

HOLMER GREEN WALKS

Walk 13: Holmer Green to Hughenden Church

Destination: Church with several benches in the grounds for a picnic

Distance: 6.0 km each way (total 12.0 km or 7.5 miles)

Ascent: 20m and 95m ascent and descent each way; 2 stiles to navigate

Return: The same way, so **make sure you memorise where you have come from at each junction**. If you get lost keep walking EAST till you find somewhere you recognise – remember: your shadow points roughly north for much of the day

Start: **Holmer Green – Lynford Parade shops**

1. **From the shops** set off up the hill along Browns Road away from the pond, cross over and cross Parish Piece and Gables Meadow. After 500m **turn right** along Fox Road. At the end of the road **go left**, follow the road round and at the next T-junction (with Harries Way) **go left** again. Follow the road round again and at the main road (Watchet Lane) **turn left** and cross over.
2. Cross Brackley Road (see step 4 for alternative route) and at a service road in front of some houses **turn right** into Orchard End, to the left of No. 1.



3. Keep to the pavement on the right-hand side and continue in the same direction into a narrow and dark footpath with a tall hedge on the left and a tall fence on the right. The footpath crosses over a road (keep straight on), passes two green spaces on the right which lead into Brackley Road, and goes downhill to a main road at a junction.
4. [Alternatively you can **turn right** into Brackley Road, cross over Brackley Drive and at the end of the road (T-junction) turn right, cross over, then turn left (i.e. **staggered straight on**) and follow the road down the hill, crossing three service roads to a main road where you **turn left** to the road junction in step 2].
5. At the junction turn **right-ish**, cross Primrose Hill and pass a sign saying Widmer End, and then continue up Brimmers Hill.



6. After 450m uphill you come to a zebra crossing, **cross over** and a few steps further on **turn left** into Yew Tree Drive. This is an unmade road and at the end (100m) where it curves right into a drive, go **straight on** past some metal railings – it's not immediately obvious that this is a public footpath.



7. The path is narrow with a tall fence on the left and hedge on the right, follow this for 100m to emerge at a front garden. Continue on, the line of the footpath runs in front of several front gardens. Cross over Shepherds Lane, follow the public footpath sign and continue, **bearing right** at the end of the houses before a school entrance. The path proceeds with a mesh school fence on the left and tall fence on the right.
8. At the first gap on the right (before the next public footpath sign) take the **path right**, ducking below some tree branches, to emerge onto a common (Widmer Fields). Keep close to the hedge on your right.

9. Initially keep close to the hedge, but where after 50m the path swings away right along the hedge **bear left** across the grass, making for a path surfaced with stone chippings.



10. Follow the surfaced path (with wooden edges) and where it quickly meets a crossroads of paths **turn right** towards a gap in the trees.



11. Continue along the surfaced path into a meadow of mainly young oak trees. The path curves to the left and passes some delightful garden constructions. Then passes through a gap in a hedge, past a bench (for possible refreshments now or later) and emerges into a car parking area (you could park here to shorten the walk next time).



12. Cross the parking area and **turn left** onto an unmade road, IGNORE a footpath joining from the left, past tennis courts on the right and after 300m pass through a farm gate and a 10mph speed limit sign. Continue for another 150m and where the farm track bears left, take the path **straight on**, down an incline.
13. At the bottom of the incline, **turn right** through an (unsignposted) gap in the hedge, quickly **turn right** again up an incline, then **left** along the field edge with the hedge on the left.

14. Follow the path for 250m and at the end of the field go through a gap, over a broken stile and into the next field. Continue for another 250m to a T-junction of footpaths, here **turn right** and follow an indistinct path along the edge of the field with the hedge on your left.
15. Go over a wobbly stile, through a gate and onto a road (North Road) where you **turn left** and cross over.
16. At the road junction **turn right** into Four Ashes Road, past a postbox and before the road curves to the right cross over and take the lane on **the left** marked Church Lane.
17. Follow the track for 200m and at a crossroads of public footpaths in front of a farm gate, **go right**.



18. The track soon narrows into a 'sunken' path with hedges both sides. It then starts to descend (steeply in places) – this is still Church Lane. After 600m IGNORE a footpath joining from the right and continue for another 150m.
19. The path eventually meets a main road (Valley Road, A4128), here **turn left** and cross at the traffic island. After a few more steps **turn right** after a flinty house into the entrance to Hughenden. Go over a bridge (River Misbourne) and cattle grid, and at the church car park **bear left**. The churchyard is dead ahead of you, where there are numerous benches overlooking the headstones as well as a porch with benches inside if it's raining.



20. Return to Holmer Green the same way.

Maps

<https://streetmap.co.uk/prf.srf?x=489000&y=196100&z=115&sv=489000,196100&st=4&ar=Y&map p=prf.srf&searchp=s.srf&dn=680&ax=490500&ay=197500&lm=1>
<https://streetmap.co.uk/prf.srf?x=487480&y=195900&z=115&sv=487480,195900&st=4&ar=Y&map p=prf.srf&searchp=s.srf&dn=680&ax=490500&ay=197500&lm=1>