

The Tramway Trail

This 6 mile walk can be joined from either Westcott, Waddesdon or Quainton. Discover the history of this rural area and its traditional links with the Railways

Circular Walk

Directions

- For the shorter walk, take the first footpath on the left after Quainton Road, eventually turning left onto the A41 just before Waddesdon and re-joining the main walk in the High Street. The longer walk carries straight on.
- Cross the A41 and follow the waymarkers round Hall Farm, re-joining the route of the tramway on the concrete track.
- The Tramway Trail leads up towards Lodge Hill, leaving the 'Hedgerow Railway' behind. The path towards Waddesdon Manor closely follows the railway line used in its construction.
- Follow the waymarkers into the grounds of Waddesdon Manor and continue along the track until directed off to the left into Waddesdon village. Follow the main road through Waddesdon turning left to follow the North Bucks Way at Little Britain, pass Glebe Farm to the left, cross the railway line and continue straight on into Quainton.
- On entering Quainton, turn left onto Lower Street and left again into Station Road, to complete the loop at the Railway Centre.



Features of Interest

- 1 The path follows the actual bed of the Brill tramway, although you would be hard pressed to spot the signs. The line was known as the Hedgerow Railway due to the trackside hedgerows. The hedgerow and ditch provide excellent wildlife habitat, rich in both plants and animals. During the summer months there is an abundance of willowherb and thistles, which are typical of disturbed ground.
- 2 As you follow the trail you will pass several strangely shaped trees, these have been pollarded, a method of harvesting timber from a tree without felling it. The branches are cut off at around 2-3 metres above ground, so that grazing animals cannot eat the new shoots.
- 3 At this point, the trail is crossed by Akeman Street. This was an important Roman road linking the city of Verulamium, near St. Albans to Cirencester and Bath.
- 4 Lodge Hill was purchased by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild in 1874. At that time, Lodge Hill was treeless and cone shaped. In the 15 years it took to develop the Manor and grounds, the hill literally changed shape – and all done by men working with simple hand tools. The contractors used the Brill Tramway to transport building materials which were used in the construction of Waddesdon Manor.
- 5 Waddesdon Estate has an impressive collection of trees. In 1957, the manor and all its many treasures were presented to the National Trust by James de Rothschild.
- 6 The Aylesbury and Buckingham Railway line ran from Aylesbury to remote Verney Junction (it was so remote that its location did not have a name and the station was simply named after the local landowner). The line was taken over by the Metropolitan Railway in 1890; from then, the trains ran from Verney Junction to London's Baker Street Station. The connection with the Tramway was made at Quainton Road Station and was used to transport dairy produce and goods from the Brill brick and tile works, into London.
- 7 Quainton Village is situated on the lower slopes of Quainton Hill which rises to a height of approximately 185m above sea level. The main feature of the village is the windmill. Located above The Green, it was designed by James Anstiss, a local man and built from the inside without the aid of scaffolding between the years 1830-32.
- 8 The Buckinghamshire Railway Centre is a working steam museum which was established on the station site in 1969. The Centre has a large collection of steam engines and rolling stock as well as a museum and a miniature railway. For further information refer to www.bucksrailcentre.org

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:







Rights of Way & Access, County Hall, Aylesbury, HP20 1UY
Telephone: 01296 382171


Email: row@buckscc.gov.uk

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



The Tramway Trail Circular Route

-  Riding Route
-  Footpath
-  Promoted Route
-  Alternative
-  Open Access
-  Bus Stops



0 0.2 0.4 km



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