

Main walk last checked	Alternative ending check	Henley ending checked	
24 September 2022	12 October 2019	25 November 2023	
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Marlow Circular

Thameside meadows, wooded hills and a Georgian town

Length:	Main walk	21.3km (13.2 miles)
	With alternative ending	23.6km (14.7 miles)
	Marlow to Henley	13.5km (8.4 miles) or 15.2km (9.4 miles)

Maps: OS Landranger 175, OS Explorer Map 171 and 172

Toughness: 4 out of 10

Features

If all you know of the Thames is the grey muddy stretch that runs through London, you are in for a pleasant surprise on this walk. The Thames above Marlow is a lazy, tranquil river, which flows between pleasant meadows and overhanging trees, occasionally overlooked by fine old manor houses. The area is also known as a habitat for red kites, which have successfully been reintroduced here – look up to see them hovering overhead.

This walk follows the Thames Path for the first 8km (5 miles), passing the ancient village of Hurley, little changed since the days when it was a Benedictine monastery. Lunch is in Aston or Hambleden, both quaint riverside villages. By contrast, the afternoon takes you up over the wooded hills (passing through Homefield Wood, which in July is a prime spot for the silver-washed fritillary butterfly), and then back down into the well-preserved Georgian town of Marlow for tea.

Walk options

- **Alternative ending:** This route into Marlow goes down a pleasant valley and then on tracks between fields into the centre of the town. It avoids road walking but is **2.3km (1.4 miles)** longer, making a total walk of **23.9km (14.8 miles)**. See paragraph 74 on page 7.

- **Marlow to Henley:** There are two ways to end this walk in Henley. **i)** From the Flower Pot in Aston you can carry on over **Remenham Hill**, making a total walk of **13.5km (8.4 miles)** - see paragraph 38 on page 5, or **ii)** from Hambledon Lock you can carry on **along the Thames path**, making a total walk of **15.2km (9.4 miles)** - see paragraph 42 on page 5.

Number 800 **buses** between Henley and Marlow stop on the main road just beyond Hambleden

Lock, making it possible to end the walk here after **11.2km (7 miles)**. There are up to three buses an hour during peak hours Monday to Friday and two an hour on Saturdays, with buses every 40 minutes or so in the evenings. There is one bus an hour on Sundays until around 9pm

Transport

Trains run hourly between **Paddington** and **Marlow**, changing at Maidenhead (journey time: about 1 hour). Once on the branch line don't be alarmed when the train reverses direction at Bourne End, which is quite normal. Catch **the train nearest to 9am** from Paddington to get to all the lunch pubs in time, though for lunch at the Flower Pot in Aston the train nearest to 10am is sufficient.

If finishing in Henley, trains back are twice an hour, changing at Twyford. Buy **a day return to Henley-on-Thames** (not "in-Arden"), as this is the furthest station. This should also be accepted on the outward route to Marlow, but if not, you would only have to pay an excess from Maidenhead to Marlow. There is also a "Thames Branches Day Ranger" that covers both Henley and Marlow, but it is priced the same as a Henley return and is probably only obtainable from the ticket office (not the machines) at Paddington.

Lunch & tea

Hurley Lock, 4.2km (2.6 miles) into the walk, has a tea kiosk which is open from 10am-4pm Wednesday to Sunday and bank holidays from early April to late September.

The Rising Sun, Hurley (01628 825733) is a possible early lunch stop, 4.9km (3 miles) into the walk. It is open all afternoon for drinks and food daily, apart from Mondays. The **Olde Bell Inn** nearby is more of a fine dining restaurant.

The **Flower Pot Hotel** in Aston (0141 574721), 9.8km (6.1 miles) into the walk, has now reopened as a thoroughly modernised pub, but still with the same very pleasant garden. Food is served 12-3pm and 6-9pm Tuesday to Saturday, though with a bar menu available all afternoon, and from 12-5pm on Sundays. The pub is open all afternoon and evening for drinks (to 7.30pm on Sunday). Closed Monday, apart from bank holidays, when Sunday hours apply.

3.1km (1.8 miles) further on, the **Stag and Huntsman** in Hambleden (01491 571227), 12.9km (8 miles) is a cosy, atmospheric old pub with a reasonably large garden. It serves food from 12-3pm and 6-9pm on weekdays and all day on Saturday and Sunday, and is open all afternoon daily for drinks.

Hambleden Village Stores: Located 12.8km (7.9 miles) into the walk, this superior village shop has few outside tables and serves tea, coffee, homemade cakes and delicatessen items (sometimes even soup), making it a possible light lunch or early tea stop. It is open to 5pm Monday to Saturday and 4pm on Sunday. **Hambleden church** also sometimes sells tea and cakes on summer Sundays.

Burgers, Marlow (01628 483389), open till 5pm Monday to Saturday (closed Sunday). On the left at the bottom of Marlow High Street just before the church, Burgers (despite its name, which is pronounced "bur-jers") is a cosy patisserie and tearoom serving a wide range of homemade cakes.

Other tea options: There is no shortage of other cafes in Marlow High Street, some of them staying open till 6 or 7pm, but they tend to change names quite often, and so are not listed individually here. A reliable late tea option is the comfortable **George & Dragon Inn**, just beyond Burgers on the left, which serves Costa Coffee tea and coffee and cakes well into the evening. The **Marlow Donkey** pub just before the station is also perfectly pleasant.

Picnic: In theory the Thames Path should provide lots of picnic spots in the first five miles of the walk. In practice the island around **Hurley Lock**, 4.2km (2.6 miles) into the walk, or the environs of **Hambleden Lock**, 11km (6.8 miles) into the walk are probably the best places. The **Hurley Village shop**, open from 8 to 2pm daily - see paragraph 17 on page 3 - might be able to supply some last minute picnic items.

If finishing in **Henley**, **The Chocolate Cafe** (01491 411412) on the waterfront by the bridge is the recommended tea option, open to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday and 6pm Friday to Sunday. The nearby **Angel on the Bridge** is one of many pleasant Henley pubs.

WALK DIRECTIONS

Marlow to Hurley (4.9km/3 miles)

- 1 From Marlow's diminutive station walk along the platform, out past the shelter, and straight ahead down the station approach. In 40 metres, a road merges from the right, and in 70 metres more you come to a five-way road junction.
- 2 Cross Lock Road to continue on the road to the right of the Marlow Donkey pub, that is, almost straight on. This is Station Road, though not signposted as such.
- 3 Ignore ways off and in 350 metres you come to a mini roundabout, the junction with the High Street (to the right). Cross straight over this junction and go half left into Higginson Park. Follow the broad tarmac path diagonally across the park.
- 4 In 250 metres, on the far side of the park, carry straight ahead along the river bank.
- 5 You now follow the riverside path all the way to the bridge just beyond Temple Lock, a distance of 2.3km (1.5 miles). In more detail: in 150 metres you leave the park (there is a nice view back to Marlow's church and bridge at this point) and in 300 metres you come level with **Bisham Church** on the opposite bank of the river.
- 6 In another 200 metres you can see the battlement-towered **Bisham Abbey** across the river (*see panel*).
- 7 The path now passes through a succession of fields fenced off to your right until in 1km it becomes a tarmac road and you can see a major weir in the Thames on your left. In another 150 metres pass **Temple Lock** and keep straight on along the riverbank.
- 8 150 metres beyond the lock turn left to cross over the river on a footbridge.
- 9 On the far side of the bridge turn right to continue in your former direction, with the river now on your right.
- 10 In 80 metres ignore a footpath to the left.
- 11 In 100 metres more pass through a kissing gate and keep on along the river bank, with a field fenced off to your left.

- 12 In 300 metres go right across a wooden footbridge onto an island.

After the dissolution of the Monasteries, **Bisham Abbey** (*pronounced Biss'am*) was given by Henry VIII to his divorced wife, Anne of Cleves

Enticed by a flattering portrait by Holbein, Henry found he was not attracted to Anne when he actually met her. The marriage was never consummated and only lasted seven months.

In return for swallowing the humiliation of the king's rejection and agreeing to an annulment, Anne got a generous financial settlement, including several fine estates (one of which was Hever, the childhood home of Anne Boleyn). She lived out the remaining 17 years of her life in comfort and honour.

Henry became good friends with her and she was known as "The King's beloved sister", with precedence over all woman in England save his own wife and daughters. She is the only one of Henry's wives to be buried in Westminster Abbey.

- 13 Turn left at the far end of the footbridge. In 150 metres you come to **Hurley Lock** (*see panel overleaf*): ignore a signposted footpath to the left over the lock and go straight on. A seasonal **tea kiosk** is on the right.
- 14 In 200 metres turn left to cross back over the river on a footbridge.
- 15 At the end of the footbridge take the steps down to the left and then carry on along a concrete path with a wall on your left into the village of **Hurley**.
- 16 In 200 metres the path ends at a triangular green. Keep on up its right-hand side.
- 17 In 40 metres keep on up the road to the left of a large stone-walled building. In 70 metres the **Hurley Village Shop** is on your right.
- 18 30 metres beyond this you come to another green. Here keep straight on, ignoring a road turning to the left.
- 19 In 200 metres, 10 metres before the **Olde Bell Inn** (a hotel/restaurant), turn right down a side road,

Shepherd's Lane. (*The **Rising Sun**, a possible early lunch stop, is visible 150 metres further on up the road from the Olde Bell Inn*).

The islands on which **Hurley Lock** is situated are one of the places where the Thames splits into channels. A ford across the river at this point was the origin of the settlement, which is mentioned as far back as the Saxon Chronicles. Since the islands and the weirs erected between them were barriers to navigation, the locals made a good living helping boats through them.

The **village of Hurley** was once a Benedictine Monastery and even today retains something of its character from that time. The chapel of the monastery (now the Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin), its refectory and several other buildings are still extant. A leaflet is on sale just inside the church which gives a guided tour

Hurley to the Flower Pot Inn **(4.9km/3 miles)**

- 20** After 600 metres on the lane you pass a half-timbered house (Field House) on the right - visible as you approach it, but hidden behind a wood fence and hedge when you are right in front of it. Where this fence and hedge ends, turn right up the gravel drive to the house.
- 21** In 25 metres, where the drive ends, carry on up a footpath. In 30 metres more cross a stile and carry on up the left-hand edge of a field.
- 22** In 180 metres cross another stile and turn left on a tarmac road.
- 23** In 350 metres at a crossroads (the road to the right is the entrance to caravan park), where the onward road curves left, leave the road to keep straight on along the right-hand edge of a triangular green space, with the caravan park immediately to your right.
- 24** In 50 metres pass around the right-hand end of a hedge, and in 80 metres more, in the far corner of the open space, turn right through a gap to the right of a wooden fence, and then left to resume your former direction. In 40 metres you find yourself back on the riverside, where you turn left, passing to the left of a fieldgate and onto the riverside path.
- 25** In 220 metres pass through a metal kissing gate to the left of a fieldgate and keep on along the river bank.
- 26** In 150 metres just before another gate, and just before a house named Water's Edge, and with a sign marked Private Road 30 metres ahead, fork right off the track along a path along the river's edge, following a yellow arrow.
- 27** In 50 metres pass through a wooden gate and keep straight on and in 80 metres, where the low fence to your left ends, ignore a footpath to the left to stay on the riverbank.
- 28** In 200 metres, 20 metres after emerging from the trees, fork left through a kissing gate to the right of a wooden fieldgate into a field, and carry on along a grassy path across the middle of it.
- 29** In 250 metres you come to the river again and turn left through a kissing gate.
- 30** You now pass through a series of riverside meadows, keeping the river to your right all the time. In 350 metres you pass over a footbridge flanked by two kissing gates. In 300 metres you pass over another bridge, and in 270 metres another.
- 31** Beyond this third footbridge **leave the riverside** (the way ahead is marked private in any case) and **turn left across a field**.
- 32** In 180 metres pass through a gate in a fence and turn right on a tarmac drive.
- 33** In 150 metres the drive curves left and in 70 metres it ends at the entrance to a house. Here veer left across the grass, passing two footpath posts in 60 metres. Keep on across a deer park, aiming to the right of a brick mansion ahead (**Culham Court**).
- 34** In 80 metres more pass a three-armed footpath sign and keep straight on.
- 35** In another 200 metres pass through a gate in a fence and keep straight on, with the garden of the mansion to your left.
- 36** Beyond the house keep straight on along the edge of the escarpment, with a fine view of the valley to your right.
- 37** In 400 metres pass through a wooden kissing gate to emerge in 40 metres more onto a tarmac drive, and

continue straight on in the same direction as before.

- 38** In 120 metres, at a T-junction with another drive, turn right to come in 35 metres to a T-junction with a road. Turn right on this and in 60 metres you come to the **Flower Pot Hotel**, a possible pub lunch stop.
- For the **Remenham Hill ending to Henley**, switch here to paragraph 86 on page 8. *Keep to the main walk until paragraph 42 for the **Thames path** ending to Henley.*

The Flower Pot Hotel to Hambleden (3.1km/1.9 miles)

- 39** Coming out of the front of the pub after lunch, turn left and left again (or pass to the right of the pub if you are not stopping) down Ferry Lane.
- 40** In 100 metres, opposite Ferry House, turn left off the road down a gravel track passing cottages, which soon becomes a footpath.
- 41** In 80 metres you come to a tarmac track, and turn right along it.
- 42** Follow this track for 600 metres until you reach the river, and then curve left with it for a further 150 metres, with the river on your right-hand side, to **Hambleden Lock**.
- **To walk to Henley along the Thames path**, continue along the riverside. In **3.7km (2.3 miles)** you come to Henley's road bridge. Cross this and turn left along the far riverbank. **The Chocolate Cafe** is 60 metres along on the right. Continuing along the riverfront, in 50 metres ignore Friday Street to the right. In 120 metres more bend right with the road away from the river. The approach to **Henley station** is the second road on the left in 130 metres.
- 43** Otherwise, **for the Marlow Circular walk**, cross over the lock via the lock gate, and keep straight. This path soon curves round to the right and crosses **Hambleden Weir** and the whole river on a metal walkway.
- 44** On the far side, walk up a tarmac path between fences to a driveway. Veer left to pass between Old Millgate Cottage (left) and Why Cottage (right) to a main road.

- 45** Cross the road with care and turn right. In 30 metres turn left up a road signposted to Fingest, Skirmett and Hambleden. (*If you want to take the bus here back to Marlow, the stop is the one just beyond this road junction: see **Walk Options** on page 2 for bus details*).

- 46** Carry on up the road signposted to Hambleden. In 300 metres there is a turning to the right to Rotten Row. Cross this and go through a metal kissing gate to the right of a wooden fieldgate. Carry straight on up the left-hand edge of a field.

- 47** In 600 metres pass through a metal kissing gate (30 metres beyond a fieldgate), cross a track, and go through another metal kissing gate into the field beyond. **Hambleden village** is visible at the far end of this field.

Hambleden - not to be confused with Hambledon in Hampshire where cricket was invented - was the home of WH Smith, founder of the newsagents and stationery chain, who is buried in the churchyard. His widow became Vicountess Hambleden and the family still own the manor house.

Smith became First Lord of the Admiralty after ten years as an MP, and as such was the assumed target of the song *Ruler of the Queen's Navy* in Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operetta *HMS Pinafore*, in which an obedient MP rises to that post without any nautical experience. Gilbert denied this, probably to avoid libel suits, but Smith was still known as Pinafore Smith in his lifetime, even being called this by the prime minister who had appointed him, Benjamin Disraeli. Towards the end of his life Smith also became Warden of the Cinque Ports and after six months in that role died in Walmer Castle, the warden's official home.

Hambleden parish church has several interesting memorials, including one to the family of Sir Cope D'Oyley, who died in 1633, on which the children are shown carrying skulls if they died before their parents. To the left of this tomb is an oak chest used by the Earl of Cardigan when he led the ill-fated Charge of the Light Brigade in 1854.

- 48** In 500 metres, at the top of this field, curve left through a metal kissing gate

onto the road, and then right across a stone arched bridge.

- 49** In 60 metres you pass the **Hambleton Post Office and Stores** on the left, a possible lunch or tea stop. Carry on past an old pump, with the church of **St Mary the Virgin** on your left.
- 50** At the end of the churchyard, ignore the road to the left signposted to 'Pheasant's Hill', to carry straight on. The **Stag and Huntsman**, the second possible lunch pub, is a short way up this road on your right.

Hambleton to Homefield Wood (3.7km/2.3 miles)

- 51** Coming out of the pub, turn right (or carrying on past it if not stopping) and carry on up the road (ignoring any Private Road signs, as the route described is a public footpath).
- 52** This road soon starts to climb a hill. In 150 metres ignore a track to the right.
- 53** In another 100 metres the road narrows and in another 100 metres becomes a path and climbs steeply up into woods.
- 54** In 450 metres, at the very top of the hill, pass through a wooden gate to the left of a fieldgate to exit the wood and carry on along a gravel track with a black barn to your right.
- 55** In 180 metres ignore a tarmac driveway coming from a house to the left to keep straight on along a tarmac driveway with a newly planted orchard to your right.
- 56** In 500 metres, just past a house on your right, you come to a road. Cross over this and over a stile to the left of a double wooden fieldgate to continue straight ahead up a gravel track.
- 57** In 300 metres, where the track curves left with the field edge, **veer right off the track down a short bank** to follow a path straight on into the wood, marked by yellow arrow (*not any apparent track to the right into the adjacent field*).
- 58** In 10 metres pass through a gap in a wire fence – another yellow arrow here – and beyond it veer left onto an initially not very distinct path through the wood, ignoring any apparent path to the right.

- 59** You may see faint white arrows on trees marking the path, but in 170 metres clearly visible white arrows point point ahead and left. Immediately beyond this **ignore** a faint track slanting back to the right, but **10 metres further on**, 50 metres before the forest edge ahead, **turn right on a track**, your direction 140 degrees.

- 60** Stay on this track as it descends the hill and curves left and then right, before straightening out.
- 61** In 350 metres you come to the bottom of a small valley, surrounded by pine trees, where you merge with a track from your left-hand side.
- 62** You now stay on this track along the valley bottom, ignoring ways off. (*This is **Homefield Wood**, a good place to see **silver-washed fritillary butterflies** in July*). In 1.1km you pass through a metal barrier and come to a road.

Homefield Wood to Marlow outskirts (2km/1.2 miles)

- 63** Turn right along the road, and then in 50 metres, turn left sharp left off it to follow a path that passes to the right of a fieldgate and down the right-hand edge of a field with a wooden fence to its left.
- 64** In 170 metres, after passing down into a dip and up its other side, turn right down a bank and along a path that under a line of shrubs, fenced off from a field to its right.
- 65** In 400 metres, pass through a gap in a wooden fence into a wood, and ignoring footpaths right and left follow the path straight up the hill ahead.
- 66** At the top of the hill, in 150 metres, veer slightly left, following white arrows on trees, towards a road and car park 80 metres ahead, ignoring any apparent paths to the right.
- 67** Go straight across the road, and along a footpath, following signs for the Chilterns Way.
- 68** In 60 metres you come to a post with three arrows on it. Here **ignore** a path that appears to cross the small ditch and bank ahead, and instead **turn right** as indicated by an arrow on a tree, your direction 140 degrees.

- 69** Keep following the white arrows on trees through the wood. The path curves to the right for about 80 metres and then straightens out for 100 metres before turning left across a faint ditch and bank, after which it straightens out on a bearing of 100 degrees.
- 70** In another 350 metres keep straight on at a footpath crossroads marked by a post with yellow arrows on it. In 30 metres more, by a footpath post, the path veers left.
- 71** In 70 metres more, at a T-junction marked by a footpath post, turn right onto a larger track, your direction now 130 degrees. Keep on gently downhill, ignoring ways off.
- 72** In 300 metres you come to the end of the wood (less obvious in summer than in winter). Go straight on, ignoring a large white arrow on a tree which points left just before the junction, and two footpaths to the right just after it.
- 73** You are now on a broad path between wire fences, with a field visible through the trees to your right.
- 74** In 250 metres there is a path forking right between fences
- For the **alternative ending** into Marlow see paragraph 108 on page 9. It is **5km (3.1 miles)** to Marlow by this route, compared to **2.7km (1.7 miles)** by the main walk route below.

Main walk ending to Marlow (2.7km/1.7 miles)

- 75** Keep straight on at the junction in paragraph 74, ignoring the right fork, on a fenced path that descends into a dip and climbs out again.
- 76** In 200 metres ignore a path to the right. In 200 metres more the path enters a wood.
- 77** In 80 metres the path veers left to reach a road (Bovingden Heights) in another 60 metres. Turn right on this.
- 78** In 30 metres ignore a road to the right (Spinfield Mount) to carry straight on down the right-hand of two roads straight ahead (they are in fact two halves of the same road, Spinfield Lane).
- 79** In 300 metres the two halves of the road merge. 60 metres beyond this, where the pavement ends, go down a tarmac path that diverges right from the road.
- 80** In 30 metres this merges with a driveway to continue downhill. In 30 metres the driveway becomes a road
- 81** In 200 metres it descends to the main road, the A4155, where you go left.
- 82** In 700 metres at a three-way junction with an obelisk in the centre, turn right down **Marlow's** high street. The high street has various cafes which are possible tea stops, but the recommended one, if you can get there in time, is **Burgers** patisserie in 300 metres, at the bottom end of the shopping street on the left, just before the church. 50 metres beyond Burgers on the left is the **George & Dragon Inn**, a late tea option.
- 83** The way to the station is to turn left just before Burgers into Station Road. In 70 metres ignore St Peter Street to the right, and in 200 metres more ignore Mill Road to the right, and Station Rise to the left.
- 84** 180 metres beyond this, you come to a five-way road junction, with the **Marlow Donkey** pub on your right: the way to the station is half right (Station Approach).
- 85** In 70 metres ignore a fork to the left into an industrial park, and keep straight on: in about 40 metres, you come to **Marlow station**.

Marlow station was originally just across the road from the pub, which in those days was known as the Station Hotel. In 1967 the station was moved to its current location, and a year later its former buildings were demolished.

As its sign illustrates, the pub gets its name from the type of locomotive that used to work the short branch line from here to Bourne End - a "donkey" was a shunting engine normally used for moving wagons in the docks. At Bourne End the line met the Maidenhead to High Wycombe line, which was closed north of Bourne End in 1970. This is why the train now has to reverse direction there.

To Henley via Remenham Hill (3.6km/2.2 miles)

- 86** Come out of the front (south) entrance of the Flower Pot Hotel and turn right gently uphill, or turn left just in front of it if coming from the main walk route and not stopping at the pub.
- 87** In 40 metres you pass some cottages to the left and a concrete track leading to double metal fieldgates right. Keep straight on along the road here
- 88** In 100 metres, just beyond the brow of the hill and just before a Kill Your Speed Sign on the left-hand side of the road, turn left over a stile to the left of double metal fieldgates onto a permissive footpath.
- 89** Continue uphill along the left-hand edge of a field onto **Remenham Hill**. In 150 metres the path passes under trees.
- 90** In another 150 metres you come to a T-junction marked by a two-armed footpath sign. Go right here on an earth path along the edge of a field following a line of mini-pylons.
- 91** In 200 metres the trees end to your right, and in another 100 metres you emerge into open fields. Keep straight on along an initially grass track.
- 92** In 600 metres cross a wooden stile to the left of double fieldgates and turn left on a tarmac road.
- 93** In 200 metres, just before a large oak tree, turn right through an opening in the hedge onto a signposted footpath. Go half left across a large field following the footpath arrow, your direction 230 degrees.
- 94** In 450 metres, at the far side of the field, go straight on into the woods at a point marked by a six-armed footpath post.
- 95** In 350 metres exit the woods through a kissing gate and continue straight ahead towards the tallest of a row of trees ahead.
- 96** In 130 metres converge with a wooden fence to your right, and pass through a makeshift kissing gate to continue straight on down an avenue of trees, with a wooded slope to your right.
- 97** In 200 metres cross a stile and descend onto a large lawn. 20 metres beyond the stile you pass a public footpath sign. Immediately to the right on the ground is a touching plaque to Minty, a faithful dog.
- 98** Keep straight ahead, diagonally across the lawn, with the house the lawn belongs to soon visible above you to the left, heading for a somewhat hidden stile in the hedge to the right about 40 metres before the far corner of the lawn.
- 99** Once over the stile, continue ahead for 30 metres to join a car-wide track and continue onwards along it to the left-hand corner of the field.
- 100** In 100 metres exit the field through a wooden kissing gate 10 metres to the left of double metal gates. Cross over the road and through two wooden posts to continue along the left-hand edge of an open space, joining a tarmac track in 20 metres.
- 101** 50 metres after this, at a T-junction with a tarmac driveway, go left, passing through a gap to the left of double metal fieldgates.
- 102** In 80 metres you come to the main road, the A4130. Turn right, across Henley Bridge and the River Thames
- 103** On the far side of the bridge, turn left along Thames Side. The **Angel on the Bridge** pub is immediately to your left: **The Chocolate Café** is 60 metres along on the right.
- 104** After tea turn right following the road along the riverfront (or keep on past the tearoom if not stopping). In 50 metres, ignore the road to the right (Friday Street), and keep on along the riverside.
- 105** In 80 metres, at the Boats for Hire kiosk, bend right with the road away
- 106** from the river. In 30 metres ignore Meadow Road to the left.
- 107** In 90 metres, opposite the Imperial Hotel, turn left up the approach road to **Henley Station**.

Alternative ending to Marlow (5km/3.1 miles)

2.3km/1.4 miles longer than the main walk route into Marlow.

- 108** At the fork in paragraph 74 on page 7, turn right. Keep on down a path between fences along the bottom of the valley, ignoring ways off.
- 109** In 800 metres you pass some buildings to reach a road. Here turn left in front of Rosewood Cottage.
- 110** In 80 metres you come to a main road. Cross this with care and turn right.
- 111** In 140 metres take a minor road to the left, steeply downhill at first. Ignore a sign saying "Private Drive" in 40 metres: this is a public right of way.
- 112** In 900 metres, beside East Lodge, turn sharp left with the road, following a footpath arrow.
- 113** In 250 metres follow the path ahead to the left of Lowerground Farm.
- 114** In 100 metres re-join the road as it leaves the farm to continue in the same direction.
- 115** In 30 metres at a three-armed Public Footpath sign, turn left.
- 116** In 1km pass through a metal kissing gate.
- 117** In another 130 metres pass Pens Place.
- 118** In 100 metres cross a bridge.
- 119** In 200 metres ignore a path to the right to keep straight ahead on the tarmac drive.
- 120** In 160 metres **veer right off the tarmac drive** to pass through a gap in the barrier on your right to pass through a wooded area and enter a park.
- 121** Cross the park aiming to the right of the large house 200 metres ahead. When you get to the house, keep right of it on a slightly raised tarmac path.
- 122** Follow this path as it curves gently rounded to the left for 300 metres to reach the park gates.
- 123** On the far side of the road as you exit the park is **Burgers**, the recommended tea room. The **George**

& Dragon Inn is a little way to its right, and other tea options are in Marlow High Street to your left

- 124** To get to the station, take the road to the left of Burgers, Station Road. In 70 metres ignore St Peter Street to the right, and in 200 metres more ignore Mill Road to the right, and Station Rise to the left.
- 125** 180 metres beyond this, you come to a five-way road junction, with the **Marlow Donkey** pub on your right: the way to the station is half right (Station Approach).
- 126** In 70 metres ignore a fork to the left into an industrial park, and keep straight on: in about 40 metres, you come to **Marlow station** (see *panel page 7*).