

THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF THE COLNE VALLEY



Points of interest/history

(A) Northmoor Hill Wood and Caps Wood were acquired by the Colne Valley Park in 2015 and are their first land holdings. The vegetation changes from oak woodland to a wet alder woodland crossed by a boardwalk where you can spot sedges, rushes, ferns, yellow archangel, Star of Bethlehem, liverworts and mosses. Later on you will see sites of geological interest including a swallow hole and an old quarry.

(B) Sadly, the HS2 high speed railway line will cross the A412 just north of here.

(C) This ancient broadleaf woodland in the care of the Colne Valley Park CIC offers peace and seclusion and a wide variety of plant and animal species including a beautiful display of bluebells in spring.

(D) Moorhouse Farm in the valley is a listed 18th century red brick and tiled building, although much altered. The settlement of Higher Denham lies beyond it.

(E) The railway from London Marylebone to Birmingham was built in 1906. The nearby Denham Golf Club felt that no golf course was complete without a station, and in 1912 Great Central Railways were easily persuaded to open "Denham Golf Club Platform" as it was first called. Parts of this station are Grade II listed. Until an army camp was set up in the valley in WW1, the golf club was the station's only neighbour.

(F) During WW1 the Royal Flying Corps was based in nearby Higher Denham, where airmen were taught to rig aircraft and pack parachutes. Various biplanes flew from the present site of Denham Aerodrome, but after the war this land was returned to farming. In 1926 an ophthalmic surgeon Myles Bickerton came to live in Denham, and in 1933 began to fly his own aeroplane from Denham Aerodrome site. The aerodrome is now a successful business. Also, Sir John Martin and Capt Valentine Baker of Martin-Baker Aircraft Company (formed in 1929 in Higher Denham) were the inventors of the aircraft ejector seat which is still produced there today, and they used the airfield for testing purposes.



DENHAM WOODLANDS

5¼ miles

CIRCULAR WALK
6

Explore ancient Denham woodlands and the beautiful Misbourne Valley



Access:

No stiles, but some steep slopes and muddy paths in winter.



Refreshments: The Crew Room Café, Hangar Road, Denham Aerodrome (A), Café and shops near Denham station (B).



The start of this walk is the free car park at Northmoor Hill Wood, but if you come by bus or train you will find it easier to join it at waypoint 5, 6 or 7. For details see the route instructions.

Public Transport: Trains from London and High Wycombe stop at Denham and Denham Golf Club stations. Buses stop on the A412 at Denham Green. The 581/582 bus service runs a very limited service to the Northmoor Hill Wood car park on Tilehouse Lane.



By Road: From Junction 17 of the M25, head south on the A412 to Denham Green, turn right into Denham Green Lane & then right into Tilehouse Lane **OR** from Junction 1 of the M40, head north on the A40 and A412 to Denham Green, then turn left into Tilehouse Lane. **Parking:** Northmoor Hill Wood car park, Tilehouse Lane.



Postcode: UB9 5DF (approx.)

OS Grid Ref: TQ 034 892



Latitude: +51.5916, **Longitude:** -0.5082

What3Words: target.lakes.twice


Explore the
Colne Valley Park
Countryside on your doorstep





For points of interest/history, turn over when you see this 

1) From Northmoor Hill Wood car park, take the path leading NE by the "Rock Route" info board  (A). After the board, turn right through a kissing gate, across a boardwalk, and through another kissing gate. After 50 yards turn left down and up steps with the swallow hole on your right, then downhill with an old quarry on your left. About 20 yards past the quarry info board, turn left through a gap in logs. Then turn right and left at the next junctions and follow the track north close to the A412  (B). At a 3-way bridleway junction, turn left uphill (west) with Wyatts Covert Wood on the left. Pass a mobile home site on the left to reach Tilehouse Lane where you turn right.


2) After 20 yards, take the next left (Halings Lane) signposted Denham Manor. After passing March Cottage, turn right into Marish Lane and continue for over ½ mile past a small lake on the right. At the end turn left into Slade Oak Lane and after 200 yards turn right into Over the Misbourne road, a bridleway. At the end of the tarmac, continue ahead between hedges, still on the bridleway. Go through two gates and downhill towards the M25 motorway and the Misbourne Valley.

3) Follow the track next to the motorway until you come to a narrow wooden bridge on your right over the River Misbourne. Cross this, turn left, & continue towards the A413. Turn left along the slip road & after 300 yards go through a green vehicle barrier gate. Continue into the woods and after about 100 yards turn right up steps onto a bridleway. Then walk uphill parallel to the A413 through Caps Wood  (C).

4) At the top of the hill, exit the bridleway through a gate, then turn left down Broken Gate Lane. At the end of the houses, turn right on the bridleway with views of the Misbourne valley to your left. After about 100 yards turn left downhill to a farmhouse  (D). Turn right on a tarmac road which crosses two braids of the River Misbourne and arrives at Lower Road. Go straight across into Side Road and walk uphill for 20 yards to a road junction. **From here, waypoint 5, you can access Denham Golf Club Station  (E) via Middle Crescent and Station Approach.**

5) Continue up Side Road and at the top cross Slade Oak Lane onto a bridleway. Follow this bridleway as it turns right alongside the railway with more views of the Misbourne Valley to your right. On reaching Tilehouse Lane, cross with care, turn left under the railway, then take the first right into Tilehouse Way. **To reach Denham Station, cafes and shops from waypoint 6, continue down Tilehouse Way to the A412 which can be crossed safely at the traffic lights.**

6) Take the first left into Nightingale Way. At the end of the road, cross Denham Green Lane and turn left up it. **If starting at Denham Station, cross the A412 safely at the traffic lights, then walk along Green Tiles Lane and Denham Green Lane to waypoint 7.**

7) At the top of Denham Green Lane, turn right into Tilehouse Lane, following it past Denham Aerodrome  (F). Immediately after the end of the field on your right, enter Northmoor Hill Wood through a gate and turn sharp left through woodland back to the car park.

