

This matrix lists tow path sections that are accessible along the Wilts & Berks Canal from West to East. Circular walks from the tow paths are also listed and more are in the pipeline so why not pop back occasionally to see what's been added.

Location and route	Type	Condition	Length	Starting point	Notes
Melksham: Lost tow path route	Mixed footpath/grass	Generally flat & Dry	Circular walk 2.8km (1.74 miles)	Good bus/rail links On road parking by West End Inn, Semington Road SN12 SDD ST904632 expectant.himself.seemingly	Lost Waterway of Melksham walk leaflet available <a href="#">via this link</a> . Reliable bus/train links to Melksham. Good food and drink availability in Melksham
Melksham: Queenfield Farm	Mixed grass & hard standing	Generally flat & Dry	Single walk 620m (678 yards)	Off Lower Woodrow ST922664 washroom.poses.yourself	Just a short walk in the countryside along a line of unrestored Wilts & Berks Canal. Food and Drink at <a href="#">Pig &amp; Whistle</a> SN12 7AU or <a href="#">Bell Inn</a> , Lacock ST926680 – which sits aside the unrestored canal line
Lacock: Lacock- Pewsham Locks circular route	Hard surface towpath (1.25m-2.5km) rest grass/soil. Muddy in winter		Circular Walk 8.4km (5.25 miles)	Park in small layby or on common ST928680 built.manliness.growl  Climb over parklands with views over Chippenham and observe progress of the wilts & Berks Canal restoration.	Walk leaflet available <a href="#">via this link</a> .  Note: on the leaflet to view restoration at Pewsham Locks at the end of point 2 turn right and walk the canal line for a further 1.3km. (this will extend your walk by 2.6km)  Food and drink available at the <a href="#">Bell Inn</a> . Booking recommended Closed weekday afternoons 2.30-5pm

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<b>Chippenham:</b> Pewsham Locks- Bell Inn Lacock. Via canal towpath wherever possible	Mixed hard surface/Grass/gravel	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	Single walk 5.35km (3.32 miles) Bus/Taxi return. Or return by reverse route	Local bus stops 500m at Old Lane pub, Lodge Road SN15 3SY Many local drivers park on large grass verge to the south of Pewsham Way. This is not sanctioned by WBCT. ST930715 casino.forms.crown	Pewsham Locks under restoration. Canal in water. Lots of activity- work party days Tue-Thu weekly.  Food & drinks at: The <a href="#">Old Lane</a> pub Lodge Rd, SN15 3SY <a href="#">The Pewsham</a> (formerly the Lysley Arms) London Rd SN15 3RU  Walk leaflet available <a href="#">via this link.</a>
<b>Chippenham:</b> Branch Line	Hard surface/ Grass.	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	Out and in by same route 5.89km (5.16 miles)	Good bus/rail links On road parking ST924724 hint.spider.zealous Walk to Chippenham Buttercross to start.	Follows parts of the Chippenham Branch Line from Chippenham to Pewsham Wharf. Canal in water & restoration taking place Tue- Thu  Walk leaflet available <a href="#">via this link.</a>
<b>Chippenham:</b> A4 South	Grass	Under restoration. Towpath not restored -grass not cut often	464m (507 yards)	No 55 bus stops on A4. Hyundai Garage SN15 4DD ST945716 allergy.rods.inversely	Hyundai garage frontage is public layby left by diversion of A4.Walk towards brown Wilts & Berks Canal sign. When safe cross the A4 with great care
<b>Chippenham:</b> Green Lane Farm	Grass	Generally unrestored, uneven grass. Canal in water at places	770m (842 yards)	No 55 bus stops on A4. Hyundai Garage SN15 4DD ST945716 allergy.rods.inversely	Garage frontage is public layby left by diversion of A4. Keeping to this side of the road Walk until level with the brown Wilts & Berks Canal s. Now look left to see a green access sign to Greenlane farm section.

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<b>Foxham:</b> Foxham Lock	Hard surface/ grassed	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	1.4km (<1 mile)	Limited on road parking ST980775 mildest.foresight.managed	This stretch in private ownership- but maintained by Wessex Waterway Recovery Trust. Public access allowed at time of writing (Dec 21).
<b>Lyneham Bowds Lane-</b> 7 Locks: West	Grass	Undulating, slight uphill.	371m (406 yards)	V limited parking in Bowds Lane by 7 Locks gate. SU019806 unleashed.dance.twists	Longest flight of locks on the Wilts & Berks. Only 3 locks visible. Dead end due to ownership boundary
<b>Lyneham Bowds Lane-</b> 7 Locks: East	Grass	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	200m (219 yards)	Via limited parking in Bowds Lane by 7 Locks gate SU019806 unleashed.dance.twists	WBCT own first 200m of the lane. Rest is in private ownership which inc Lock 1
<b>Royal Wootton Bassett:</b> Templars Firs	Grass/wood chip	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	2.3 km (1.43 miles) to Chaddington Lane	Parking in WBCT carpark opposite Royal Mail sorting office. SU070814 clays.dwarves.germinate	Some areas of the canal in water.  At end of the section you can carry on to the Studley Grange section from Chaddington lane.
<b>Royal Wootton Bassett: Studley Grange</b>	Grass	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	1.2km (1312 yards) Chaddington lane Bridge to end.	Limited on road parking at Chaddington lane Bridge. SU095814 assist.equal.junior	At the end of the Studley Grange section a footpath can take you to the Studley Grange Garden Centre.  Refreshments at the <a href="#">Studley Grange Garden Centre</a>
<b>Royal Wootton Bassett:</b> Circular walk	Grass	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	Circular route 6km (3.73 miles)	Parking in WBCT carpark opposite Royal Mail sorting office. SU070814 clays.dwarves.germinate	Walk to Chaddington Lock and Spillway before returning via the Flower Meadows of Morningside Farm  Walk leaflet available <a href="#">via this link.</a>

Location and route	Type	Condition	Length	Access	Notes
<b>Swindon:</b> Whichelstowe	Grass/hard surface	Generally flat & dry-	Esso Garage to Waitrose 1.6km (<1 mile)	Main bus routes run close to Esso Garage Kingshill Rd, Swindon SN1 4NG SU140839 zealous.woes.shuts  Parking at Waitrose Mill Ln, Swindon SN1 7BX  Or Hall and Woodhouse Peglars Way, Whichelstowe SN1 7DA	Walk a section of the old line before connecting to new section of canal at Whichelstowe. Either off the bus from the Esso Garage end or park at Whichelstowe end and walk north to Esso garage.  Refreshments at <a href="#">Hall &amp; Woodhouse Waitrose.</a>
<b>Swindon:</b> East Whicel	Hard surface	Generally flat & dry-	Barbrook Road walk E 600m (656 yards)  Barbrook Road walk W 578m (632 yards)	Barbrook Rd car park SU142826 woes.fund.advice	Carry on your walk from Esso garage/Waitrose, Or park in Barbrook road car park and walk the new canal line east or west from this point.  Refreshments at the <a href="#">Wichel Inn</a> which is at the eastern end of this stretch.
<b>Swindon:</b> River Ray Valley & North Wilts Line	Grass/hard surface	Generally flat & dry	Circular walk. Awaiting info on distance	Cheney Manor Playing Fields Car park SU133865 bugs.unique.heat	The canal line here is part of the old North Wilts Canal which connected the Wilts & Berks to the Thames & Severn canal.  Walk leaflet available <a href="#">here.</a>

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<b>Swindon:</b> Mouldon Hill	Grass/Hard surface	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	Circular route 2.64km (1.64 miles) Just towpath 1.4km (.65 mile)	Mouldon Hill Country Park carpark SU118878 completed.mostly.honeybees  For quick access to canal line with your back to the road you came in on take the right hand path.	The canal line here is part of the old North Wilts Canal which connected the Wilts & Berks to the Thames & Severn canal. Mouldon Park circular walk also available – just keep walking and when you reach the road take the path left and left again back to the car park.  Refreshments at the <a href="#">Tawny Owl pub</a> Taw HI, North, Swindon SN25 1WR
<b>Shrivenham:</b> East tow path	Grass	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	Tow path 700m (766 yards)	Park in Canal Side Park SU243882 earth.ignites.gracing.	Canal Side Park lovely to walk around. Cross the canal and turn left for the eastern section.  Good food and drink availability in Shrivenham.
<b>Shrivenham:</b> West tow path – Steppingstones Bridge	Grass	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months.  Section between Station Road and Steppingstones bridge in private ownership and in poor condition.	Tow path 950m (109 yards) 4km (2.5m) if using Shrivenham circular walk.	Park in Canal Side Park SU243882 earth.ignites.gracing.	Canal Side Park lovely to walk around. Cross the canal and turn right for the western section to Steppingstones bridge  These paths are part of Shrivenham Circular Walk. Walk leaflet available <a href="#">via this link</a> .  Good food and drink availability in Shrivenham.

Location and route	Type	Condition	Length	Access	Notes
<b>Childrey:</b> New Road Bridge	Grass	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	285m (312yards) tow path to public footpath. Then 845m (924 yards) across fields to West Challow Bridge	Limited on road parking SU435922 insurers.relaxing.baroness	Short tow path walk to Childrey Wharf. Canal in water, wharf wall under restoration  Extend your walk along a Public footpath to Childrey Bridge.
<b>West Challow:</b> West Challow Bridge – East Challow	Grass	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	1.3km (1422 yds)	Limited on road parking nr Silver Lane. SU368882 outboard.sank.amphibian	Canal in water along this section.
<b>East Challow:</b> Village Hall to Denchworth Road	Grass/Hard surface	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	1.55 Km (<1 mile)	Parking opposite East Challow Village Hall SU380883 custom.poker.proclaims	Canal in water along this section.
<b>Wantage:</b> Denchworth Road- Grove Park Drive			Circular walk 5km (3.1 miles)	Local on road parking SU394890 challenge.scary.ledge	Cross the busy Mably Way (A417) with care to the canal line. At Station Road turn left & cross this busy road with care before re-joining the path by the traffic lights. After 2.83 km (1.77miles) find the return path to Grove at SU421901. Walk back to station Road turn left and back to the tow path you walked from Denchworth Road.

<b>Abingdon:</b> Abingdon Walk	Hard surfaces	Generally flat and dry	Circular route 2.55km (1.58 miles)	Local on road parking on Wilsham Road or other residential roads SU496966 clap.nerve.drives	Start at Margaret Brown Gardens which was the site of the Abingdon Wharf Refreshments at the <a href="#">Old Anchor Inn</a> Walk leaflet available <a href="#">via this link</a> .
<b>Abingdon:</b> Jubilee Junction.	Grass/Hard surface	Generally flat & dry- some mud in winter months	Canal Path 350m (382yds)  Circular route 1.88km (1.7miles)	Local on road parking in S Quay SU496956 potato.putty.empire	Very short section along Jubilee Junction which is where the Wilts & Berks will enter the River Thames. From S Quay walk back up to W Quay and turn left into Peep-O-Day Lane. 613m down look for WBCT sign on left. 350m to Jubilee Junction. At the end of JJ turn left for a local but unauthorised walk along the Thames to Abingdon Marina and S Quay. Refreshments at the <a href="#">Old Anchor Inn</a> 1 St Helen's Wharf, Abingdon OX14 5EN.

For a hard copy of this matrix please send a sae to Dave Maloney DLCCC, Dauntsey Lock, Chippenham SN15 4HD.

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My thanks to Martin Stubbs, Steve Bacon, James Haseler, Oliver Gardiner, Chris Barry, Alan Norris, Jon Miles & June Maloney,

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