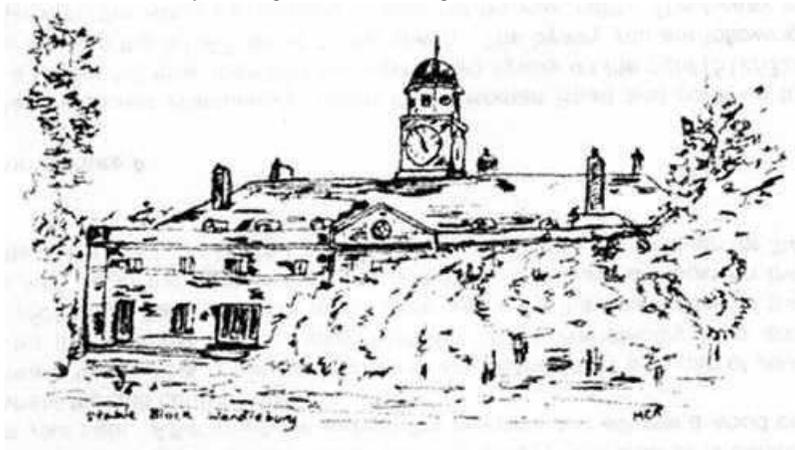


Walk 9: The Roman Road, Wandlebury

Type:	Linear.	
Distance:	Route A	6 miles.
	Route B	$6\frac{3}{4}$ miles.
	(Both routes— add $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles if you visit Wandlebury.)	
Extra Care:	Route A	Crossing A1307.
	Route B	Crossing A1307; no pavement on road from bridleway to crossroads at Hildersham ($\frac{1}{4}$ mile).
Start:	Grid reference 493547.	

Follow the signpost “Public Byway Roman Road”. After 100 yards, the path will turn left and you will be following the Roman Road. For most of the Roman Road, the ‘road’ is a narrow path between hedges and/or trees. As you would expect, the Roman Road is straight and therefore easy to follow.

For about the first mile of the Roman Road, the Gog Magog Golf Course is behind the trees on your right. After you have walked this distance you will see a wood on your right where the golf course ends.



When you reach this point, if you would like to visit Wandlebury as part of your walk, look for the signpost for the public footpath to Wandlebury Ring and Cambridge (505536). Take care not to miss this sign as it may

be hidden in the trees. The sign is on the right of the road and there is a waymark post on the opposite side of the road. To reach the Wandlebury ring, follow the footpath for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.

Continuation—Route A

After you have explored Wandlebury, return to the Roman Road and continue to follow it for a further $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, then find a waymarked byway on the right (512532) and follow it towards the A1307 about 1 mile ahead. The byway you are following has, to begin with, the wood surrounding Copely Hill on your right. The byway is wide, runs gently downhill, and offers magnificent views.

At the A1307, turn right and walk for 100 yards and cross the road to follow the footpath signposted to the left (502520). Note that there is no pavement to the A1307. There are, however, wide verges to walk on.

Follow the footpath. After $\frac{3}{4}$ mile on the footpath you will reach the River Granta. Cross the river and follow the footpath straight ahead. A few yards from the river the footpath will take you over a stile. Continue to follow the footpath, through a plantation of trees, straight ahead to the next stile (498512). Climb this stile and turn immediately left, following the waymark.

Keep walking with the fence on your left. You will pass a wood on your left. When the wood leaves the footpath, you will find a reverse signposting to Stapleford along the path which you have been following.

Follow the signposts (in the opposite direction to Stapleford) and walk until a private road crosses the path. Cross the road and continue to follow the footpath. You will shortly have the river on your left. On the other side of the river are the buildings of the Babraham Institute.

Continue to follow the footpath by the river. At Babraham Church the footpath will lead into a road. Follow the road. On your left you will see the splendid façade of Babraham Hall. At this point also look to your right to see the avenue of trees leading away from the Hall.

The road will bear to the right. Do not follow it round, but walk straight ahead, through the gap between fences to join the road that leads through Babraham. Turn left and follow the road. After 50 yards you will find a footpath signposted “Abington $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles”. This footpath will take you

through Home Farm. Follow the footpath for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. You will reach a footbridge crossing the A11.

Cross the footbridge and follow the footbridge across the field to the old A11. Cross the old A11, turn left and walk towards the Fourwentways petrol station. Turn right at Fourwentways and follow the road to the A1307. Turn right at the A1307 and follow it into Abington.

Look for number 31A on your right. Turn right immediately before number 31A and follow the footpath between fences until you reach Bourn Bridge Road. At this point, cross the road as it has a pavement on the other side. Turn left and follow Bourn Bridge Road round to the right towards St Mary's Church, Lt Abington. You will pass West Field on your right.

At St Mary's Church, follow the road round to the left into Church Lane.

Follow Church Lane back to the campsite (531492).

N.B. You are advised not to take the alternative route from the old A11 back to Abington along Bourn Bridge Road. Bourn Bridge Road is fairly busy and narrow, and has no pavement.

Continuation—Route B

After you have explored Wandlebury, return to the Roman Road and continue to follow it. After a further $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles you will reach the A11 at Mount Farm (528519). On the other side of the A11 is Worsted Lodge. The A11 is crossed by bridge.

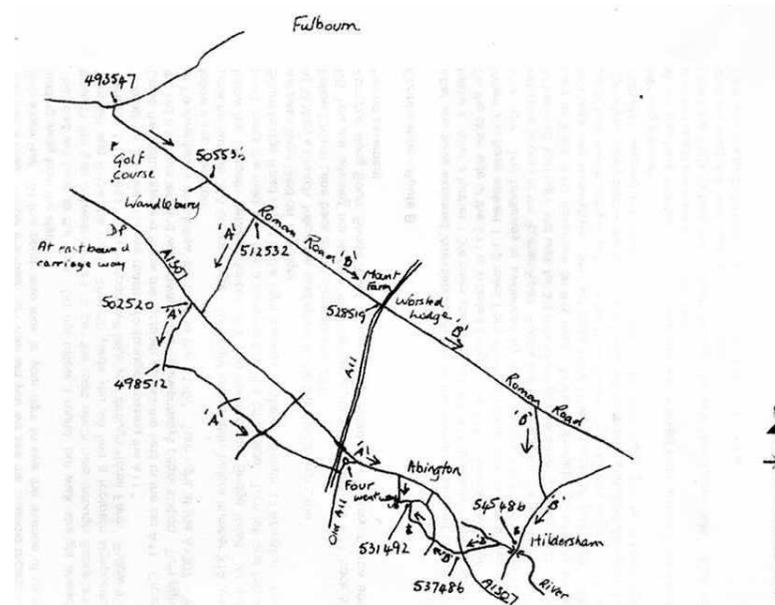
When you have walked $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Worsted Lodge, look for the bridleway on your right. The bridleway is evidenced by a few upright metal posts to prevent vehicular access to the Roman Road. Follow the bridleway for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, after which you will arrive at a crossroads. Take care as there is no pavement on this road. At the crossroads, go straight ahead and walk into Hildersham. You will pass Holy Trinity Church on your right. 200 yards from the church you will reach the River Bourn. Do not cross the river but turn right immediately before the bridge and follow the footpath signposted "Abington $\frac{3}{4}$ " (545486), keeping the river on your left. The path leads you to a footbridge crossing the river.

When you have crossed the river, follow the waymarked path across

three fields until you reach the main A1307 (537486). Cross the A604 to take the footpath through the gate directly opposite. Walk on until you reach the road leading into Abington.

Turn right towards Abington. Walk until you reach High Street.

Turn right and follow High Street. At the Three Tuns public house cross the road and follow the footpath which runs to the right of the school. Follow the path into the recreation ground. When you reach the far right corner of the recreation ground, cross the footbridge and follow the footpath which will lead you back to Church Lane and the entrance to the campsite (531492). When you are walking this last section of the footpath, you will have the campsite on your right. Please do not be tempted to climb through or over the perimeter fence, as you may cause unnecessary damage.



(Not to scale.)