

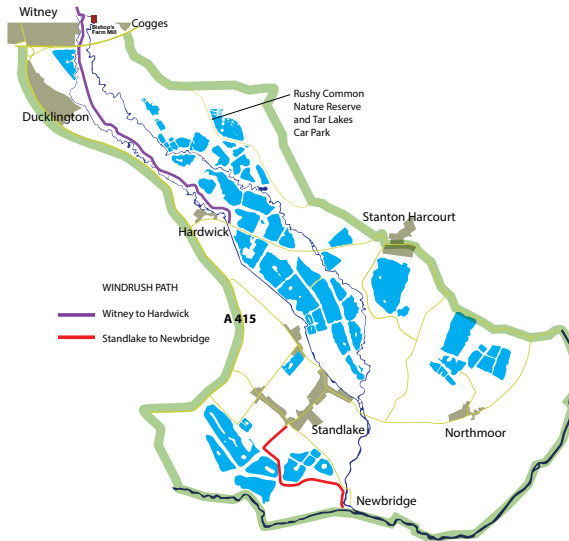


The Windrush Path is a local route being created through the Lower Windrush Valley Project in association with local landowners and gravel extraction companies. The aim is to provide a continuous path from Witney to link up with the Thames Path National Trail at Newbridge.

From Newbridge, the path follows the meandering River Windrush upstream through the extensive flood meadows of the Upper Thames Valley before reaching the many lakes on Standlake Common created by mineral extraction. Most of these lakes are used for private fishing or water sports but one has been restored as the Standlake Common Nature Reserve.

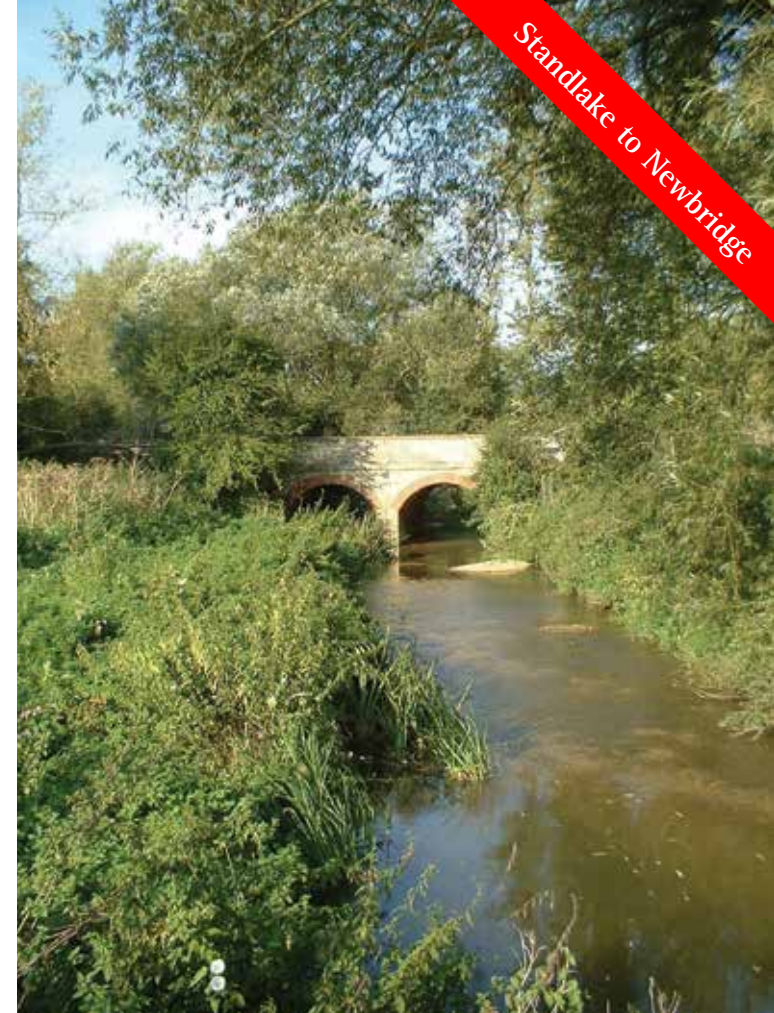
A picnic area provides a quiet place to rest halfway along the path towards the picturesque village of Standlake. With a choice of pubs for refreshment at either end, this section of the Windrush Path offers an enjoyable walk that works equally well, whichever direction you choose to walk.

The Windrush Path is being developed in stages with two sections now open to walkers.



Standlake is on the A415, five miles south of Witney. For bus times call Traveline South East on 0871 200 22 33 or visit www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk

For further information contact:
Lower Windrush Valley Project,
Tel: 01865 815426
Email: lwvp@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Introduction

The development of the Windrush Path provides a good example of the way in which the Lower Windrush Valley Project works with mineral operators, landowners and local communities to enhance landscape, wildlife and public access across the valley.

Please note that the path in this section is flat but uneven in places with several gates and stiles and can be very muddy, or flooded, in the winter.

Find out more

This leaflet was funded by the Lower Windrush Valley Project and Hardwick Parks



Designed and produced by
Windrush Group, Witney working with LWVP

©Photographs copyright of Natural England & LWVP
Cover photograph kingfisher ©Graham Lenton

Walk the Windrush Path



Standlake Village

Standlake is an attractive village next to the River Windrush with two good pubs serving food, a Post Office and Stores. There is a range of accommodation for visitors and various activities such as water sports and fishing offered on nearby lakes.

Allow at least an hour each way to enjoy a leisurely walk between Standlake and Newbridge. If you prefer not to retrace your steps consider opportunities for longer circular walks via Shifford, Northmoor or Stanton Harcourt. A popular circular walk around the village can also be enjoyed that takes in St Giles's Church and Horns Way.

Standlake Common Nature Reserve

The bird hides at Standlake Common Nature Reserve offer a tranquil place to relax and watch wildlife along the route of the Windrush Path. A mosaic of wetland habitats has established on this former gravel pit and the two hides allow visitors to view the whole reserve without disturbing the resident wildlife. Keys for the hides are available for purchase from the project office and enable you to visit at anytime. Public access across the reserve is not permitted.

Please respect the wishes of local landowners by keeping to waymarked paths, clearing up after your dog and keeping dogs under close control. When walking through fields with livestock, dogs should be kept on a lead at all times.



Art Underfoot Mosaic Trail

Along the footpath look out for the series of striking mosaic sculptures created by the community of Standlake during the summer of 2004. An attractive booklet accompanies the trail and copies are available from the Project office.

KEY

- Windrush Path 3km / 2miles
- Public Footpath
- Thames Path National Trail
- PH** Public House (serving food)
- Bus Stop
- PO** Post Office
- i** Information
- Picnic Area
- Bird Hide
- Caravan & Camping

The Thames Path

At Newbridge, the Windrush Path links up with the Thames Path, the 295 km (184 mile) National Trail, that follows England's best known river from its source near Kemble, in Gloucestershire down to the heart of London.

Links with other public rights of way allow for circular walks from Newbridge, of up to 8km (5miles), taking in a section of the Thames Path. Follow the Thames Path upstream to return via Longworth or downstream via Northmoor.