

12. Badminton

Easy 3km tarmac route through village and park, suitable for all. Optional extra village loop.



Where is it?

Badminton Park is five miles north of junction 18 of the M4. Take the A46 and the B4040 to Acton Turville. At the village sign fork left and at a T-junction turn left. Cross the narrow railway bridge and continue for one mile to Badminton village. Here turn right and left, following two signs for the village hall. Approaching from the north turn left off the A46 onto a minor road signed Little Badminton, where you continue to Badminton, following the village street and then right to the car park.

The walk

The easy 3km walk is generally level, on village lanes and public rights of way. On the return there are views through the trees of Badminton House, the 17th century stately home of the 11th Duke of Beaufort. (The extra 600 metre circuit of the hamlet of Little Badminton has steeper gradients and is not recommended for hand-propelled wheelchairs).



Directions

Facing the village hall, turn right and follow the lane into the village. At a sharp left hand bend, **1** go straight ahead into a lane marked PRIVATE ROAD (it is a public footpath) and carry on for 300 metres past farm buildings and paddocks. You enter Badminton Park through the park gates with a distinctive lodge house on your left, and then follow the avenue ahead which is lined by young trees. With Park Pond on your right, fork left **2** and pass the horse trial arena. The drive dips and rises gently to another lodge and a gate at Little Badminton. **3** You return by the same route.

All except wheelchair users may extend the walk by a circuit around (but outside) the irregular sloping village green of Little Badminton. Leaving the park turn right down a walled lane, then bear left up to farm buildings. Turn left to pass Saint Michael's and All Angels, a tiny 13th century church in a very large churchyard. It is open by prior appointment (Churchwarden M. Mills Tel: 01454 218407). After the church turn left downhill on a **minor road**, **4** with a good view of a dovecote. The gate back into the park is opposite.

Refreshments



Post office/shop in Badminton village. Pubs at Acton Turville (1 mile) and Luckington (2 miles).

Walks on Wheels was devised by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens to mark their 40 years of helping to improve access to the Cotswolds and conserve its special landscape.



12. Badminton village and park



Key to map

-  Smooth hard surface
-  Gentle slope

Key to symbols

-  Parking
-  Gate

Please Note:

Some of these routes may be difficult or impassable in bad weather and after rain. Always wear appropriate clothing and footwear and be aware of traffic. The Cotswolds Conservation Board cannot accept responsibility for accidents or difficulties experienced by users of these routes.