ISE VALLEY VAGABONDS

Woodstock & Blenheim Park Permanent Trail - BWF App No PT259

START & FINISH: Hensington Road Long Stay Car Park (free),
Woodstock, Oxon OX20 1JH
OS map: 164 **Grid Ref**: SP 447168 **Distance**: 11km **Grade**:1
Fee: £1.00 (€2,00 cash only) **Award**: Free souvenir sticker available on request

Route last updated on 30 January 2016
This route description is valid from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017

This walk has been established by members of the Ise Valley Vagabonds Walking Club (BWF Club No 70) and is a qualifying event in the IVV award scheme. It can be walked at any time.

Exit car park via main entrance, turn right, passing fire station then ahead into narrow lane *(Hensington Road)* to main road. Cross using pedestrian crossing, then turn left. Cross over the end of High Street and continue along Oxford Street, passing the Alms Houses. You will come to an ornate set of gates and gateposts.

QUESTION 1. THIS IS THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO WHERE?

Retrace your steps, then take the first left along Rectory Lane. This will turn left through a car parking area, towards church. Turn right into churchyard and follow path past the church (St Mary Magdalene). Turn left *(this is High Street)*. Turn right along Chaucer`s Lane. When this becomes Harrison`s Lane, fork left down steps to main road. Turn left along pavement, on 'The Causeway'. Immediately after pedestrian crossing, go through the large green gates on your left to number 95 *(yes, this is a public right of way)*. Go through second green gate and enter Blenheim Park.

Turn right on tarmac road. At junction next to house, ahead into small valley. Over cattle grid and follow road as it swings round to the left, rising gently. Go round right hand bend *(Column of Victory and Blenheim Palace are to your left)* and ahead for 1000 metres. At second gate/cattle grid (with waymarkers), turn left on grass bridleway, keeping fence on your right. Through hand gate to reach gravel track. Continue straight ahead for 700 metres. Over cross track, through hand gate and ahead on grass path. Through gate, ahead into narrow wood to cross track.

QUESTION 2. HOW MANY WAYMARKERS ARE THERE ON THE POST?

Turn left between trees on wide track. At black notice board, turn left across wooden bridge and emerge into field. Turn right along field edge to gate. Through and ahead with fence on right, to go through further gate and reach wood. Turn left along grass track to tarmac road. Turn right and, when road swings right, go left through wooden kissing gate, across strip of grass then through second kissing gate. Go half right on faint path, in direction of waymarker arrow, to pass to the left side of right hand plantation and reach another wooden kissing gate to the left of a second plantation. *(Column of Victory will be diagonally to your left).* Through gate and turn right, passing edge of plantation, and ahead with fence on right to go through

kissing gate in right hand corner of field (do not go through metal gate, over cattle grid). Through gate and turn left on tarmac road, passing Park Farm.

Ahead on drive for 400 metres, to reach grass triangle. Fork right, downhill, into valley then stay on road, uphill. At black notice board on your left, turn left along wide grass track/public footpath, with wood on your right. Cross stile (or use gate next to it). **7.2 km** Ahead to reach well-worn track. Ignore grass track going uphill to your left, and fork right on stony track, with water on your right *(this is 'The Lake')*.

Follow track besides lake for 900 metres. At fenced area on your left, with 5 bar wooden gate, fork right downhill, past large tree stump, on grass track *(views of the Grand Bridge & Blenheim Palace)*. At bottom of slope, pass to the right of black metal fenced area *(this is 'fair Rosamund`s Well')*. Ahead on grass track, uphill, to reach tarmac road at isolated wooden gate.

Turn right on road, towards Blenheim Palace. Ahead over bridge and uphill to Blenheim Palace. At ornamental gates, turn left alongside palace and follow road round to right, to reach the public entrance to the palace and large gates on your right. *(THERE IS A LARGE CARVED "INFORMATION" PLAQUE ABOVE THE GATES)*

QUESTION 3. WHO BUILT BLENHEIM PALACE?

Turn left on road, away from the gates and palace, (watch out for traffic) passing the 'Palace Station'. At cross roads, turn left 'pedestrians only' and head towards stone arch *(this is the Woodstock Gate)*. Go through arch and ahead along left hand side of Park Street. Ahead past the Star Inn, then turn right on alleyway between Market Place and Market Street (next to Woodstock Town Hall). Turn left past Brotherton`s Brasserie and stay on left hand pavement to go along alleyway and reach main road at pedestrian crossing. Cross, turn right then left along Hensington Road. Pass fire station and turn left at Woodstock Library back to the car park.

We hope you have enjoyed the walk

The Ise Valley Vagabonds have established other Permanent Trails at Bedford (2), Daventry, Kempston, Kettering, Kings Lynn, Leicester, London (2), Marston Moretaine (3), Oxford, Rugby, Rushden, Stamford, Stratford upon Avon, Warwick and Wellingborough.
They are all qualifying events towards the IVV award scheme. Further information about these walks, the IVV, the club and all its activities can be found by visiting our Web Site www.vagabonds.org.uk

THE ORGANISERS ARE NOT LIABLE FOR ACCIDENTS, THEFT, AND/OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE BY THE ORGANISERS TO MAKE THIS A SAFE, ENJOYABLE AND MEMORABLE EVENT.

ISE VALLEY VAGABONDS
PERMANENT TRAIL REGISTRATION FORM

TRAIL	Woodstock & Blenheim Park Permanent Trail 2017/1	
ROUTE UPDATED	30 January 2016	
DATE WALKED		
NAME		
ADDRESS		
TEL		
EMAIL		
ADDITIONAL WALKERS		
ENTRY FEE	___ Walkers @ £1.00 (€2,00) each	Total £
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED		**£**
Please put my IVV stamps on a new set of Insert cards Yes/No		
ANSWERS		
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
Comments		
If you have a problem with this trail, please try and resolve it with the organiser. If you are unable to resolve the problem, then please contact the BWF Trail Officer.		
Please enclose a STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE (at least C6 (114 x 162mm) or DL (110 x 220mm)) with this form and send it to Carol Jones 138 Rushden Road Wymington Rushden Northants NN10 9LE		