are close to the Wokingham Way at this point. For details of Reading Gaol, Reading Abbey and Maiwand Lion (Q) see Wokingham Way Points of Interest.

2 Turn left and proceed along the metalled canal path past restaurants on your right, with the canal on your left. On reaching a road (Duke Street), cross 2 pedestrian crossings, turn left then immediately right along Star Lane. Continue along the canal path, with the canal on your left. Pass under two road bridges, then pass <u>Blake's Lock</u>. Continue under a pedestrian bridge and then under two railway bridges. When you reach the confluence of the Kennet and the Thames turn right along the Thames Path towards Henley. After approximately 500 yards you reach the Wokingham Waterside Centre car park and the Thames Valley Business Park.

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

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



Legend Text reference Point of interest