## Greensand

# Ridge Walk





Walk

### **Woburn to Ampthill**

10 miles/15.5km

- Taking care, cross George Street and turn right and walk along the pavement for 275m. At Ivy Lodge, turn left through the metal kissing gate into the **Deer Park**. Follow the waymarked path through the parkland, passing Woburn Abbey.
  - Leave the Deer Park via the kissing gate and follow the waymarked path to an iron gate on a road. Please take care to re-latch the gates when entering and leaving the Deer Park.
- Turn left along the road and walk into **Eversholt** village. Bear left, passing St. John's Church and the cricket field on your left, before turning right into Brook End. After passing Dove Cottage turn left across a bridge and immediately turn right to follow the field boundary. Turn left onto the bridleway and follow to New Water End.
- (3) Cross the road and follow the track opposite through the woodland. On leaving the woodland, continue to follow the waymarked bridleway past Wakes End Farm and across Cobblers Lane, continue straight ahead.
- Follow the waymarked path to Holt Plantation, turning left and following the path to the ruined **Segenhoe Church**, then onto Ridgmont. At the side of the Firs Cafe and B&B, follow the road left down the hill turning right after the woodland. Follow the waymarked path, bridged over the M1 and Ridgmont Bypass, and onto Boughton End turn right along the road then left after 100m. Follow the waymarked path to the next road junction.

- Turn left along the road past Southview Farm and then turn right along a farm track. Passing Jackdaw Hill House on your left, follow the waymarked route through the woodland. Bear right around the back of the pond before turning left to follow the waymarked path between the golf course and Millbrook Proving Ground.
- At the road turn right and then right again along Sandhill Close. Turn left to pass St. Michael's Church and follow the waymarked route along the lane. At the top of the lane bear right and follow a farm track.
- Continue past Ossory Farm, follow a narrow, meandering footpath. At the junction of footpaths, turn left for 55m and then right and walk up steps, through the woodland and over the Ampthill New Tunnel. Pass through a metal kissing gate and follow the waymarked path through Ampthill Park, passing Katherine's Cross and the war memorial on your right. Continue on the path to Bedford Street.



#### **Woburn Deer Park**

The Deer Park surrounds the Abbey, seat of the Duke of Bedford. Woburn Abbey is built on the site of a Cistercian Monastery dating back to 1145, and was seized during the Dissolution by Henry VIII, who left it in his will to the Duke of Bedford. The Deer Park covers some 3,000 acres and contains nine species of deer. The Deer Park was used for hunting and was landscaped by Humphrey Repton in the early 19th century.

#### **Ampthill Park**

Ampthill Park, once a Deer Park, surrounded Ampthill Castle and was popular with Henry VIII. The site of the Castle, demolished in the 16th century, is marked by Katherine's Cross. Katherine of Aragon was imprisoned here by Henry VIII during her trial and divorce.

#### Millbrook

The cottages of Millbrook were mainly built to house the workers of the Duke of Bedford's Estate. They exhibit architecture typical of the Estate. The church is one of the highest points on the walk at approximately 350 feet above sea level. The Millbrook Proving Ground is used for test-driving vehicles.

#### Eversholt

Eversholt is a very dispersed village, made up of 13 small hamlets, or 'Ends'. It takes its name from the Old English, meaning wood of the wild boar. The Church of St John the Baptist was built in the 12th century but underwent major restoration in the 19th century by Sir George Gilbert Scott.

