

# Explorer routes

We have created four walking routes around Kidlington and the surrounding villages to encourage walking and running for pleasure and to generally improve wellbeing. These routes take in various landmarks of historical interest in Kidlington and the villages.



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## Route 4 - Yarnton/Begbroke

Distance: 7miles | 11Km, Time: 3.5hr

**5.** Retrace your steps back to the end of the road then turn left, along a bridleway and follow this to the A44 Woodstock Road. Cross the A44 at the traffic lights to the left, and then turn right and follow it to Sandy Lane.

**6.** Proceed along Sandy Lane past the garden centre taking the cycle track on the left hand side. Turn left and follow the footpath back to the canal. Turn right onto the canal towpath and follow this back to the canal bridge at the end of Yarnton Road.

**1.** Start at the canal bridge at the end of Yarnton Road. Cross the bridge and take the footpath on the left to **The Turnpike**.

**2.** Please only follow step **2a** OR **2b**. During the winter months, you may need to follow **2b**.

**2a.** From **The Turnpike** cross the road into Yarnton then follow the Cassington Road to the public footpath to the south of Yarnton. Follow the footpath to **St Bartholomew's Church**.

**2b.** From **The Turnpike** cross the road into Yarnton and cross the road to Cresswell Close. Cross Cresswell Close and take the footpath ahead. Turn right at the end of the footpath and follow the path round to the left across the bridge. Follow the footpath to Cassington Road. Cross the road to Church Lane. Follow the footpath to **St Bartholomew's Church**.

**4.** Proceed diagonally across fields, around the wood until you reach Spring Hill Road, the footpath takes you to **St Michael's Church**.

**3.** **Yarnton Manor** is beside the church. Turn right and proceed along Church Lane towards Yarnton, then left onto Cassington Road until you reach the public footpath which veers off to the right by the house with pillars at the gate, then on through a spinney.

This route includes across a railway crossing please be careful when crossing the railway.

Please be aware that some areas are at risk of flooding and therefore can be very wet and muddy at certain times of the year. The route may not suit persons with limited mobility as it includes some gates and stiles. Take care when the route joins or crosses busy roads.



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## Route 4 - landmarks



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1

### The Turnpike

dates from the 17th century. It was formerly called The Grapes and was where the local farmers met annually to draw lots for shares of the hay meadows by the Thames.



2

### St Bartholomew's Church

is noteworthy particularly for the Spencer family chapel. Two contrasting monumental tombs, one Jacobean, the other Restoration, are fascinating examples of changing styles.



3

### Yarnton Manor

a handsome 17th century house. Front visible from the lane, but not open to the public.



4

### St Michael's

is a small church which retains some of its Norman features.

<https://cherwell.gov.uk/north-oxfordshire-walks>



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Photographs were provided by Kidlington Camera Club Photo Group