

Ruislip Woods Walks

Yellow Route 6.0 miles

From Ruislip High Street to Harefield Church



Follow the posts marked with a yellow arrow.

- 1** The Yellow Route starts at St Martin's Church in Ruislip and ends at St Mary's Church in Harefield. It is signposted all the way with yellow arrows on posts (as per the photo above). At some points along the route, it joins and leaves both the White Route and the Red Route: details of these can be downloaded from the Ruislip Woods Trust website: www.ruislipwoodstrust.org.uk
- 2** Buses 331, H13 and U10 (Monday-Saturday only) stop at 'The Oaks' in Ruislip High Street. Text to 87287 to find out which buses are approaching that stop, in real time. Or use a free bus app such as London Bus Checker.
Head north, with St Martin's Church on your right, towards the mini roundabout in the direction of the duck pond, library and Manor Farm complex. At the mini roundabout, use one of the pedestrian crossings to reach the wide path between the two brick buildings.
- 3** Walk along the path through the Manor Farm complex, past the pond and Great Barn on the left and the car park and Motte and Bailey on the right.
- 4** Carry on straight along the public footpath and bear left to follow the path along the right side of Winston Churchill Hall (WCH) until you meet the entrance road to the WCH car park. Turn right along this short road towards its exit.
- 5** Before you reach the public road (Pinn Way), on the left you will see the information sign for River Pinn and flood meadows. Bear half

left and walk across the meadow to the white bridge. Cross the road (Pinn Way) and enter a path on the far side of the road to the left of the white bridge. Walk through this wooded area to the bottom end of the Sherwood Ave cul-de-sac.

- 6** Continue up Sherwood Ave, cross straight over Park Ave and Broadwood Ave until you reach the end of the road. Enter Park Wood.
- 7** Continue straight along the footpath. At the end of the second group of houses (about 90 metres to your left), you'll see the bank on your right - this is an old earthwork, probably Saxon.
- 8** Ignore the small paths to the left and right of you until you come to a clearing. Cross the wide bridle path, then turn half right onto the footpath.
- 9** The Yellow Route joins the White Route here.
- 10** Continue for about 500 metres to the crossroads with public footpath signs. Turn left onto the footpath and walk steadily downhill for about 400 metres. The Yellow Route has now left the White Route. Beware of slippery conditions underfoot in wet weather.
- 11** Arrive at the railway boundary fence. Turn right onto the footpath and follow the railway boundary fence. You will find this area very muddy in winter time, so be prepared.
- 12** At the corner, with Haste Hill golf course on the right and the railway on the left, turn left (waymarker R38). At this point, the Yellow Route joins the Red Route.
- 13** Follow the gravel path around the edge of the golf course for about 100 metres. At the derelict pumping station (with a metal roof), leave the footpath, turning left across the footbridge. Follow the bend in the railway.
- 14** Continue straight for 150 metres, there are fences on both your left and your right. Pass Haste Hill Station on the left and the local nature reserve on the right.
- 15** At the entrance to the open area (Poor's Field), the Yellow Route leaves the Red Route and we turn right (the Red Route turns left). Continue along the bridleway, with fencing to your left. Pass through a gate and continue along the bridleway.



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Bluebells
These are found in all the woods in spring – look for them between points 6 and 9 in Park Wood.



Coppiced Hornbeam
These can be seen on your right in Bayhurst Woods at point 32.



White Admiral
These are found in Copse Wood in June/July along the walk between points 16 and 17.



Finish

Please refer to numbers 38 to 40 in the walk instructions, which take you to St Mary's Church and then on to the bus stop in Harvil Road at the end of the walk.



St Mary's Church, Harefield
This is the end of the walk – don't forget to visit the Anzac graves.

Mad Bess Wood Stream
This is a view of the stream between points 28 and 29 in Mad Bess Wood.



Great Spotted Woodpecker
Listen for these birds drumming in the spring.



Ruislip Duck Pond
This will be on your left at the start of the walk in Ruislip.



1 - 5

Yellow Route Start

Please refer to numbers 1 to 5 in the walk instructions, which start at the bus stop in Ruislip High Street to the entrance to Park Wood in Broadwood Avenue.

Ruislip Woods Walks **Yellow Route**

- 16** When you reach the crossroads in a more open area of Poor's Field, turn left then take a sharp right after 25 metres at the footpath signpost pointing towards a swing gate. Go through the gate and enter Copse Wood.
- 17** Continue along this footpath which goes steadily uphill for about 600 metres. This is a good area for White Admirals in the summer.
- 18** Go straight over at the four-fingered public footpath signpost.
- 19** When you reach the bridle path (close to Ducks Hill Road), turn left.
- 20** Follow the bridle path until you reach the traffic light controlled crossing (Pegasus crossing).
- 21** Cross Ducks Hill Road at the Pegasus crossing, where the road turns immediately right, and enter Mad Bess Wood through the car park on the left.
- 22** The Yellow Route now joins the Hillingdon Trail.
- 23** In the car park, turn half right and take the public footpath by the litter bins.
- 24** At the three-fingered footpath signpost, take the left fork.
- 25** At the two-fingered footpath signpost, go straight over, bearing slightly left on the public footpath and going downhill.
- 26** At the three-fingered public footpath signpost, turn right.
- 27** After crossing a small medieval bank, arrive at a four-fingered public footpath signpost and go straight ahead, crossing over another medieval bank.
- 28** Keep on the Hillingdon Trail. At the three-fingered public footpath signpost, turn left following the Hillingdon Trail downhill. At the next three-fingered signpost, turn hard right, following Hillingdon Trail. At the next Hillingdon Trail signpost (small post), turn left (down a narrow footpath). You will pass several small Hillingdon Trail signposts.
- 29** Follow the Hillingdon Trail, which bears right as you cross the stream. As you reach the main road (Breakspear Road North), there is a stile directly ahead. Cross the stile and turn right.
- 30** Cross Breakspear Road North into Bayhurst Wood along the road leading into car park.
- 31** Head towards the car park. Before entering, turn right onto David Brough Cycle Trail (approximately 20 yards before the large notice board with a tiled roof).
- 32** At the point where the cycle trail goes left, go straight on to rejoin the Hillingdon Trail. Follow the footpath adjacent to the fields on your right.
- 33** Go straight on as you leave Bayhurst Wood.
- 34** As the footpath goes downhill, you can deviate to the right to look at Tarleton's Lake. Captain Tarleton built it as a swimming pool for Breakspear House, which you can see on the hill to the right later on.
- 35** Return to the Yellow Route and walk along the right-hand side of the field. You should be able to see Breakspear House to the right. At the top of the hill, turn right, go through a metal gate in the right-hand corner to enter a wooded area and follow another field along its right-hand side.
- 36** Follow the path through this wooded area, go through another metal gate, come out into a field and follow the right-hand side of the field. At the top, turn right over two stiles. Follow the Hillingdon Trail along the right-hand edge of the field.
- 37** Keep following the Hillingdon Trail. At the footpath signposted U24 (U32 going back the way we have come), turn left and continue downhill.
- 38** At the bottom of the hill, enter a wooded area. The path meanders past ponds on both your left and your right.
- 39** Continue down the path with a graveyard on the left. St Mary's Church is now in view on your left. Where the path forks, take the left fork, keeping the wall of the church on your left.
- 40** At the end of the path, climb over the black metal stile and continue along the path with St Mary's Church on your left. You will pass the WW1 Anzac cemetery on your left. A visit to the Anzac graves at the other side of the graveyard is highly recommended. These are the graves of Australian servicemen who died in the Military hospital at Harefield Park and were buried with full military honours.
- 41** After you have visited the graveyard, continue along this footpath and turn right at the end. Ahead of you is Harvil Road. You have reached the end of the Yellow Route.
- 42** Buses 331 and U9 stop on Harvil Road at Priory Avenue. Text to 87287 to find out which buses are approaching that stop, in real time. Or use a free bus app such as London Bus Checker.

