

Explore Enfield Chase - Further walk options

The options below will allow you to explore yet more of the unmapped paths in this area. You can mix and match sections of the walk to give a range of lengths. Also download the full "Map of long Walk with Options"

Option A (download the file "Main route" for options A & B): 6.5 mile walk from Waggon Road to the Nature Reserve (or 8.1 miles if you want to visit the pub in Northaw)

Option B (main route from alternative starting point on Ferny Hill): 7.2 miles (or 8.8 with pub)

Option C (long walk - see below): 11.7 miles from Ferny Hill including the pub stop and the Nature Reserve

Option D (alternative short walk using the eastern part of the long walk): 6.8 miles from Ferny Hill

Option E (extended long walk from Trent Park Cafeteria): 14.1 miles

Option C: 11.7 mile walk from Ferny Hill

This long walk starts from the layby on Ferny Hill, opposite the obelisk in Trent Park, just west of the entrance to the park. If you are a large group, there is more parking in the northern car park of Trent Park.

Lunch stop: pub in Northaw

From the layby, take the signed path north down the hill with the hedge on your left. Turn right at the bottom of the hill joining the route of the short walk until you reach the footbridge to cross over Salmon's Brook. Over the bridge, turn right following London Loop signs along the valley bottom with the hedge and Salmon's Brook now on your right. A wide grassy track takes you alongside a few fields to a point where the hedge and your path turn left up the right hand side of the field. Before you reach the top of the hill, turn right into a patch of woodland (planted many years ago by Groundforce), then through to an open field beside the Ridgeway road with the Royal Chace Hotel visible ahead of you. Turn left at the stile out onto Ridgeway, and follow the London Loop across the road and right down to a track opposite the hotel.

Follow the concrete track downhill to a farm, where it turns right then left then gently uphill towards a railway bridge. Just before the railway bridge, leave the London Loop to turn left into a field following a Groundforce sign. Turn right (north) in the field, keeping the hedge on your right, until you reach a stile in the fence ahead of you. Over the fence, you will see a rather scruffy pond with a bench – a good spot to take a rest. To continue the walk, don't cross the fence but turn left along the side of the field, with the hedge and now a golf course on your right. Continue a little way down the hill, with fine views ahead. To the left you will see the track past the farm you recently walked down and the Chase Farm Hospital construction work beyond. When you reach an open field on your right, turn right along the top edge of it, then left at the end of this field down to the bottom of the hill (you are walking around the golf course all the way). At the North West corner of the field, the path goes through the hedge to descend into a strip of woodland and cross a bridge over Turkey Brook. Emerging from the woods, turn right into the field alongside the woods then follow the field edge left and uphill to reach a track. Cross the track and cross a plank bridge to go up the right hand side of the next field with the hedge still on your right. Half way up this field, you will pass a gap into the neighbouring field on the right at its field boundary. Immediately above the gap, a sign directs you right into a dense bit of woodland, past a pond. Follow the path in the woods as it turns left then right, finally emerging into a field to go alongside a house and garden on your left to the road.

Turn right down the road and cross the road just before the next group of houses. Follow the signs over a plank bridge into the edge of the field and follow the field boundary down to the corner. Go straight through the hedge at the bottom to the field beyond. Climb the hill up the right hand side of the field. When you reach the top, turn left along the ridge, still with a field boundary on your right. You will pass the local model aircraft club, and shortly afterwards, see a footpath sign at a gap in the hedge. Go through the hedge into the open field with the sight and sound of the M25 ahead! Head straight down the hill and turn left at the bottom, keeping the field boundary always on your right. You are aiming for the bottom left (North West) corner of the field, where you emerge onto a farm track. The long walk now joins the route of the short walk as you turn right into the farm track and take the bridge over the M25 (see "Main Route" download).

(For Option D short walk of 6.8 miles, turn left up this farm track to reverse the outward route of the Option A short walk to reach Salmon's Brook, then return along your outward route to Ferny Hill).

When you reach the nature reserve, continue along the road to take the woodland track up to Northaw for your lunch break. When you reach the pub, you will have completed 7 miles of the 11.7 mile walk.

When you reach the end of the short walk route, turn left instead of right after crossing the footbridge, and walk along the edge of the field (as described for the start of the short walk), until you reach the path to take you back up to Ferny Hill and Trent Park.

(For an even longer walk, Option E, you could park at the Cafeteria in Trent Park. The routes shown in green through the park for the start and end of this walk add another 2.4 miles to bring the total distance up to 14 miles and add some beautiful parkland scenery to your walk).