

# EYNSHAM THREE MILE CIRCULAR WALK

## Cassington Road – Eynsham Mill – Millennium Wood



*A three mile circular walk, starting from Mill Street / Hawthorn Road in the village at its most southerly point, moving anticlockwise to include the old Cassington Road, passing through the picturesque grounds of Eynsham Mill and returning via Eynsham Millennium Wood, which celebrates its first decade this year.*

*The walk was devised and illustrated by Sue Osborne, chair of the Parish Council's Footpaths Committee, but there is plenty of room for further contributions in the way of field notes or images. Cassington Road is rich in roadside and hedgerow plants, for example, with hawthorn and elder berries, crabapples and hops in abundance at this time of year. The riverside stretch may offer a kingfisher sighting; while the Millennium Wood has all the blackberries and sloes you could wish for, the unfeasible pink of spindleberries and the promise of cob nuts to come.*

*You can also follow the route on a footpath map (section shown here)*





The bridleway is easy to spot beside the public notice board at the top of Mill Street, opposite the junction with Spareacre Lane.



1. Crossing Hawthorn Road, follow the bridleway alongside Eynsham Primary School until you reach the Eynsham ring road.



2. Cross here and follow the field edge which swings round to the right and joins the old Cassington Road.



3. Turn left onto the old Cassington Road and follow this until you reach Wharf Farm.



There are views to Wytham Woods on your right and you will pass the Cricket / Croquet Field on your left



4. Turn left onto the footpath opposite Wharf Farm which runs diagonally across the field until you reach the A40. Cross here with care.

5. Spot the footpath sign! (this is on the opposite side of the A40).



6. Follow the somewhat overgrown footpath diagonally left across the field towards the trees which run alongside the River Evenlode.



7. In amongst the trees is this stile leading over a footbridge which takes the path close to the edge of the river. Care must be taken here.



8. This is what the path looks like as it emerges into the next field. Skirt the right-hand edge of this field.



9. The path becomes somewhat obscure at this point, but using the telegraph pole as a guide, head right into the tree-line.



10. As you move into the trees, you will see a way marker post cunningly hidden behind a big tree.



11. You now come to a particularly pretty stretch of the river where you can often see kingfishers. Care should be taken here as the path sometimes comes close to the water's edge.



12. As you emerge from the trees, you see a way mark which takes you across the grounds of Eynsham Mill, heading towards the stone arched bridge in the background.



13. Eynsham Mill



14. On reaching the driveway, go straight across and head through a grassy avenue between trees, emerging into a cultivated field.



15. Follow the right-hand field boundary until you reach the Lower Road, between Eynsham and Long Hanborough.



16. Go straight across the Lower Road and continue on a well-defined track which follows the right-hand field boundary, going through a couple of gates en route.



17. You reach a junction of footpaths (you can see the way mark on the telegraph pole): take the right-hand path.



18. Very shortly after having turned right, take the left-hand fork here.



19. You now come to the Millennium Wood through these two gates.



20. Views of Wytham Woods from Eynsham Millennium Wood.

*On the opposite side of the wood is the A40, which you need to cross. If you stay on the right-hand side of the wood you come out on the Freeland Road opposite the Evenlode pub; if you go through the middle, you come out on the A40 closer to the pedestrian crossing. The choice is yours!*

*Have a pie and a pint at the Evenlode if you feel like it, then cut through the car park and onto Old Witney Road. Turn left at the end onto Witney Road, then right down Spareacre Lane.*

*At the end, go straight over Mill Street and into the bridleway which runs behind the Chinese takeaway. This takes you back to the start of the walk.*