



Abbey

Returns

Jo Vaughan takes us on a scenic circular walk from lovely Anglesey Abbey... in Cambridgeshire!



OUR WALK starts from Anglesey Abbey – a National Trust property just over five miles away from the Club's Cherry Hinton site. Yes – I thought Anglesey Abbey would be in Anglesey too, but it's actually just outside Cambridge in some stunning countryside.

We set off from the abbey car park and continue to Lode Mill – also part of the Trust's complex. The mill dates from the 18th century, but there is mention of a building on its site in the *Domesday Book*. It has been totally restored and visits are encouraged – you can even return home with a bag or two of freshly-ground flour and oatmeal.

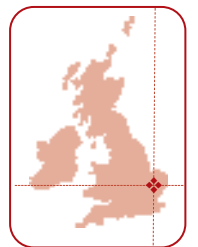
We then take in some quiet countryside on wide tracks before heading back around the abbey's rear and returning to the mill. There are also plenty of walking opportunities around the abbey's gardens,

which are spectacular all year round. For further information, call 01223 810080 or see nationaltrust.org.uk.

DIRECTIONS

1 As you face the entrance to the overflow car park you'll see a post with a yellow arrow on it. Follow this left, past the National Trust sign and a green electricity box. Almost immediately there's another signpost – turn right, following the arrow.

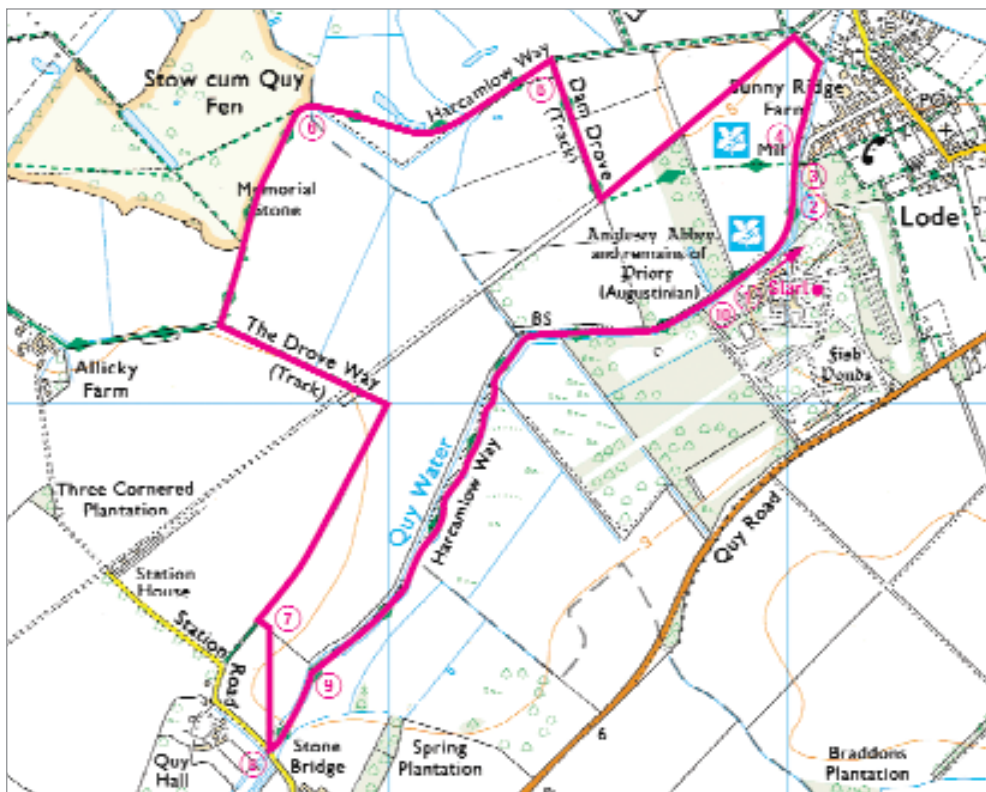
2 Walk through the overflow car park and continue along the left side of the field. Go through the metal kissing gate, following one of the two yellow arrows, and continue to the clearing. Turn left at the end of the hedge towards a metal farm gate



Ordnance Survey
Landranger Map 154



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but don't pass through it – instead turn right, following the yellow arrow. Walk past the tennis court (on your right).
3 Pass through the gap in the hedgerow and past the allotments before veering left along the narrow path that heads behind some gardens. As soon as you reach the road and Lode Mill, keep left to walk past its frontage and then cross the bridge over the stream (signposted 'Quy Fen 1, Horningsea 2¾').
4 Immediately after crossing the small bridge, turn right along the path, following the street and keeping the field to your left. At the end of the field, where there's a metal gate on your right, turn left away from the gate, down the bridleway. Pass through two fields and as the bridleway becomes more enclosed with trees on both sides, immediately turn right following a partially hidden post with a yellow arrow pointing to the right, down a track that's also enclosed by trees.

5 At the path's end turn left, following another wide track. When the dirt track ends, continue ahead to follow the grassy track that diagonally crosses the field. About halfway through, you'll walk just to the left of a piece of red machinery and a post – after the latter follow the track as it swings to the right to follow a small stream. Before it turns away sharply to the right again, at the end of the treeline, veer left towards a wooden bridge you can see across the field. Cross this and pass through the metal kissing gate before keeping left along the left side of the field, beside the barbed wire fence. Go through the kissing

gate and continue ahead, following the yellow arrow and the post.
6 At the corner of the field, turn left through the metal kissing gate, following the wooden signpost 'Quy 1½'. Turn left at the T-junction and continue down the more major track. At the crossroads continue straight ahead, following a blue arrow on a post that is partially hidden. The track soon bends sharply to the right.
7 Eventually, as you see a metal gate ahead, a wooden gate appears on the left among the hedgerow – turn left through this gate, following the yellow arrow diagonally across the field towards the last electricity pylon you can see ahead. You'll then reach a kissing gate at the corner of the field.
8 Don't pass through this kissing gate – instead turn sharply left, almost back on yourself for a short distance (signposted 'Public Footpath Lode 1½ and Quy Fen Walks'), walking along the waterway which is directly on your right.
9 Go through the kissing gate and continue ahead along the waterside. Eventually go past a black gate. When you reach the bridge, ignore it and carry on ahead. Having returned to Lode Mill, turn right across the frontage once again, pass the red dog litter bin and follow your footsteps back to the car park.
10 To jog your memory, you need to go behind the gardens, turn right along the allotments, past the tennis court and then turn left and right around the hedge. Go along the narrow pathway behind more houses and then ahead to the car park.



INFORMATION
Club site: Cherry Hinton, Lime Kiln Road, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 8NQ. Call 01223 244088. Open all year.
Distance: 5.6 miles/9km
Terrain: good grassy paths
Number of stiles: 0
Essential equipment: OS Explorer Map Sheet 209 – Cambridge
Level of difficulty: very easy
Refreshments: Anglesey Abbey
Parking: use the National Trust car park at Anglesey Abbey – it's free. The car park closes at 6pm from April to October and 5pm from November to March.
Toilets: Anglesey Abbey

