



Description of location	Dist. from start (KM)	Description of route to next check point
Tadpole Bridge	0	Cross the bridge, face East (really important that) and commence the walk. You'll be facing the right direction so long as the river is down to your right! Headed to Shifford Lock (3 miles).
Shifford Lock	5.3	Just before Shifford Lock you come to a wooden bridge. Cross over the bridge, as indicated by the signs. Quickly do a left turn so that the river is now on your left. Half a mile later you'll pass Shifford Lock on your left and come to a lovely looking wooden arched bridge. Cross over this and turn left, once over.
Newbridge	9.6	When you arrive at the road at Newbridge. Turn left here, pass the Maybush Pub, and over the bridge. The path very quickly will be on your right side, passing through the car park and garden of the Rose Revived Pub. Pick up the path so that the river is now on your right heading for Bablock Hythe.
The Ferryman Inn, Bablock Hythe	15.5	Just as you are approaching the pub at Bablock Hythe you will see a (misleading) sign for the Thames Path pointing you right, across the fields. Ignore this, walk all the way to the pub. Maybe buy a lemonade, and use their loo! At the pub, turn left down their driveway, leaving the river behind you. Walk past a static home/holiday park on your right and half a mile later take a right turn along a minor road/bridleway. Another 800m (half a mile) look out for the path on your right, signposted for the Thames Path (Pinkhill Lock 2.5 miles). Follow this across muddy fields with a fence/hedgerow to your left now. It will eventually lead you back to the river.
Pinkhill Lock	19.7	At Pinkhill Lock , follow signs that will lead you once more over the river, so that it is now on your left. This leads you to the B4044. Turn left along this road, sticking to the pavement on the left. Walk no more than 500m and then turn left along the driveway that serves the boatyard for Oxford Cruisers . Pick up the path so that the river is on your left once more.
Fiddler's Island, Oxford	30.4	On your way to Oxford you will pass underneath the A34 dual carriageway. Shortly later the path brings you to a road to cross, with the Trout Inn over to your left. Continue back to the path, with the river still on your left. About 2 miles later, you come to a rusty red bridge. Follow the path over a rusty red footbridge, so that the river now runs on your right. Continue along the river. Don't be tempted off another footbridge immediately on your left. Continue to Oxford!
Enter Oxford	31.6	As you get nearer to the city, the path becomes firmer underfoot. You will soon be walking along the back of some houses with the river down to your right. The route takes a left turn between some house and onto Abbey Rd . Turn right onto this and follow it to the end, where you will see the River Hotel opposite. Right turn, over the bridge and then immediately, left turn (by a lamp post), over the footbridge onto the footpath. (This is easily missed. If you end up seeing the Hollybush Inn, you've missed the path! (Like I did). Turn back.)
Exit Oxford	33.6	You should now be on East St with the river down to your left. Walk all the way down to South St and the route veers off slightly to the left. You'll be clearly back on the path now, winding your way along the

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		river, under railway bridges and over footbridges. As you pass by Osney Lock, there is a tap there that gives you access to drinking water. Eventually you'll come to the main road, with a pelican crossing. (About a mile up this road to your left is Christ Church College, and also a Tesco Express). Over the road now, and continue on your way, with the river still on your left.
Abingdon Lock	46.7	Continue all the way to Abingdon Lock, with the river on your left. Cross over the weirs and you will see the lock-keeper's house with a parking space beside it. Access the driveway and follow this out of the lock, leaving the river behind. Continue along here until you come across a public footpath and T-Junction. Turn right onto this towards the main road the A415. Once you get to the A415 turn left and over the road you'll see Hales Meadow Car Park.
Hales Meadow Car Park	47.3	Time for dinner! To get yourself back on track, take a left turn out of the car park, back onto the road. Take the path down to the river and continue on your way with the river on your right now. Two miles later you will come to Culham Lock. Continue on now, still with the river on your right.
Clifton Lock	55.3	You'll pass Clifton Lock on your right and about half a mile later you will come to a brick built bridge (the Clifton Hampden Bridge) spanning the river. Do not pass underneath this bridge. Leave the path, access the bridge and cross over the river. Once over the bridge, left turn, back on the path and follow on with the river on your left. About 4Km later (1 hour?) you will cross a footbridge. Do not be distracted down any other paths. Keep to the river! A further 1Km or so along the path and you will see a signpost directing you left, away from the river. (If you keep going you'll walk yourself into a footpath cul-de-sac). Follow this path over to the A4074. Turn right onto the road and enter Shillingford .
Shillingford	63.5	Almost as soon as you enter Shillingford, at a crossroads, do a right turn down Wharf Rd. Follow this to the end where you will pick up your path on the left. About 500m later you'll come to the Wallingford Road. Right turn onto this and before crossing the bridge, turn left back onto the footpath. You should now be walking with the river on your left again.
Benson	66.2	As you progress along the river you'll come to a section that has what looks like holiday homes to your left and a load of white motor-cruisers moored to your right. You'll find lots of water taps here too. Keep going, past the bistro, through the garden and off diagonally left towards the road. You'll pick up a really minor road (Preston Crowmarsh). Follow this right. About 400m later you'll see the way for the Thames Path closed off with barriers. Follow the diversion signs that will lead you down the road a little further. About 1Km later you will come to the A4074. Right turn, keep following the signs. Keep to the right, facing the traffic. In about 300m the route branches off right down a smaller road, Benson Lane. This road now brings you down to Wallingford. At the mini-roundabout, opposite the pub, do a right turn, and head over the bridge.
Wallingford Bridge	69.8	Almost the moment you're over the bridge, look to do a left turn down Thames St. (You can easily miss the sign, it's just above eye-level and on the other side of the road). As you walk down here you'll pass

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		the Air Cadets, and then Wallingford Rowing Club on your left. Just up the road and to the right are some Public Conveniences in the Cattlemarket Car Park. (Just off the route a little bit). If your bladder and bowels are fine, keep going until you reach the church at the end of this road. Just there, there is a little snicket down to the left, signposted Thames Path. Follow this and a few yards later you're out onto another small road. Left turn and then right turn back to the river. Pick up the river once more, so that it is now on your left. For this next section, if it's been raining, I think a pair of football boots would be your best bet. (Or just a pair of walking poles and waterproof socks maybe?) In parts, it gets muddy. Route finding is easy however. Keep the river on your left. Eventually you'll pass under a railway viaduct and this will lead you up to a road, and some school playing fields. Continue along this driveway, up to the A329 and turn left along the pavement. Past Cranford School, and come to a cross roads junction. Left turn down Ferry Lane.
The Beetle and Wedge, Moulsoford	77.2	Walk past the Beetle and Wedge so that it's on your right. The river will be on your left again now. Keep to the path. Keep the river on your left. Do not be tempted to walk off down any nice dry roads. Eventually however, there will be no choice, other than to veer right, following a clearly marked trail. You will walk down a well worn path, which then picks up a muddy track which leads you round the Swan at Streatley. You will find yourself on a leafy road. Turn left over the bridge and into Goring. Then just as you see the post office on your left (with a telephone box), turn right down some shallow steps, back on yourself so that Goring Mill is on your left and you will now be on the Thames Path. Follow this down to the river, and hand rail the river now so that it is closely to your right.
The Thames Path, Goring	80.6	Stick to the path now, which leads you under a railway bridge (at 82.5Km). Under the railway bridge, and through the gate with a sign for Goring Fishing Club (that is your path). Keep to the path, which, 500m later leads you leftwards away from the river, up a short path to a bridleway. Head right along the bridleway, continuing to follow signs for the Thames Path. Through the woods, up a small hill (which by now, will feel nothing less than a mountain for you). Eventually you'll come to a road junction where you need to turn right for Whitchurch on Thames. Stay on this road. (Ignore the sign for the Thames Path that leads you on a tour through the local church). Stay on this road until you have passed the toll kiosk and crossed the Whitchurch Bridge.
Whitchurch Bridge	87.3	Having crossed the bridge, you'll see a big sign saying "Pangbourne". Right before this sign you'll see your footpath down to your left. Follow this through the car park of the Dolphin Centre, so that the Centre is on your right. Through a metal kissing gate, and back to the river. Follow the river so that it is now on your left, heading now for Purley. Follow the path until it brings you to Mapledurham Lock. You'll be able to get water here, and whilst there are toilets here, they're likely to be locked. The path leads you over a small footbridge. just after this, follow the Thames Path right, (away from the river).

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		There is a path heading left along the river, but this will take you to a dead end. The Thames Path shortly leads you to Mapledurham Drive. Onto this, and left turn. Halfway along you may need to pass through a gate (the Purley Gates maybe?).
Purley Village, road junction with Mapledurham Drive	91.5	Mapledurham Drive brings you to a road junction. Here the Thames Path sign is a little misleading. In essence, turn left and then follow the road right, uphill and over the railway line. Then do a left turn (at bus stop 16) down Hazel Rd. Follow Hazel Rd for about 500m and when you come to a faded sign for the Thames Path (by someone's fake grass lawn) take the right turn down Skerritt Way.
Skerritt Way, RG8 8HR	92.3	The road soon leads you into a small wood, and this path leads you to the nearby main road (A329 Oxford Rd). Quickly you'll see the sign that welcomes you to Reading. You're almost there! (Actually you have 7km left to go). Stick with the designated route now: if you simply follow the main road into town you'll cheat yourself of the full distance and swap a lovely stretch of path for a smelly road. A few meters later, right before the Roebuck Hotel, follow the Thames Path sign down to your left. Down some steps and back onto a path, with the river down to your left now. By now it could be daylight, and the walking here is lovely. Stick to this path all the way to Caversham Bridge, the first bridge you will come to.
Caversham Bridge	97.5	As you approach the bridge, the way underneath might not be immediately clear to you. Stick with the path, it will take you under the bridge, keeping you by the river. 700m later you will come to a suspension bridge on your left: pass this, keep walking. Then just before the next bridge, Reading Bridge, take a right turn down a path between two buildings, (one is big, modern and corporate looking, with metal railings). The path is marked on the floor for use by pedestrians and cyclists. Down to the station and over the pedestrian crossing. To the station, turn left and follow signs that lead you down and through the subway. Out of this turn right. Moments later, at the Grey Friar pub, turn left. 200m now down this road and you will see Greyfriars Church to your right. Continue to the end of Greyfriars Rd, turn right onto Friar St, and enter the church through the modern looking atrium. Well done!

Notes: Where you see locations **shaded yellow** – look out for a marshal. Where you see sections **shaded in green** these are locations where a water tap exists.

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