

## Walk 6: Berkshire Aviation Museum & Lands End

This walk goes from the museum entrance on Mohawk Way, past the old Sandford Mill, to follow the bank of the river Loddon to Lands End and Whistley Bridge, before returning through quiet lanes and off-road tracks via Beggars Hill Road and Perimeter Road.

Berkshire's contribution to aviation history is recaptured at the museum. Woodley was once the centre of a thriving aircraft industry. Miles and Handley Page aircraft built at Woodley are being re-constructed and exhibited along with pictorial records and priceless archives. ([www.museumofberkshireaviation.co.uk](http://www.museumofberkshireaviation.co.uk)).

### Length

3.5 miles (5.6 km). Allow 1 hour 45 mins plus stops.

### Starting Point

- Car**                    **Berkshire Aviation Museum Car Park** (free March 2021), off Mohawk Way. Woodley, RG5 4UE. OS Grid Ref: SU7768 7299. [w3w:///shuts.woven.melon](http://w3w:///shuts.woven.melon)
- Bus**    **13**                **Herald Way** stop – opposite the museum car park entrance.
- 14**                **Herald Way** stop – cross the road and walk back 75m to the roundabout, cross Miles Way
- 19c**                to Mohawk Way. The museum entrance road is 50m on your right.

### Refreshments

**Heron on the Ford** pub    Lands End Ford (east end of Lands End Lane) at point **(13)**

### Route Instructions (See map below for numbered points)

1



From the Herald Way bus stop on route 13, carefully cross Mohawk Way, and walk up the drive towards the Aviation Museum car park to the height restriction barrier. Pass under barrier to immediately reach a tarmac path on the left. This is point **(2)** below.

#### **Alternative starting points:**

*From the route 14 bus stop, walk back the way the bus has just come, across the roundabout at the junction of Bader Way and Mohawk Way, to reach the drive to the Aviation Museum car park*

*From the Aviation Museum car park, join the walk at point **(2)** below.*

2



Take the path on the left and follow it for 300m to a junction with a road (Sandford Lane). This is point **(3)** below.

3



Turn right at the junction, taking care of traffic on the road. Pass the old (renovated) Sandford Mill on your left, then cross over two bridges. A few metres after the second bridge, look out for a footpath sign and a wooden gate on the left. This is point **(4)** below.

*Lodge Wood and Sandford Mill is a 2.3-hectare (5.7-acre) biological Site of Special Scientific Interest. This site consists of two small wet woodlands bordering the river Loddon. Lodge Wood is first shown on John Rocque's map of Berkshire in 1761*

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Go through the gate and keep straight ahead (ignore a path heading rightwards), to reach a path junction after about 50m. This is point **(5)** below.

5



Take the path on the left, then follow the riverside path by the river Loddon for 1.7km to reach a further path junction. This is point **(6)** below.

6



Take the left-hand path and to follow it to a junction with a road at Whistley Bridge. This is point **(7)** below.

7



Turn left along the road, taking care of traffic, cross the river and walk past a house on the right, then look out for bridleway sign on the right. This is point **(8)** below.

8



Follow this bridleway until it re-joins the road. This is point **(9)** below.

9



Cross the road with care and enter the footpath on the other side. Follow this footpath until it re-joins the road. This is point **(10)** below.

10



Continue along the left-hand side of the road to reach a footpath sign by a footbridge. (The footbridge is known as the Copper Bridge, despite being white.) This is point **(11)** below.

11



Cross the bridge and the stile beyond it, and then head diagonally across field to reach another white-railed footbridge over the river in the far corner. This is point **(12)** below.

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Cross the bridge (called Giddy's Bridge) and continue straight on between trees, with a pub car park on your right. Follow this path past the back of the pub to reach a metal gate and a footpath sign. This is point **(13)** below.

13



Turn left, then left again to follow the road (Lands End Lane). Continue along the road to a T-junction. This is point **(14)** below.

14



Turn left to follow the road (Beggars Hill Road – unsigned), which eventually becomes a tarmac track. After about 1km, this track curves rightwards to reach a junction. This is point **(15)** below.

15



Turn left and continue to follow the tarmac track (Perimeter Road – unsigned) past a children's play area on your right to reach a road. This is point **(16)** below.

16



On reaching the road, turn right, and, in a few steps, reach a dropped kerb on the approach to a roundabout. This is point **(17)** below.

17



Turn left to cross the road via the dropped kerb and traffic island. On the other side of the road, turn right and keep walking along the pavement as it curves leftwards. Continue along the pavement to a road junction with Sandford Lane. This is point **(18)** below.

18



Maintaining the same direction, cross Sandford Lane and continue along the pavement to return to the entrance to the Aviation Museum, the No 13 bus stop and the start of the walk.

19



Journey's end



