

Cultural Routes

DISCOVER, CONNECT, EXPLORE

YELLOW ROUTE - CARS, BOATS AND TRAINS

Full route - 9.4 miles

Short route - 5 miles

Estimated walk time: 3-4 Hours

Estimated cycle time: 2-3 hours



GET ACTIVE AND EXPLORE MILTON KEYNES WITH OUR CULTURAL ROUTES

Route Description:

Whether you walk, cycle or run, this route has something for everyone, showcasing the very best of Milton Keynes' arts and heritage to be discovered in the north-eastern and Newport Pagnell area of the city.

We suggest starting in Newport Pagnell, a town first mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and the home of Aston Martin, which has numerous places to eat and lots to explore, but you are free to join the route at any point. Leaving the town you will cross Tickford Bridge – the oldest iron bridge still in use in the world – and join Tongwell Lane which existed long before the new town of Milton Keynes was built. If you are completing the shorter 5 mile route, you will leave the main route just past Tongwell Lake, re-joining it at the Grand Union Canal by Brick Kilns in Great Linford.

If you are completing the full 10 mile route, you arrive at Willen Lake, skirting the lake to see the Labyrinth and Peace Pagoda built in 1980. Departing Willen Lake you will pick up the route alongside the Grand Union Canal where you can explore the Gyosei Art Trail as you travel Northwards towards Linford Manor Park and Milton Keynes Arts centre. Joining the Railway Walk Trail look out for Great Linford Station platform and the Signal Post before arriving back in Newport Pagnell.

Visit www.pedallingculture.com to download the digital maps to your device.



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Destination Stop

Newport Pagnell

A busy market town, dating from Roman times, that has shops, a library, leisure facilities and a riverside walk.

Tickford Bridge

Travel down St John Street, past the library to Tickford Bridge (1810). This is the worlds oldest iron bridge still in daily use by traffic.

Aston Martin Works

This 1910 three storey building was bought by Aston Martin in 1954 who reached the height of their production in 1959 with the DB4.



Vellum Works

Cowleys have been making the finest quality parchment and vellum since 1870. It is the last remaining establishment of its kind in the country.

Proceed down **Tongwell Lane**, one of the original country lanes that existed before the New Town was built.

Tongwell Lake

The lake is surrounded by trees and shrubs and has an island in the centre which is a haven for birds including ducks, moorhens, herons, swans and Canadian geese.

Willen Lake

Willen Lake is Milton Keynes' most popular park. Visitors take part in watersports activities, go cycling, enjoy the playground, try the high ropes or simply enjoy a picnic along Willen shores.



Willen Church - St. Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene was designed by the scientist and architect Robert Hooke and completed in 1680.



Willen Labyrinth

This turf maze has an oak tree at its centre and in each of the four lobes a bronze face designed by sculpture Tim Minett.

Peace Pagoda: Minoru Okha and Tom Hancock (1980)

The first of its kind in the western world the peace Pagoda sits next to the Buddhist temple and enshrines sacred relics of Lord Buddha presented from Nepal, Sri Lanka and Berlin.



Hiroshima Departed: Ronald Rae (1985)

In the grounds of the Buddhist Temple at Willen Lake, this piece is carved from granite in memory of those who died at Hiroshima. This sculpture warns of the tragedy of nuclear war.

Leda & The Swan: Michael Morse McDonald (1992)

Gifted by the artist to The Parks Trust in 1992, Willen Lake was chosen as an ideal location due to the proximity of the lake and the number of swans that grace the grounds and lakeside.

Leave the Lake and proceed up to the **Grand Union Canal**.

Head: Allen Jones (1990)

Two dimensional silhouettes are used to create a three-dimensional form, which invites you to explore



Gyosei Arts Trail

This trail commemorates the legacy of Gyosei International School UK who closed in 2012.

Commemorative Plaque: Justin Tunley (2016)

Justin's sculpture maps the Gyosei Art Trail along the Grand Union Canal using small discs to show other art works.

Arachne weaves: Linda Johns (2016)

The title 'Arachne weaves' refers to the myth of a mortal who was turned into a spider for daring to say her skill at weaving was greater than Athena's.

What lies beneath: Rob Griffiths (2016)

This sculpture takes the form of a bench with relief carvings illustrating the food chain in the canal and a giant frog sitting peacefully unaware of all that lies beneath.

Dragonfly: Ptolemy Elrington (2016)

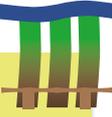
Ptolemy transformed redundant and abandoned materials into the light and delicate form of a dragonfly, a symbol of courage, strength, and happiness in Japan.

Local birds & plants: Laura Boswell (2016)

Seven enamel panels presenting local birds using a Japanese aesthetic - inspired by native birds and plants to the area.

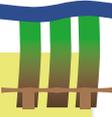
Shire Horse: Andrew Kay (2016)

Andrew created a powerful Shire Horse whose steady toil propelled the barges of yesteryear along the towpaths of the Grand Union canal.



Three Post Bench: Jeremy Turner (2016)

The oak posts and the head rail that top them are vehicles for robustly carved relief images that all make reference to the wildlife of the canal.



Autumn Splendour: Melanie Watts (2016)

Melanie created a mosaic in a range of stunning glass: a beautiful white barn owl is the focal point, swooping into the trees in Great Linford to capture its prey.

Leave the canal, pass the **Brick Kilns** and proceed down Great Linford High Street to **Linford Manor Park**

Milton Keynes Arts Centre - Linford Almshouses

The Arts Centre presents a programme of exhibitions, live events and educational activities. The historic almshouses, built in 1696, are now used as studios for artists.

St Andrews Church

A church called St Andrew's has stood on the hill since the 13th century.



Join the **Railway Trail Walk** and head east

Great Linford Station

Opened in 1867, this station on the Newport Pagnell to Wolverton line, saw passenger traffic until 1964 and goods trains until 1967. The station building has been demolished but the platform remains to be seen.



Signal Post

The signal post is all that is left of Newport Pagnell railway station. The branch line closed to passengers in 1964.



Arrive back at **Newport Pagnell**.