

The Watercress Way Walks – Railway Route 2



Summary: Route 2 provides the option of a circular walk of 7.89 miles or a shorter option of 3.75 miles with a bus back to the start. Start from Tubbs Hall & Kings Worthy Community Centre, Fraser Rd, SO23 7PJ and incorporates two restored sections of the Watercress Line.

From Bridgets Lane
Railway cutting and bridge,
Martyr Worthy

Much of the walk is in the South Downs National Park, and follows the Itchen River, world famous for trout fishing. The route is now waymarked as part of The Watercress Way.

There are four outstanding pubs along the route, great for those important refreshments.

OS Map: OL 32 (start point: grid ref. 491 336)

http://gb.mapometer.com/running/route_4161944.html

Suitable for walking and running



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Martyr Worthy Church



Itchen Abbas Church



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1. Start: Tubbs Hall & Kings Worthy Community Centre, SO23 7PJ (free parking available)
2. Left onto Pound Road, after 175 yds turn right into Wesley Road then after a further 50 yds turn left onto Lower Broadview (filled in cutting of the Watercress Line).
3. At the top of Lower Broadview stop to look at the village mosaic, then cross the road and continue on to Upper Broadview. After 170 yds turn right down Lovedon Lane for a short distance crossing the old railway bridge.
4. Turn right at the bollards into Eversley Park. (Alternative starting point with parking). Follow the Watercress Way signs across the park and down Hinton House Lane to the A33.
5. Turn right toward the Cart and Horses. Carefully cross London Road and follow the short footpath to the A33. Very busy cross with care!
6. Follow the signed footpath to Mill Lane. Note the information board about the old mill to the left. Cross Mill Lane and continue on The Watercress Way.
7. At the end of the footpath turn right onto the B3047 and after 80 yards take the foot path to the right. Follow under the M3 then turn immediately left over stile and after 70 yds follow path at right angles for 700 yds, cross Easton Lane. For a shorter route you can walk up Easton Lane to the church, however, you would miss the railway cutting.
8. Rejoin the footpath for a further $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. Turn left up the side of field, after 150 yds take path to right which adjoins Martyr Worthy Church. Turn left up Church Lane and at the War Memorial cross B3047 and join Bridgets Lane.
9. Follow Bridgets Lane for 260 yds, then take footpath/slope to left which joins the disused railway (Watercress line). Turn right along the cleared railway and after 1 mile at the end of this section turn right. Look out for old railway equipment and telegraph poles. At the end of the path you can see the platforms of Itchen Abbas station in a private garden.

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10. When this path joins the B3047 turn left to the Plough at the bottom of the hill.
A good halfway refreshment point for those doing the complete round walk. Alternatively there is the option to catch the no. 67 bus opposite for those wishing to go back to Kings Worthy. This will take you to the Cart & Horses pub. See opposite for direction to start from here.
 11. To complete the circular walk, take road opposite the Plough and after 80 yds take footpath to the right (Itchen Way). After $\frac{3}{4}$ mile turn left down Chilland lane, take footbridge across the River Itchen (outstanding views), then continue to the lane which leads to Easton).
 12. Turn right along lane for $\frac{1}{3}$ mile to the Chestnut Horse pub (a favourite of President Carter when trout fishing). Take path alongside the pub (look out for llamas) and follow to Easton Lane.
 13. Turn left (after 100 yds), then turn right along Church Lane, this turns into a country path after $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. Follow path for a further $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to Long Lane and turn right, going under the motorway.
 14. Take the path which goes immediately in front of the cottages, cross river bridge, then immediately take footpath to left and follow for $\frac{1}{3}$ mile. Take footpath to left.
 15. Follow for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, carefully cross A33 and turn immediately right walking on the grass for 60 yds.
 16. Turn left and you will come out opposite the **Cart & Horses pub**. Cross the road to the pub and turn right following the footpath for 250 yds to Hinton House Drive. Turn left up drive which becomes a path with Eversley Park on the right and Kings Worthy School on the left. Take short path to the right into housing development.
 17. Turn left onto Frampton Way and after 150 yds turn left down Wesley Road and follow back to Kings Worthy Community Centre.
 18. A short distance further on there is a parade of shops.
- [Alternatively 16. After the A33 go through the gate to the left and along the short path to St Mary's church. Cross London Rd and go up Church Lane until you reach the Primary school. Take the path to the right back to Eversley Park]