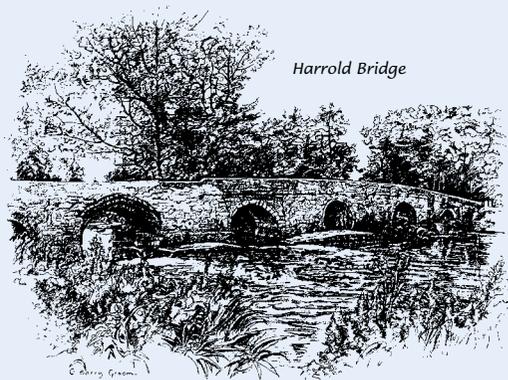


This section of the walk starts from the Three Cranes Public House (PH). If you are continuing the walk from Buckinghamshire, cross **Turvey Bridge**, pass Mill Lane and continue along Bridge Street before turning left to the Three Cranes Public House.

- 1 From the Three Cranes PH walk past the war memorial and turn left into Carlton Road. At the school, turn right and follow May Road until turning left into Grove Road.
- 2 Follow the waymarking across the recreation ground. Continue northwards through the fields, using a number of metal kissing gates, crossing three bridges and passing under the pylon lines.
- 3 On reaching St Mary's Church, turn right and follow Turvey Road and The Causeway into Carlton.
- 4 Continue past the Fox PH and at the crossroads in Chellington turn left into Bridgend. Follow Bridgend, onto the raised footpath, over **Harrold Bridge** and turn right into **Harrold-Odell Country Park**.

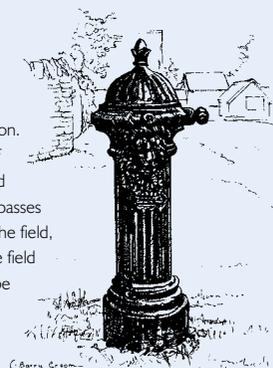


Harrold Bridge

- 5 From the car park, bear right and follow the waymarking along the bank of the River Great Ouse and out of the park along Horsefair Lane. *The Country Park offers a choice of routes, either around or between the two main lakes.*

- 6 At The Bell PH, turn right onto High Street (not Mill Lane) and follow the road around the remains of **Odell Castle** to All Saints Church. Turn left and follow Church Lane until the road bends sharp left. Leave the road and follow the brideway straight ahead.

- 7 Follow the waymarked brideway to Woodend Plantation. The public right of way in the last field before the wood passes diagonally across the field, or alternatively the field edge margin can be followed.



Lion Head Standpipe

- 8 Turn right and follow the footpath through the wood. Turn right along Yelnow Lane past Sharnbrook Upper School and then turn right into Lodge Road.
- 9 Turn left along Church Lane, past St Peter's Church to the centre of Sharnbrook and the High Street.

Public Transport

The Ouse Valley Way can be accessed by train at Bedford. Buses run on a regular basis from Bedford.

For bus times Tel 0870 608 2608
For train times Tel 01234 228337

Parking

Car parking is available at various points along the route, denoted by **P** on the route map, including Bedford railway and bus stations.

Other Walks in the Area

There are a number of other walks in the area, details of which can be obtained from Bedfordshire County Council.

Accommodation

There are several guest houses and B&Bs along the route. For further details on accommodation, please contact:

Bedford **i** Tel 01234 215226

Useful Maps

The trail is covered by Ordnance Survey Landranger sheet no. 153 and Explorer sheet no. 208

Further Information

If you encounter any problems or would like further information on any of our other trails please contact us at:

Ivel and Ouse Countryside Project
Tel 01767 626326
www.ivelandouse.co.uk



The Ivel and Ouse Countryside Project is an environmental service of the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity.

Front cover photograph supplied by Barry Mason

The Ouse Valley Way



TURVEY TO SHARNBROOK
 7.2 miles/11.5km



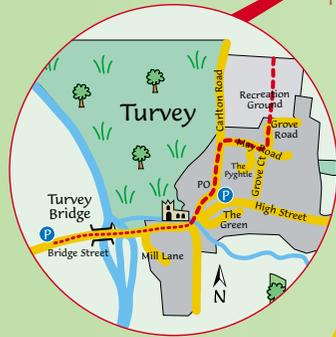
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Walk 1 Turvey to Sharnbrook

7.2 miles/11.5km

Turvey

Turvey is an attractive 19th century limestone estate village. The River Great Ouse forms the county boundary with Buckinghamshire and is spanned by Turvey Bridge. Turvey Abbey dates from about 1603. It was originally built as a farmhouse and was not used as a religious building until 1980, when it was purchased by a community of Benedictine nuns and monks. The nuns and monks worship together and welcome people of all denominations and faiths. Before 1783 most of Turvey Abbey Park was communally cultivated arable land. The parish church of All Saints dates from Saxon times.



KEY

- Ouse Valley Way
- Alternative and extension routes
- Road
- Village or housing
- Lake or water
- Woodland
- Parkland
- Railway
- Church
- Public house
- Historic building
- Bridge
- Parking
- Public telephone

Harrold

Harrold is a typically attractive north Bedfordshire village. There is an octagonal 18th century market house, or butter cross, and a circular lock up on the triangular green. St Peter's Church is mainly 13th century with a 14th century bell tower.

Harrold-Odell Country Park

The park comprises lakes, riverside meadow and woodland and is an ideal place for walking, wildlife watching, picnicking or just relaxing. There is an easy access surfaced path around the main lake. Call in the visitor centre for the information room, toilets and café.

Odell Castle

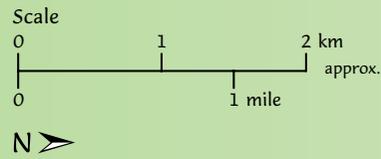
Odell Castle was originally a motte and bailey castle with a stone keep. A new building was erected in the 17th century using the remains of the keep. Burnt out in 1935 the ruins were pulled down in the 1960's and a private house was built. Parts of the castle are incorporated in the new house.

Odell Great Wood

Odell Great Wood is one of Bedfordshire's largest blocks of ancient woodland and is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The wood is mainly oak and ash with hazel coppice and an abundance of wildlife.

Harrold Bridge

Harrold Bridge and foot causeway were built on the site of a ford, connecting two ancient routes. It is not known when the first bridge was built but the resulting improvement in communication between Bedford and Northampton resulted in the movement of Carlton and Chellington villages into the river valley, leaving both parish churches isolated on higher ground. The foot causeway shows changes in architecture with both medieval rounded arches of the 11th century and the pointed Gothic arches of the 12th and 13th century.



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