

Wayfaring Walks



The Fine Art of Slow Travel



Thames River

Highlights

- Gentle terrain passing through idyllic villages and river towns
- Roman Cirencester, Bibury, Oxford, Henley-on-Thames
- Punting at Cherwell, river cruise on the Thames at Henley
- Famous locations from 'Inspector Morse', 'Harry Potter', and more

Dates: 10 May - 16 May 2026
11 Oct - 17 Oct 2026

Trip: 6 nights

Walk Level: 2- Easy - Moderate

Terrain: Our easiest walk. Riverside paths and fairly flat gradients, occasionally some muddy stretches. 6-8 miles walking per day.

Price: **\$ 6,795** Per Person, Double occupancy
US\$1000 Deposit, Balance 90 Days
Single Supplement \$1400

Arrival: Kemble Railway Station

Departure: Twyford Stn or Heathrow

Wayfaring Walks

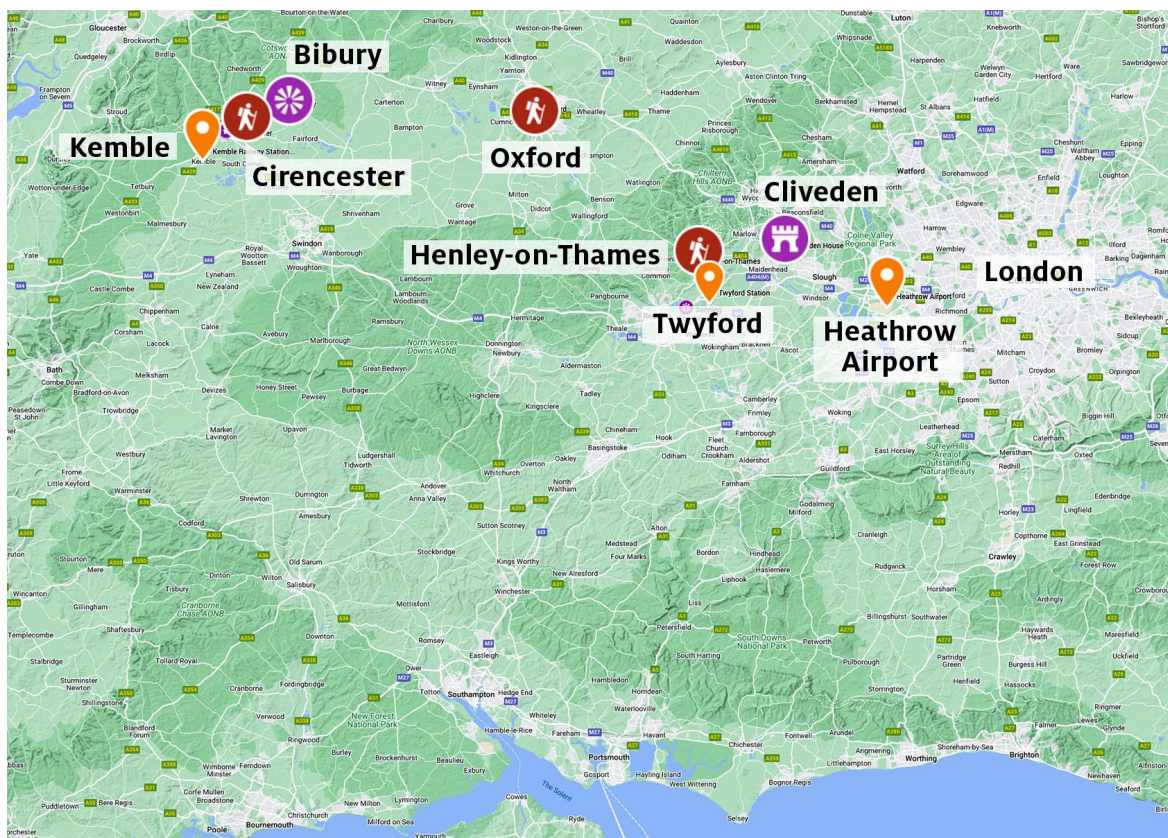


The Fine Art of Slow Travel

About Your Walk

Relax and enjoy the sleepy magic of the Thames from its source in the Cotswolds as it flows through sunlit meadows and pleasant open countryside, touching idyllic villages and passing Oxford's 'dreaming spires'. This is our easiest Walk, mostly on gentle riverside paths. But there's no lack of beauty and interest. For this is a river that has always had a central role in England's history and we get a real sense of that, from when the Romans settled in historic Cirencester almost 2,000 years ago. We'll wend our way for a spot of lunch at the famous Trout Inn, beloved haunt of Inspector Morse, and onward to lovely Henley. It's home of the Henley Regatta, a highlight of the English summer, and the spot that inspired the adventures of Ratty, Mole and Mr Toad in 'Wind in the Willows'. And we'll even go punting!

Walk Location



Wayfaring Walks



The Fine Art of Slow Travel

Walk Itinerary

Sunday

Meet at Kemble railway station in the Cotswolds, and transfer to the beautiful Kings Head Hotel in Cirencester, an historic Roman town known as 'The capital of the Cotswolds'. We'll gather this evening for our Welcome Dinner.

Overnight : Kings Head Hotel
Cirencester

Monday

Today we head out of town to find the source of the Thames. We'll follow the Thames Path through meadows and villages to a pub in Somerford Keynes. After lunch we transfer to the Roman Villa at Chedworth, a National Trust site, after which we enjoy a cream tea at our friends' house in a nearby village (subject to their availability). We then return to our hotel where we have a talk on Cirencester from local historians before walking out across the market square for dinner in a local restaurant.

Overnight : Kings Head Hotel
Cirencester

Tuesday

This morning we take a short drive to idyllic Bibury from where we walk through gentle meadows and woodlands to arrive in Coln St Aldwyn for a well-earned break in the local tea rooms. We then walk on through open fields and farmland to find our pub for a late lunch. Afterwards we return to our hotel when there is an optional town walk led by a local historian or a chance to relax in the hotel. Dinner tonight is in another local restaurant.

Overnight : Kings Head Hotel
Cirencester

Wednesday

Leaving Cirencester we drive to Kelmscott from where we walk along the Thames path until we cross the historic Halfpenny Bridge as we enter the beautiful market town of Lechlade-on-Thames. Here we have a coffee break before rejoining our transport for the transfer to Oxford where we have lunch overlooking the river at Cherwell. After lunch, we take to the water on chauffer-piloted punts! On return, we walk through the Oxford suburbs and university playing fields to our delightful hotel that dates from the 17th century. This evening we dine in a private house as guests of a local family with close ties to the University (subject to their availability).

Overnight : Old Parsonage
Oxford

Wayfaring Walks



The Fine Art of Slow Travel

Thursday

Today we'll start with a guided walking tour of Oxford led by the renowned London and Oxford guide, Alexandra Jackson. We then follow the Thames out of town towards Wolvercote for lunch at the Trout, a pub on the river known to be a favourite of writers Colin Dexter (Inspector Morse) and Lewis Carroll (Alice in Wonderland). See Oxford's famous spires as we walk from historic Port Meadow and watch out for the grazing horses! Then take a short transfer into Henley-on-Thames, the location of the Royal Regatta where we learn about the river and Henley's rowing traditions. This is the spot that inspired "Wind in the Willows", one of England's best loved children's stories. Walk into Henley to explore the market town before arriving at our next hotel. We'll enjoy a champagne cruise on the Thames before dinner in a local bistro.

Overnight : Hotel du Vin
Henley-on-Thames

Friday

After a talk at the historic Leander Rowing Club, we walk away from Henley once more through fields and footpaths listening to the cry of Red Kites soaring overhead before we drop down to cross the river Thames and walk through meadows to Hambleden, a picturesque village often used as a film location for movies and TV. We'll tour the village with a local resident who joins us for lunch at the Stag and Huntsman pub. Afterwards, we walk on up the valley admiring the stunning countryside before returning to Henley for our Farewell Dinner at the Leander Rowing Club.

Overnight : Hotel du Vin
Henley-on-Thames

Saturday

After breakfast, Wayfaring Walks can transfer you to either Twyford Rail station or arrange a car transfer to Heathrow Airport..



Hotels

Kings Head Hotel

Located in the center of Cirencester, The Kings Head Hotel is the perfect place to experience this historic market town and the beauty of the surrounding countryside. The King's Head was first mentioned by name in the Court Rolls of Edward VI between 1547-53. It became, important to Cirencester's medieval as well as post- medieval history. When you step inside you are immediately surrounded by colourful art and vibrant beauty. Elegant chandeliers, feature wall art and cosy furniture set the tone. The hotel offers elegant and modern guest rooms.. It also has a subterranean Spa with a relaxation room. The bedrooms at Kings Head Hotel feature air-conditioning, a flat-screen TV, a refrigerator, a tea and coffee making facility and free toiletries. The onsite restaurant offers an exceptional wine list, serving the best of modern British cuisine. You can also unwind in the stylish cocktail bar and in the comfortable lounges.



24 Market Place

Cirencester, GL7 2NW

+44-(0)1285 700 900

<https://kingshead-hotel.co.uk>

Old Parsonage Hotel

Step back in time to experience the Old Parsonage. Built in 1660, over 100 years before American Independence, providing original charm combined with modern luxury, amenities and technology. This independent 5 Star hotel provides country house charm with hospitality to match. Step inside past the front door that has greeted people for over 300 years. Each room features handmade beds natural fabrics, marble bathrooms, exclusive toiletries and artistry from around the area. The Parsonage Grill is open for all meals and renowned Afternoon Teas. Using locally sourced ingredients to produce a varied selection of classic yet innovative British dishes. Take time to explore the history and the paintings throughout the Hotel, before borrowing a bicycle to experience Oxford like the locals.



1-3 Banbury Road

Oxford, OX2 6NN

01865 310210

<https://www.oldparsonagehotel.co.uk/>

Wayfaring Walks



The Fine Art of Slow Travel

Hotel du Vin

Nestled in a valley in the Chilterns, you'll find the delightful 12th century market town of Henley-on-Thames. And on the banks of the Thames itself, with the river gliding slowly by, you'll find the Hotel du Vin. Behind the classic Georgian architecture of this 300 year-old brewery, you'll find exposed beams and brickwork, updated with modern conveniences. Each guest room includes a custom-made bed, hand-sprung mattress, soft Egyptian cotton bed linen, fluffy towels and robes, monsoon shower or roll top bath. Free Wi-fi is also included.

<https://www.hotelduvin.com/locations/henley-on-thames/>



New Street

Henley-on-Thames, RG9 2BP

+44 (0)1491 848 400

Wayfaring Walks



The Fine Art of Slow Travel

What's Included

What Is Included in the Price of My Vacation

- Full-time services of a Walk Leader / Manager
- A backup vehicle for resting walkers and moving luggage
- Comprehensive Travel Information Package
- Diverse itineraries with an emphasis on history, geography, culture, peoples, flora and fauna
- Demonstrations, wine tasting, admissions to museums and historic sites
- All ground transfers (ferries, cable cars, trains, etc.)
- First-class accommodations with cultural and historical interest
- All meals - with choices - (Special dietary requirements? No problem!)
- Wine with dinner
- On-trail snacks and refreshments

All gratuities at hotels and restaurants

What's Not Included

- Additional Hotel Services that you have charged to your room
- Gratuities for Walk Leader / Walk Manager

We reserve the right to make changes to any trip for circumstances outside our control. This may be for weather, access to or availability of locations or activities. We always wish to assure the safety of our guests and staff, while delivering a quality experience for all.