

Walk 14: Around Woodford Park (Wheelchair Accessible)

This is a short, flat excursion, on pavements and gravel paths, which will take you through Woodford Park, past the war memorial and World War 1 Centenary Gates, where information boards will tell you all about Woodley in WW1, and then on round the lake, returning to the Oakwood Centre. Toilets and some refreshments are available at the Woodford Park Leisure Centre when it is open. The Oakwood Centre, where you can find a café, toilets and information about Woodley, is open during the day.

Woodford Park, sited on what was originally farmland, was officially opened in 1964 by Lord Luke, chairman of the National Playing Fields Association.

Length

0.7miles (1.1 km). Allow 40 mins plus stops.




Starting Point

- | | | |
|------------|--|---|
| Bus | 14/19c
13/19a
127/128 | Chequers stop. Headley Road.
Chequers stop, Beechwood Avenue. Go along the right-hand pavement towards a pedestrian crossing, but do not cross it. Go straight ahead to reach a second crossing in front of the Chequers pub. Go over the crossing, turn right to the 14/19c bus stop. |
| Car | | Headley Road Car Park (Pay & Display) Headley Road, Woodley RG5 4JA
OS Grid Ref: SU7621 7328. w3w ///summer.neck.sprint
Go into the precinct and turn right to the Chequers pub (the opposite end to Waitrose). Cross Headley Road at the pedestrian crossing, turn right to the 14/19c stop
<i>or</i>
Woodford Park Leisure Centre car park, Leisure Drive (off Haddon Drive), Woodley, RG5 4LY. OS Grid Ref: SU 76237364. w3w: ///owners.grass.hotels
<i>(Note: often busy on Saturdays until early afternoon – sports teams)</i>
Go through the car park towards the children’s playground and paddling pool. Turn right to pass the paddling pool on the left and then left towards the lake. At the junction turn right towards the all-weather pitch, to join the walk at point (8) below. <i>(Note: this car park has disabled parking facilities.)</i> |

Refreshments

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| The Oakwood Centre | Headley Rd, Woodley. Point (2) | Various cafes | Woodley Precinct. See map |
| Woodford Park Leisure Centre | Near the car park – see above | | |

Route Instructions (See map below for numbered points)

- | | | |
|----------|---|--|
| 1 |  | At the Headley Rd Chequers bus go along the pavement away from the precinct. Carefully cross the entrance to Hicks MOT and Service Centre to reach the entrance to the Oakwood Centre. This is point (2) below. |
| 2 |  | Turn left into the courtyard of the Oakwood Centre and then immediately right to the path between the building and the hedge. This is point (3) below. |
| 3 |  | Continue past the end of the building, towards the war memorial and the Woodley in WW1 display boards. Go past the display boards to the WW1 Centenary gates. This is point (4) below. |

4



Just before the gates bear left and take the path to the Coronation Hall. At the notice board turn left, with the Coronation Hall on the right, and continue on the path, through the park, passing a grassy mound on the right, to reach a T-junction with a basketball net ahead. This is point **(5)** below.

5



Turn left and follow the path around another grassy mound on the right, to reach the junction with a gravel path on the right. This is point **(6)** below.

6



Turn right into the gravel path and follow it round the end of the lake, keeping the lake on the left. There is a grassy mound and then a children's play area on the right, to reach a fork in the path. This is point **(7)** below.

7



Continue ahead up a gentle slope and turn left at the T-junction at the top. With the 3G pitch on the right, continue to a sign post with a path leading off to the left. This is point **(8)** below.

If you parked at Woodford Park, turn right at the T-junction at the top, then left and then right again to return to the car park.

8



Turn left, down a gentle slope, taking the path to the Oakwood Centre. Follow the path around the lake, with the lake on the left and fences on the right, to reach a right-hand turn at the end of the fence. This is point **(9)** below.

9



Turn right, and follow the path to the Oakwood Centre, passing a grassy mound and then a skateboard park on the left and children's play area and the gardens on the right. Continue straight on, with the Oakwood Centre now on the right and flower beds on the left to reach the entrance to the Oakwood Centre Courtyard on the right. This is point **(10)** below.

10



If you arrived by bus or if you parked in the Headley Road car park, turn right into the courtyard of the Oakwood Centre. This is point **(11)** below. *If parked at Woodford Park turn left and continue forward towards the war memorial and the Woodley in WW1 display boards. Walk past the display boards to the WW1 Centenary gates. You are now at point **(4)** above.*

11



Go through the courtyard to the exit on to the pavement of Headley Rd on your left. Turn right and carefully crossing the entrance to the Hicks MOT and Service Centre, walk to the bus stop, the start of the route. This is point **(12)** below.

12



Journey's End

