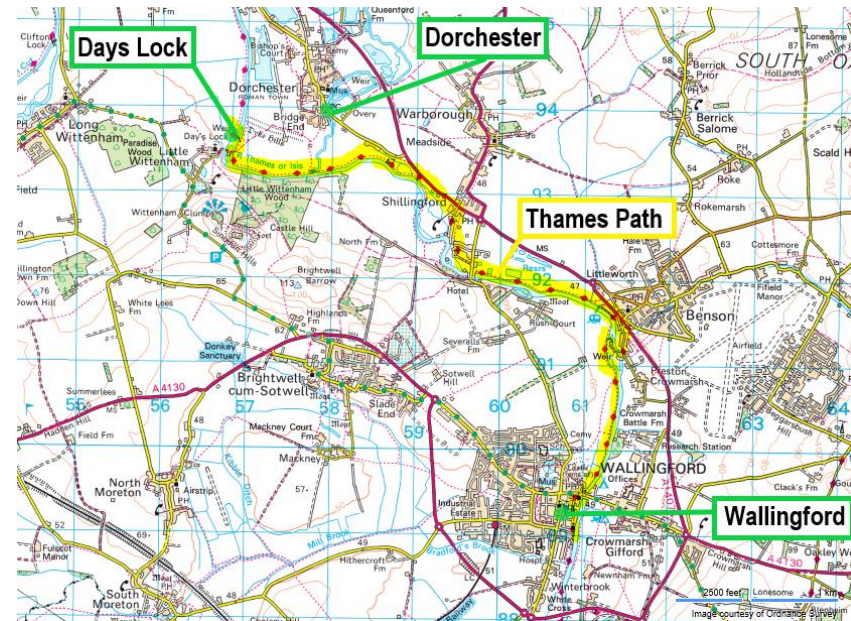




# VISIT THAMES

## Thames Path Rail Trail 3



### THAMES PATH : Trail 3 Wallingford to Days Lock and Dorchester on Thames

Wallingford Grid Ref SU608892 – start in the Market Square

Days Lock Grid Ref SU567937

Distance Approx 5.8 miles

Dorchester Abbey Grid Ref SU5794 – an additional mile from Days Lock and a further

1.3 miles to the bus stop.

**TOTAL DISTANCE 8.1 miles**



### GWR Thames Branches Day Ranger

This ticket allows you to travel between London Paddington and Tilehurst, just past Reading as well as the Thames Valley branch lines to Greenford, Windsor & Eton Central, Bourne End/Marlow and Henley on Thames. [GWR.com/Discover](http://GWR.com/Discover)

### For further information:

Visit Thames: [www.visitthames.co.uk](http://www.visitthames.co.uk)

Thames Path National Trail: [www.nationaltrail.co.uk/thames-path](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/thames-path)

Great Western Railway: [www.gwr.com/destinations-and-events/top-destinations/thames-valley](http://www.gwr.com/destinations-and-events/top-destinations/thames-valley)

### Directions

**By Rail/Bus:** Arrive by rail with GWR at Oxford or Reading and take bus to Wallingford ([X39/X40](#)), running every 30mins, journey time 40mins.

**By Car:** Wallingford is on the A4074 between Oxford and Reading and is under 30 minutes from M4/M40/A34.

Parking for Dorchester – Bridge End public Car Park.

**Return:** From Dorchester-on-Thames via the same bus from the A4074. *Combine your walk with a boat trip - During the Summer you can take the boat from Wallingford with Salters Steamers to Days Lock and walk back or walk and return by boat.*

[www.visitthames.co.uk/ThamesValley-GWR](http://www.visitthames.co.uk/ThamesValley-GWR)





Dorchester Abbey

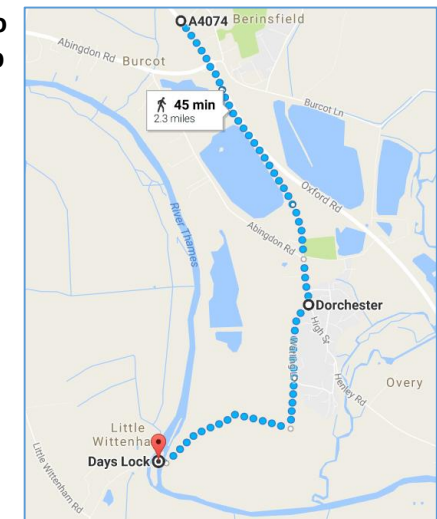


Salters Steamers



Wallingford

Route to bus stop



## THE WALK

Starting in the historic riverside town of Wallingford this walk covers an interesting section with beautiful and varied landscapes and the option to discover Dorchester Abbey or The Wittenham Clumps.

- **START** in **Wallingford**, an ancient market town, founded in the 10th century by Alfred the Great.
- Take the **Thames Path** and walk to **Benson** over Benson Lock and its weir system past the licenced café on the path at Benson Marina.
- Walk to **Shillingford** and pass its historic road bridge crossing (short distance along a footway)
- Then re-join the Thames through lovely water meadows, where the Thame river meets the Thames, with the backdrop of Wittenham Clumps (ancient Roman fort) and Wittenham woods. The old Roman town of **Dorchester-on-Thames** is on your right-hand side.
- Arrive at Days Lock, where the trail crosses over the river.
- Head to Dorchester-on-Thames and visit the wonderful Dorchester Abbey, or cross Little Wittenham Bridge and explore **The Wittenham Clumps**; clumps of beech trees, the oldest known planted hilltop beeches in England, dating back over 300 years.
- **RETURN**: Either walk up to the main road and return by bus or in the summer take a **Salters Steamers** boat from Days Lock.

## Things to Do:

- **Wallingford** - take a stroll around the Castle Gardens, the former site of one of England's most impressive citadels or trace the remains of Wallingford's Saxon past in Wallingford Museum.
- **Pure Boating** at the Boathouse pub in Wallingford offers self drive electric day boat hire by the hour.
- **Benson** - As well as a long history including a mention in the Domesday Book as "the richest royal manor in Oxfordshire" and a key site during the Civil War, there are many historic buildings.
- **Dorchester Abbey** was built in the 12th century and expanded in the 13th and 14th centuries. It has a museum and the Tea Room which is open Easter Saturday to 29th September 2019 - 2.30pm – 5pm Thu/Sat/Sun and Bank Holiday Mondays. 3pm – 5pm on Wed. The Abbey is open 365 days a year, 8am – 6pm (summer) / 8am – dusk (winter), and entry is free.
- **Salters Steamers Boat Trip** - Monday, Friday and Sunday from 15th July to 26th August 2019. Departs Wallingford 10am, arrives Days Lock 11am. Departs Days Lock 4.30pm, arrives Wallingford 5.45pm.

**Stay:** The George Hotel, Wallingford | The Shillingford Bridge Hotel, Shillingford | Coachmakers Arms Tavern, Wallingford. This unique building, one of the oldest in town, has been a pub for nearly two centuries. With a small dining room serving excellent food and three en-suite letting rooms. It is located close to the centre of town, just 300 metres from the Thames Path.

**Eat & Drink:** Lily's Farm Shop & Tea Room, Dorchester | Waterfront Café, Benson | Fleur De Lys, Dorchester | The Boathouse, Wallingford

Wallingford [www.visitthames.co.uk/towns/wallingford](http://www.visitthames.co.uk/towns/wallingford)  
 Dorchester on Thames [www.visitthames.co.uk/towns/dorchester-on-thames](http://www.visitthames.co.uk/towns/dorchester-on-thames)

Rail Trails and more information on places to stay, thing to do and places to eat & drink:  
[www.visitthames.co.uk/ThamesValley-GWR](http://www.visitthames.co.uk/ThamesValley-GWR)

