

# WEST SWINDON WALKS: THE WEST SWINDON CIRCULAR TOUR

Approximately 5.5 mile on tarmac footpaths



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# WEST SWINDON WALKS: THE WEST SWINDON CIRCULAR TOUR

This walk follows a circular tour of West Swindon. Normal shoes or trainers are required for this stroll of a couple of hours or about five and a half miles on tarmac footpaths, which are mainly flat with a few gradual hills.

From the ramp entrance at the Link Centre cross Link Avenue and take the underpass beneath Whitehill Way. Walk uphill with the Shaw Ridge Leisure Complex on your left and St. Peter's RC church on your right. Turn left at the T-junction of paths and follow the path along the top of Shaw Ridge.

Crossing the footbridge over Tewkesbury Way, ignore the footpath on the left to the Grange Park estate and continue through Grange Park open space. Taking the third footpath on the left into Grange Park estate, follow this path, ignoring the path joining from the left until the roundabout at Hay Lane and Grange Park Way is reached.

When you have crossed the road there are two footpaths. Take the path to the right of the hedge and this will follow the course of the old Hay Lane Road. Crossing Sudely Way, continue along the old route. After about a hundred yards along a footpath of King Henry Drive the road veers to the right and we continue walking straight following the path to Hook Street.

Being very careful, cross over this busy road and walk past the bus stop and down through the subway under Whitehill Way. Emerging from the subway, continue to Worsley Road and turn right following Worsley Road to the T-junction with Liskeard Way. Turn right and take the second road on the right: Roundway Down. At the bottom of Roundway Down turn left on to the footpath and then turn right through the subway under Great Western Way. Turn left on to the cycleway and follow this path to the next subway.

Emerging from this subway, cross Bodiam Drive and walk up Dunwich Drive to the Toothill village centre. At the far end of the car park follow the footpath down to the footbridge over Tewkesbury Way. Having crossed the bridge, turn right on to the path on the other side of Westlea Drive. Walking past the play area on the right hand side we come to a division in the path. One route will go to Delta Tennis Centre while we turn left and continue along the path until we reach another part of Westlea Drive.

Traversing Westlea Drive on the crossing follow the footpath between the houses on the right and the stream on the left. Half way along this path there is a bridge over the stream which, if chosen would lead directly to the Link centre. However we will continue to follow the stream to Withy Mead Park. On route you will notice Westlea Police Station and Fire Station on your right.

At Withy Mead Park, walk through the subway under Whitehill Way. The building on the right was the prize winning Renault building which is presently known as Spectrum. The Chinese Government has bought it and plans to create an import distribution centre. Continue along the footpath until you see a signpost pointing left to Shaw Ridge and Lydiard Park. Take this route and on the right is the old Shaw farmhouse. Note the two old red telephone boxes in the drive.

Follow this path, passing the children's play area on your right until there is a T-junction of paths. Turn left here and walk back down the hill to return to the Link Centre.

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