

Riverside Trail

Get walking in the Heart of England Forest

Come and explore the Heart of England Forest by following our Riverside Trail, starting at Barton near Dorsington. This easy-to-follow walk will take you through the beautiful beginnings of your new native broadleaf forest.



Distance: 1.5 miles



Difficulty: Easy



Start /finish:
Dorothy's Wood
car park, B50 4NP



OS Grid Ref:
SP 11632 51325



WHAT3WORDS
mush.apart.joke



Terrain: Clearly
marked woodland
paths which can get
muddy in winter.



Things to look out for



© Mike Berridge

The River Avon







Also known as Shakespeare's Avon, this picturesque river flows from Northamptonshire through Warwickshire to join the River Severn in Gloucestershire.



Kingfishers

These beautiful birds make their home near slow-flowing water, so keep an eye out for their unmistakable bright blue and orange plumage when walking by the River Avon.

Key

-  Woodland Creation
-  Grassland
-  Streams, Rivers and Ponds
-  Heart of England Forest
permissive waymarked footpath
-  Public Rights Of Way
-  Heart of England Forest
Donate or Display car park



An easy walk through magical woodland and along the banks of the Avon, with lots of trees to identify and wildlife to spot.

1. From the car park, cross the road into Dorothy's Wood **1** – a riot of blossom and colour in spring. Follow the trail through the trees until you reach the wide grass path.
2. Turn left onto the path. Continue until you reach a clearing in the woodland with the Tree Dedication area sign **2**. Turn right and follow the path up the hill.
3. At the top of the hill catch your breath and enjoy the stunning views over the surrounding countryside. Continue on up to level ground **3**.

4. Walk straight on and take the left fork **4**, following the signposted arrows. This part of the path is lined with flowering shrubs. Follow this curved path.

5. At the hedge turn left, then opposite the woodland sign exit the wood right **5** and follow the post and rail fence down the field to the road. Cross the road into the woodland on the other side and turn right following the brook to a wooden bridge on your left **6**.

6. Cross the brook on the wooden bridge and enter Roman Field Wood.

Follow the orange
waymarkers
along the route.



7. Walk up the slope. Bear left and follow the arrows through a gate and cross the road. Join the public footpath through the metal gate **7** for a short stretch.
8. Go through the pedestrian gate on the left **8** into the river meadows and head to the River Avon. Walk left along the banks of the river, past Pilgrim Lock **9** with its large weeping willow.
9. Head downstream along the river and cross over the Noleham Brook via the pedestrian bridge **10**. Follow the access track to the left which leads back into Dorothy's Wood car park.

Founder's Walk

IMPORTANT
To complete this walk will also need to download the **Riverside Trail** guide

Get walking in the Heart of England Forest

Come and explore the Heart of England Forest by following our Founder's Walk walking trail, starting at Barton near Dorsington. This easy-to-follow walk will take you through the beautiful beginnings of this new native broadleaf forest.



Distance: 3.5 miles



Difficulty: Easy



Start /finish:
Dorothy's Wood
car park, B50 4NP



OS Grid Ref:
SP 11632 51325



WHAT3WORDS
mush.apart.joke



Terrain: Clearly
marked woodland
trails that can
become muddy!



Things to look out for



Founder's memorial

In Dorsington Wood you'll find the Founder's Memorial – celebrating the life of the forest founder Felix Dennis – inscribed with his poetry and vision for the forest.



Arboretum

Step off the Founder's Walk as you pass by the Heart of England Forest arboretum and discover a fascinating collection of over 600 trees and shrubs. Unlike the native broadleaf trees planted in our woodlands. Here you'll find specimen trees from around the world.



A longer stroll through the growing forest, taking in newly planted saplings, more mature woodland and meandering brooks.

1. Follow the **Riverside Trail** to step 6.

2. Carry on along the brook to just before the fallen willow tree **1**, then follow the waymarker to the right into the younger broadleaf tree planting.

3. Follow the winding path until you emerge into an open glade of newly planted woodland **2**. Cross the glade diagonally and enter Robert's Wood. Take a right onto the track, walk uphill, take a left, then bear right.

4. Keep straight on at the crossroads, then left at the woodland edge. Go through the gate on your right, over the bridge and cross the road. Head through the gate **3** on the right into Colletts Wood. Follow the path along the brook.

5. Continue on the winding footpath, with the brook on your right. You'll reach Colletts Pond **4** with its wild flowers. Just past the pond, turn left then right through the hedge into a young wooded area.

6. Continue straight on, up hill **5**, crossing the grass farm track and turning right to follow the hedge

until you find the gap leading into Dorsington Wood **6**.

7. Drop down left into Dorsington Wood along the central path past the Founders Rock. Carry on down through the woodland on the wide ride. At the bottom, exit Dorsington Wood and go over the footbridge **7**. Then take a left along Willow Walk and the stream.

8. Head through the gate at the end on to the road, turn left across the bridge, then cross the road at the Dorsington sign **8**. Head through another gate and onto the path. Follow this path over a footbridge **9**. Cross back over the brook and onto a path surrounded by mature poplar trees.

Follow the orange waymarkers along the route.



9. At the next gate, turn right over the concrete bridge **10**. Follow this path and, at the gate, turn left back over the brook and take a right to follow the brook **11**, with it on your right.

10. Cross over a bridge into Robert's Wood **12**, taking the path on your right following the brook. This leads back to the fallen willow and the footbridge into Roman Field Wood.

11. Pick up directions from **step 6** of the **Riverside Trail**.