

Aylesbury Ring

A 31 mile circular walk around Aylesbury
passing through Wendover, Waddesdon and Aston Clinton

Circular Walk

Features of Interest

The Aylesbury Ring is waymarked throughout except where it follows the North Bucks Way. The route can be walked in its entirety or divided into smaller sections.



- 1 Waddesdon Manor was built by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild in the style of French Chateau designed by French architect Destailleur in 1874. The Manor has hosted many Royalty and Prime Minister over the years. Most of houses in the village were demolished and rebuilt again by Baron Ferdinand and were redesigned with the same distinctive style, with all bearing the Rothschild family motif.



- 2 The fields around Hardwick and Rowsham show traces of the ridge and furrow farming as practised in medieval times.

- 3 Near Puttenham the route follows the towpath of the Grand Union canal for a short way and crosses the Aston Clinton bypass.



- 4 From Aston Clinton, the route passes the entrance to Green Park, formerly Aston Clinton Park and home of Sir Anthony de Rothschild in the nineteenth century. The house has since been demolished. From here the walk follows the towpath of the Wendover Arm of the Grand Union Canal, past RAF Halton and into Wendover.



- 8 After crossing the River Thames, near Eythrope park, the ring again joins the North Bucks Way as far as Waddesdon. The hamlet name is Anglo Saxon in origin, meaning "island farm", referring to an island in the River Thames. Eythrope Park is another 'de Rothschild' construction and is the last private house in their ownership in Buckinghamshire



- 5 Wendover is situated on once an important crossroads where the Aylesbury to London road meets the Icknield Way. The main road now bypasses the village. The town name is of Brythonic origin and means "white waters", pertaining to the chalk stream which flows through the middle of the town. The town has held a Royal Charter to hold a weekly market since 1464.



- 6 From Wendover to Great Kimble the route follows the base of the Chilterns escarpment. The church at Great Kimble has connections with the English Civil War. In 1637, John Hampden and 30 other parishioners refused to pay 'ship money', an Elizabethan tax levied to raise money towards the costs of the Navy. The lists of those who refused can be seen in the church. The subsequent trial of John Hampden and the questioning of the legality of the tax challenged the monarch's right to govern without parliament and was one of the causes of the Civil War.

- 7 Beyond Great Kimble, the Aylesbury Ring joins the North Bucks Way then passes through the villages of Ford and Dinton. North of the A418, stands Dinton Castle, a folly which was built



by Sir John Vanhattem in 1769, to serve as an eye-catcher from Dinton Hall. It is built of local limestone and ammonites and other fossils are visible.

Follow the Countryside Code:

- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

Further Information:

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or visit our website at www.buckscc.gov.uk/rights_of_way

