

Exploring Wroughton

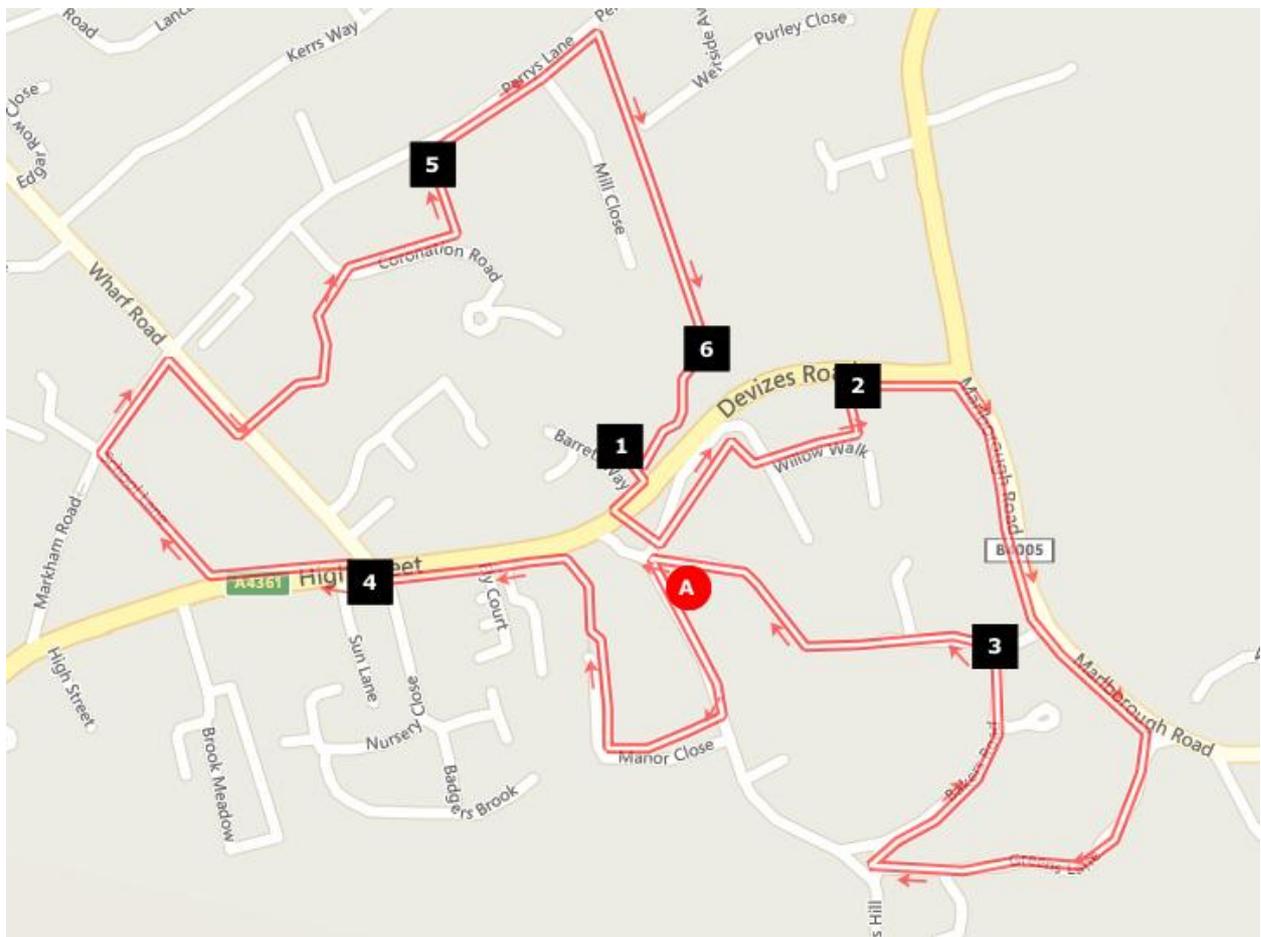
Difficulty **Easy** Walking time **1 hour 10 minutes** Length **3.8km / 2.3mi**

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Route checker: **Valerie Barron**

Start location: Ellendune Community Centre, Barrett Way, Wroughton

Route Summary: An easy stroll around the older parts of Wroughton, taking in some small rural lanes and passing buildings of local historic interest.



Description



[1] With your back to the Centre, turn left onto Barrett Way and cross Devizes Road to Priors Hill and then turn left immediately onto Devizes Road (this is the old Devizes Road) and walk with the stream on your left. Pass St Joseph's Catholic Church, *built in 1953*. Turn left into Willow Walk. At a sharp right hand bend, take a footpath on the left to join the main Devizes Road and then turn right.

[2] Continue to a roundabout and turn right onto Marlborough Road (**the path is narrow along a section**). Pass The Pichens and after a short distance turn right into Greens Lane (*there are several old thatched cottages in the lane*), at the end of the lane by Swan House turn right into Bakers Road (**caution: there is no pavement in Greens Lane or Bakers Road but both are quiet with very little traffic**). *There are more old thatched cottages*

here. Pass Woodham Mill on the right, *originally a working mill but no longer functional*. At the end of the road you reach The Pitches.

1 [3] Turn left and take the right hand path with a stream on the left (*sometimes trout can be seen here*), keep straight on, passing Brook House on the right. At the end of The Pitches turn left onto Priors Hill and you will find the “[Brown Jack](#)” public house on your left. This is an attractive Edwardian red brick pub dating from 1902. A basic drinkers' local it also hosts numerous activities and sports clubs. The pub has a skittle alley and a beer garden. The pub serves two regular beers – Bath Ales Gem, Sharp's Doom Bar. Upon leaving the pub, walk a short distance down the road (with the pub on your left) then turn right into Manor Close and continue into Manor Walk, pass a pond on the left and then walk towards Devizes Road and turn left along the pavement, after crossing a stream by a small bridge.



(A) The Brown Jack public house is named after Brown Jack (1924 - 1948) who was probably the most popular flat-race horse ever but began life as a hurdler. He was trained in Barcelona Stables in The Pitches by Aubrey Hastings and Mrs Hastings and later after Aubrey's death in 1929 by a former jockey Ivor Anthony. He won the Champion Hurdle seven times before changing to flat racing. His main claim to fame was winning the Queen Alexandra Stakes for six years running.

2 [4] Continue until you reach the Co-Op store by a crossing where it is safe to cross over towards the Great Western Fryer (*a fish and chip shop*) and continue up Devizes Road. Turn right, opposite The “[White Hart](#)” public house, into a School Lane, a *public footpath*. Before entering School Lane, you should visit the White Hart, an ancient thatched pub with a skittle alley. It has a traditional and cosy interior, which is wood panelled with some partitions and a low ceiling. The pub serves delicious meals between 12 to 2 and 7 to 9. The White Hart also hosts live music once a month. This pub serves five regular beers – Wadworth 6X, Wadworth Bishops Tipple, Wadworth Henry's IPA, Wadworth Horizon and Wadworth Swordfish.



3 Another pub worth visiting, further along the High Street, is “[Carter's Rest](#)”, which dates back to 1671. It was extensively altered in 1913 and it now appears Victorian in style with its large gables and high ceilings. It is a real ale destination with its 13 hand pumps serving five regular and one guest ales, plus one regular cider and one craft beer. An annual festival is held in December and live sport is shown. Every Thursday is a Quiz and they have a traditional meat draw on Sunday. This pub serves five regular beers – Cotswold

Spring Stunner, Marston's Pedigree New World Pale Ale, Otter Amber, Ramsbury Flint Knapper and Sharp's Doom Bar and an impressive six changing guest ales.

At the end of School Lane turn right into Markham Road, by Pavey Cottage. At the cross road turn right onto Wharf Road. After a short distance cross the road by a crossing and take the footpath in front of you. Keep to the path bearing left, passing shops to the right. At the end of the path turn right onto Coronation Road. At a right hand bend take a footpath on the left between houses. At the end, opposite a white cottage, turn right onto Perrys Lane.

[5] Pass Mill House on the right *which is one of several old mills in Wroughton, now all disused*. Cross Mill Close and after a short distance turn right into a footpath, continue past Trefoil House and onto the Weir Field (*a sports field*), and continue until the end of the field by the Workmen's Club.

[6] Turn right and immediately left over a foot bridge over a stream. *Just before reaching Barrett Way there is a memorial wall on the right which was erected by Wroughton Parish Council on behalf of the people of Wroughton to Commemorate the Millennium. It depicts various historical facts in mosaic*. Continue a few yards and then turn right towards the Ellendune Centre and back to the start by the Community Centre.

For more information about Pubs & Wellbeing please visit:
www.camra.org.uk/pubs-wellbeing

For more information about local routes, please visit:
www.ramblers.com