

Diddington Path Descriptions

Path Numbers relate to the Rights Of Way Definitive Map

D1. High Street to Boughton Lodge Farm

1403m track and soil

The path leaves the High Street in a southerly direction just beyond Manor Farm, passing the thatched cottage to follow the wooden fence to a kissing gate to join a south-easterly track across the field to a gateway before turning south again to the field boundary, turning east as a path and keeping the hedge to the south along the field margin to gain a kissing gate and pass south through woodland to a kissing gate giving access to pasture [the site of medieval Broughton]. The path follows the western bank of the water filled ditch for c. 125m before crossing a concrete bridge eastwards then continues south along the watercourse for c. 195m becoming S2 as it crosses the parish boundary to a kissing gate at the farm track, with Boughton Lodge Farm [private road] to the east. S2 continues c. 3m eastwards then in a southerly direction towards Paxton Pits

D2. Ouse Valley Way [part]

750m soil

Warning: This path follows the river Great Ouse – in times of flood it may be dangerous/impassable

D2 runs south along the western bank of the Great Ouse from the point that B14 joins the Ouse Valley Way from the Offord Intake works, to become S18 as it enters Southoe parish to continue south towards Little Paxton Pits.

D5. From D6 eastwards towards Water Board Road

650m soil

Joint path with B3 from the footbridge over Diddington Brook the path follows the southern bank of the brook to the parish boundary, at which point it turns north westerly as B3 to join the Anglian Water Board Road.

D6. Stirtloe Lane Buckden to Diddington High Street

450m track

D6 continues south from B2 at the point where it crosses Diddington Brook to the car park at the northern end of the High Street

D11. South Lodge to North Lodge

592m track soil/concrete

Path leaves the High Street west of South Lodge and passes northwards towards St Lawrence's Church [accessed by D18 [30m gravel] skirting the churchyard to the west and passing via a gate and cattlegrid across grassland to join the A1 [footpath/cycleway] at North Lodge c.30m south of Diddington Brook

D12. Vicarage Lane to A1 [N]

450m Soil

Access northwards through the gate at the north of the junction of Vicarage Lane and the A1. The path follows the eastern field boundary to pass west through a gap westwards in the hedge some 80m south of Diddington Brook [there is NO safe access/crossing of the A1]

D13/15. Vicarage Lane to Highfield Farm

1370m [Bridleway] track & soil

From the western end of Vicarage Lane the track passes Woodside House northwards as D13 [228m] to Gamekeepers Cottage, whilst after c. 210m D15 turns west as a grass/soil path to follow the southern boundary of Diddington Wood to meet the southern end of D14 from Shooters Hollow, before continuing to follow the woodland boundary west then trending south before turning west again to the corner of the wood and the parish boundary, continuing as M11 towards Highfield Farm, or as M8 turning south then east towards Common Barn

D14. Shooters Hollow to Diddington Wood

450m [Bridleway] soil and track

The path continues B5 from Shooters Hollow from the wooden foot bridge over Diddington Brook passing in a southerly direction initially as a path before joining a track from the east to pass through Diddington Wood to meet D15 at southern edge of the woodland.

D18. St Lawrence's Church

30m gravel path

30m spur northwards from D11 to St Lawrence's Church.

N.B. Some footpaths/bridleways will change/be created progressively as Bardon Aggregates complete phased mineral extraction/restoration to phase 5 in 2024. Interim update information and mapping will be published when available on www.buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk pending finalisation of the definitive map.

Buckden Path Descriptions

Path Numbers relate to the Rights Of Way Definitive Map

B1. Village Hall to Stirtloe Lane, Stirtloe

600m metalled and soil

From the south-west corner of Buckden Village Hall car park the metalled path passes Monks Cottages and heads south westerly skirting the bowling green to the north-western lakeside, past path 4 and "The Valley" and over the foot bridge to Cranfield Way where it proceeds south-east then passing between nos 64 and 68 to bear right to join the field edge path to Stirtloe Lane.

B2. Stirtloe Lane towards Diddington

Length 550m [1030m to Diddington] soil & track

Starting opposite path 1 southwards path 2 passes through the metal kissing gate and along the field edge to a seat [350m] where a permissive path leaves eastwards to join the Anglian Water road, whilst path 2 continues southwards over Diddington Brook as Diddington path 6 into Diddington Parish to meet the metalled road at the Car Park.

B3. Diddington Brook to Mill Road

2150m soil

From path 2 where it crosses the Brook Diddington path 5 follows the brook eastwards crossing a wooden drain bridge to re-enter Buckden parish as path 3, continuing along the hedge and brook side to cross the Anglian Water Road. Passing over a wooden footbridge and through the metal kissing gate it continues with the brook and a wooded area to the west and the water-filled worked-out gravel pits to the east crossing a track to Margetts Farm. Continuing north eastwards the field edge path keeps to the hedge before following the brook to reach the Millstream channel as path 9, then becoming part of the Ouse Valley Way footpath northwards to the metal kissing gate on Mill Road.

B4. Lucks Lane to Footpath 1

180m metalled

Starting opposite The Osiers in Lucks Lane the path passes between nos 44 & 46 to cross Morris Close to meet path 1.

B5. Shooters Hollow Bridleway

600m road, track and soil

Path 5 leaves the B661 200m east of the Graham Road junction passing southwards along the Shooters Hollow

Farm access road, crossing the stream to the west near the farm house and passing the barn to the right to follow the field edge path southwards before crossing Diddington Brook over a foot bridge into Diddington Wood. It is a small part of the Three Shires Bridleway which runs for 60km [38miles] from Buckinghamshire through Bedfordshire and into Cambridgeshire.

B6. Hardwick Lane to Taylors Lane

420m soil

From the western end of Hardwick Lane path 6 passes west through a small thicket to follow the field edge path as it turns north to join the farm track, proceeding westerly to the junction with Taylors Lane.

B7. Taylors Lane to Buckden Road, Grafham

1580m soil [total length 2330m]

Through the kissing gate to the north-west of Foxhollow Farm path 7 follows the northern field edge behind farm buildings, continuing through a hedge gap alongside the drain to follow the northern field edge to cross a track by a lone oak with a seat beneath. It follows the northern field path to the field boundary, passing through the hedge at the junction with path 8 which goes north to Brampton Road, Grafham. Path 7 continues north-westerly across the field and through the hedge into Grafham parish, where it follows the field edge path alongside the hedge to the Buckden Road by Top Farm Cottages.

B8. Footpath 7 to Brampton Road, Grafham

950m soil

From path 7 it heads north as a field edge path following the hedge, turning briefly west and then north again before passing through the hedge and over a wooden bridge to gain the Brampton Road.

B9. Connects Footpath 3 and 12

70m soil

Path 9 links the northern end of path 3 by continuing south of Diddington Brook to join path 12 Ouse Valley Way.

B11. Mere Lane Byway

985m soil and grass track

Accessed 90m west of the point that Brampton Road passes under the A1 the byway follows the track in a north-westerly direction to the Grafham – Brampton Road. [The access point and surface may change as a result of the construction of the Buckden A1/A14 interchange]

Buckden & Diddington Public Rights of Way Map

Including footpaths, bridleways,
permissive paths
and long distance routes.

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B12. Ouse Valley Way [South]

1500m soil [total length 41km]

Warning: This path follows the river Great Ouse – in times of flood it may be dangerous/impassable.

Following the western bank of the Great Ouse path 12 enters Buckden Parish as part of the Ouse Valley Way at the point that B14 the path that skirts the Intake Works joins it from the west. Passing the Intake sluice it continues northwards along the river bank until within sight of the Offord weir it swings westwards to follow the navigation channel to a metal kissing gate, where it briefly turns south to a gap in the hedge line to the east and a metal kissing gate to cross a footbridge over a subsidiary channel to join the field edge track northwards passing the Old Flour Mill where it is joined by path 9 from the west before gaining Mill Road via a metal kissing gate. [The Ouse Valley Way continues north as path 13.]

B13. Ouse Valley Way [North]

1900m metalled and soil [total length 41km]

Warning: This path follows the river Great Ouse – in times of flood it may be dangerous/impassable.

Path 13 starts just to the west of the vehicular entrance to the Marina on Mill Road, passing through a metal kissing gate to follow the metalled road between the lodges until it turns north as a footpath which continues along the western bank of the Great Ouse.

B14. Footpath 3 to Ouse Valley Way

1010m soil

From the point where footpath 3 crosses the Anglian Water road, path 14 runs in an easterly direction parallel to and south of the metalled road to the Intake Works entrance. To the south of the Intake Works gated entrance at the eastern end of the metalled road the path passes through a metal kissing gate, following the works fence south before turning eastwards to pass over a wooden footbridge and then follow the northern field margin path to meet path 12, the Ouse Valley Way, at the river bank.

**Follow the Country Code
Kill nothing but footprints
Kill nothing but time
Take nothing but photographs**

This guide, published by Buckden Parish Council, is based on the Definitive Map for the area, which is held by Cambridgeshire County Council.