



Earley Tree Walk

A mainly flat circular walk that starts in Laurel Park, follows the culvert of Maiden Erlegh Lake, proceeds along the Gipsy Lane and Cutbush Lane cycle paths before joining the Radstock Lane cycle path, Beech Lane before returning to Laurel Park.

Length

2.8 miles (2.8 km). Allow 1 hour.

Starting Point

Laurel Park

Car Parking: Laurel Park car park, RG6 3DZ

OS Grid Ref: SU 751709

(What3words.com) w3w: ///jungle.wakes.bill

Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association
maintain a database of veteran trees

www.wdvta.org.uk

Route Instructions (See map below for numbered points)

1



From the Laurel Park pavilion, follow the path towards the playpark, the Lime tree dominates the open area to the right of the path.

w3w: panic.ruby.tubes

wdvta #3386

2



Take the path to the right of the Lime Tree, and head diagonally across the playing field towards the fencing in the corner, where you will find the magnificent 'Gemini' Oak tree, which may be 2 trees grown together, or 1 tree split at the base.

w3w: kicks.pink.pages

wdvta #2814

3



Across the path and almost opposite the Gemini Oak sits a coppiced Field Maple with its distinctive 5 lobed leaves.

w3w: poetic.unity.pound

wdvta #3387

4



Following the path, you will find a coppiced Ash tree on your left. The tree is easily identified in winter by its smooth twigs that have distinctive black, velvety leaf buds.

w3w: save.juices.look

wdvta #7914

5



Further along the path, also on the left, is a coppiced Hornbeam. Mature hornbeams can reach a height of 30m and live for more than 300 years.

w3w: dive.image.below

wdvta #7915

6



At the end of the path, you want to take the path to the right. In a garden across the junction, on the left behind a fence stands a multi-stem Horse Chestnut. These trees are famed for their seed, the glossy red-brown conker.

w3w: purely.able.create

wdvta #1185

7



Following the path, you will quickly come across an impressive willow tree on your left opposite a brick wall.

w3w: clash.inner.whites

8



Follow along the path until you reach Gipsy Lane. Cross the road and turn right towards Rushey Way. Turn left onto Rushey Way. On the grassy strip in front of the playing field you will find the first of two Jubilee Oaks in this location.

w3w: feared.cloth.backup

Jubilee Oak #10

9



These Jubilee Oaks were planted on 4th December 2012, and are two of seven planted across Earley to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee. Look out for the commemorative plaque at the base of the tree.

w3w: hunt.vocab.soak

Jubilee Oak #9

10



Head back to Gipsy Lane and take the underpass under Rushey Way and follow the Gypsy Lane path towards the Earley Events Field. On your right you will see a magnificent ivy-covered (at the base) Oak to the left of 96 Gipsy Lane. Oaks can grow up to 40m tall, but often shorten with age to extend their lifespan.

w3w: logic.vase.topped

wdvta #701

11



Continue along the Gypsy Lane path, crossing Kilnsea Drive, and continue along Gypsy Lane as it turns back into Cutbush Lane. On your right, as you approach the Woodbine Close turning is a majestic Himalayan Cedar.

w3w: pink.fishery.owner

12



As you continue across the Carshalton Way roundabout following Cutbush Lane, on your right you will see the broad spreading crown of Oak that dominates the skyline.

w3w: took.preoccupied.hood

wdvta #1665

13



Just after you cross the Carshalton Way roundabout, another mighty Oak can be seen on your right, one of 55 veteran Oaks recorded in the Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association database.

w3w: angle.wounds.limit

wdvta #2948

14



Continue straight from Cutbush Lane onto the footpath, rather than following the road round to Westminster Way. At the end of the path you will encounter several pollarded Ash trees. Pollarding is the practice of cutting a tree at a height of 2 - 3 metres to produce new shoots.

w3w: palace.wallet.keeps

wdvta #7614

15



Cross Kensington Close and continue straight ahead, passing Conygree Close on your right before turning right to follow the footpath towards Rushey Way. Along this tree lined avenue, just before the footpath preceding the underpass, you will discover this maiden Oak on your left. A maiden tree is one which has never been cut to stimulate growth.

w3w: either.elbow.vase

wdvta #2945

16



Continue on, passing under Rushey Way, turn right and follow the path, crossing Kerris Way. Continue up the rising path, taking the 2nd turning to the right before you reach Radstock school. Cross Stockbury Close to reach Beech Lane. Cross over and follow Beech Lane as it runs parallel to Rushey Way, where you will pass under this impressive Willow tree.

w3w: gained.mile.agenda

17



Continue onwards, as Beech Lane merges with Rushey Way, crossing over Marefield, where you should quickly see the large crown of an Oak rising to your right on the other side of the road as you reach the underpass adjoining Laurel Park.

w3w: short.luxury.easy

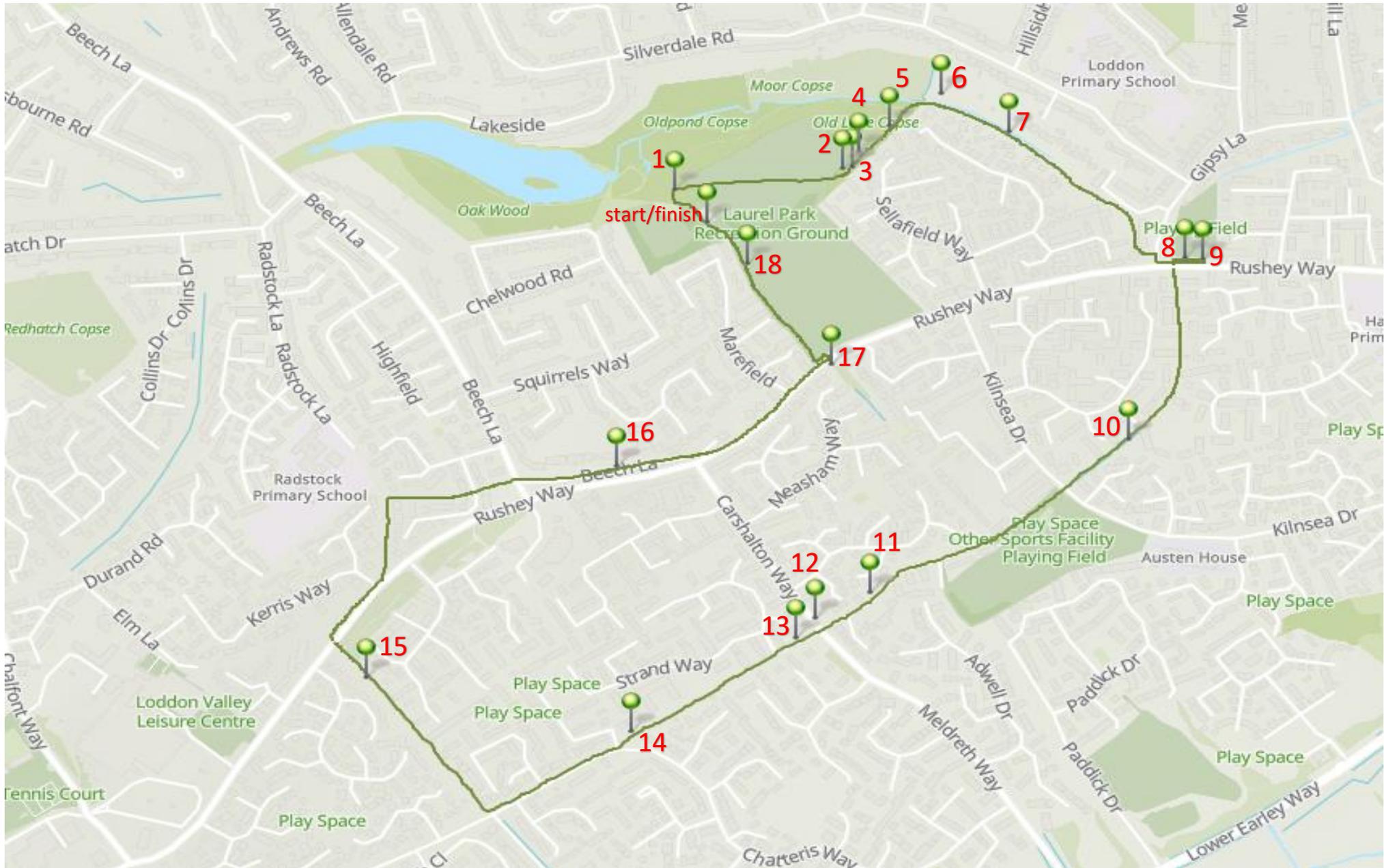
wdvta #1664

18



Take the steps down and turn right, away from the underpass, to follow the footpath that runs parallel to the Laurel Park pitches. Along this path you will find Earley's 2nd Community orchard, planted 13th February 2016. (www.earleyorchard.org.uk). Continue up this path to return to your starting point – Laurel Park pavilion.

w3w: warm.long.proof



Earley Tree Walk

Length: 2.8 miles

Allow 1 hour



1



Common (hybrid) Lime
#3386 - WDVTA

3



Field Maple (coppiced)
#3387 - WDVTA

5



Hornbeam (coppiced)
#7915 - WDVTA

2



English Oak – known as the
'Gemini' Oak.
#2814 - WDVTA

4



Ash (coppiced)
#7914 - WDVTA

6



Horse Chestnut (multi-stemmed)
#1185 - WDVTA

7



Golden Weeping Willow

9



Jubilee Oak #10
Planted 4.12. 2012

11



Himalayan Cedar

8



Jubilee Oak #9
Planted 4.12.2012

10



English Oak
#701 – WDVTA

12



English Oak
#1665 - WDVTA

13



English Oak
#2948 - WDVTA

15



English Oak
#2945 - WDVTA

17



English Oak
#1664 - WDVTA

14



Ash (pollarded)
#7614 - WDVTA

16



Golden Weeping
Willow

18



Community Orchard
Planted 13.2.2016