

WEYBRIDGE LOCKS AND LEVELS



Moderate Terrain

**7 km
Circular
2 to 2.5 hours**

220515



Access Notes

1. The walk is flat and has no stiles or other obstacles, just some steps.
2. Some of the paths through woodland and alongside the canal will be very muddy after wet weather, so stout shoes or boots are recommended.
3. One section of the canal towpath is quite narrow so take care with children and dogs here.
4. At one point you will need to use a pedestrian crossing across the railway tracks – the crossing has gates and flights of steps each side, but again, take care with children and dogs.

A 4.5 mile (7km) circular walk from Weybridge Station.

The route passes through part of the town and along the towpath of the Wey Navigation between Weybridge and New Haw. This walk is part of the Explore Surrey collection, published through a collaboration between iFootpath and Surrey County Council.

If you are looking for refreshments, there are snack kiosks at Weybridge Station as well as toilets on platform 2. There are a number of pubs, cafes and shops in Weybridge and public toilets in the car park behind the library (near waypoint 2). The route also passes close to The White Hart pub in New Haw (near waypoint 6), which has a canal side garden and serves food. Ordnance Survey Map: Explorer 160 Windsor, Weybridge and Bracknell. This walk follows a National Trust towpath and footpaths which cross private land. Information is included for your interest, but please respect people's privacy, keep dogs under control and remember the Countryside Code and National Trust byelaws.

Getting there

The walk starts and finishes at Weybridge Rail Station in Surrey. For help with planning your journey by public transport please visit <http://journeys.travelsmartsurrey.info>. The station does have a small pay and display car park. The easiest car park to use is The Heath (South) which is next to the station (on the opposite side of the railway line). This is a pay and display car park but parking is free on a Sunday. The car park entrance is opposite Cobbett Hill on Brooklands Road (B374).

Approximate post codes **KT13 8UD** for Station or **KT13 0UN** for The Heath (South) car park. Grid Reference TQ 074636.

Walk Sections

Go 1 Start to Fir Grange Avenue

From the station ticket office or The Heath (South) car park, walk back to Brooklands Road. Cross Brooklands Road at the triangular island by the roundabout and follow the footpath straight ahead. This will take you alongside the railway in a deep cutting on the right. Eventually the path bends to the left alongside an old brick wall and then bends right to pass through a gap in the wall. Follow the path until it reaches the road.

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1 → 2

Fir Grange Avenue to St James' Church



Bear left into Fir Grange Avenue (a private gravel drive with vehicle barrier) and then continue straight ahead into Windsor Walk. On reaching the T-junction, turn left into Pine Grove to meet the next T-junction with Hanger Hill. Cross over and then turn right to follow the pavement downhill. About 100m before the traffic lights, turn left down a wide tarmac footpath. Follow this long straight path, go straight ahead at a crossroads of paths and pass the lido and children's play area on the right.

Follow the path as it bends right then left with allotments on the left and the car park for Weybridge Library on your right. The path emerges at St James' Church.

2 → 3

St James' Church to Old Wey Bridge



3 → 4

Old Wey Bridge to Black Boy Bridge



Continue past Weystone Road on your right, then cross the road and turn right to join the narrow canal towpath between the road and canal.

The canal was a busy and, at times, profitable waterway. Although there was a steady decline in traffic due to competition from the railways during the second half of the nineteenth century, some bulky goods were transported to Guildford until 1958.

Follow the narrow towpath with the canal on your left until you reach the next bridge (Black Boy Bridge).

4 → 5

Black Boy Bridge to Coxes Mill and Lock



At Black Boy Bridge you will need to cross the bridge to follow the towpath on the opposite side. As you cross the bridge, keep close to the right hand barrier to follow the fenced footpath down to the towpath. The canal will now be on your right.

When horses pulled the barges, they had to be walked over Black Boy Bridge to continue on the towpath.

Continue along the towpath for 650m, passing under a railway bridge and you will emerge at Coxes Mill and Lock.

5 ➔ 6 Coxes Mill and Lock to New Haw



Coxes Lock is one of twelve locks on the Wey Navigation. Coxes Mill was built in the early 1780s by Alexander Raby and was used as a corn mill from 1829 until it was closed in 1983. Barges regularly delivered grain to the mill until 1969 when grain terminals from London Docks to Tilbury were removed, ending the trade. An attempt was made to revive this trade in the late 1970s. After a long family association, the last proprietor, Harry Stevens, transferred the canal to the National Trust and it is now a popular recreational waterway.

Continue along the towpath for 1.3km until you reach the road bridge at New Haw. Along this section of the canal the edges are shallow, ideal for a doggie paddle, although of course the centre of the canal is very deep (to allow navigation by the boats). Look out for cyclists using the towpath.

If you want to stop for refreshments, turn right over the road bridge and you will reach the White Hart pub (dogs in garden only) and several shops. Return to the bridge to continue your walk.

6 ➔ 7 New Haw to Rail Crossing



At the road bridge at New Haw, turn left and follow the

pavement as the road bends to the right. Immediately before a row of houses, turn left down a narrow footpath with trees either side and marked with a wooden signpost.

Follow the path as it bends to the right and then turn left to merge with a wider unmade road. As the unmade road bends to the left (and you reach another wooden footpath signpost) go straight ahead up the narrow tarmac footpath with hedgerows on each side.

Continue along this footpath until you reach the gate to the railway crossing.

7 ➔ 8 Rail Crossing to Seven Arches Bridge



Go through the gate, up the steps and cross the railway (make sure you have control of children and dogs here and take time to listen carefully for any trains coming) and then go down the steps and through the gate at the other side.

Continue straight ahead and enjoy the views of the lake to the left which was formed from a section of the meandering River Wey that was cut off. At this point the River Wey is more than one mile from the canal.

Continue with the railway embankment on your right until you reach a footbridge over the River Wey alongside Seven Arches Bridge.

8 ➔ 9 Seven Arches Bridge to End



Cross over the small footbridge across the River Wey, taking

time to admire the arches on the right.

Seven Arches Bridge was built by the London and Southampton Railway Company, which was later renamed the London and South Western Railway Company. The railway line was completed in 1840.

Continue ahead and the path will merge with a small road, becoming a pavement and then reaching a T-junction. Turn right to cross the bridge over the railway, and then take the road on the left (Lonsdale Road). Go to the end of Lonsdale Road and then take the footpath through a staggered barrier to the left of the gated estate called Hadley Place.

Follow this footpath until it emerges back into The Heath (South) car park with Weybridge Station on your left, marking the end of the walk.

The earth excavated from the Weybridge cutting was used to build the embankments passed on the route. Weybridge Station was opened in 1837. The original station entrance was on the bridge and that building is now used as a bar.

This walk is part of the Explore Surrey collection, published through a collaboration between iFootpath and Surrey County Council.

Surrey is the ideal place to explore the outdoors on foot. Whether you're an adventurous walker or someone who prefers a short stroll, there's a walk to suit you.

If you would like to know more about Explore Surrey and find more walks please visit

www.surreycc.gov.uk/explore

For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and an Ordnance Survey map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before you set out.

