

Thames Path



MARLOW TO COOKHAM (see map below)

Water walk: This stretch of the Thames Path is arguably the most beautiful of the Thames Valley with the wooded slopes of Winter Hill rising on the opposite bank as you leave Marlow. In Marlow you will see the lovely suspension bridge designed by William Tierney Clark who also designed Hammersmith Bridge in London. This walk gives you fantastic views of Winter Hill and as you near Cookham, once you've crossed the river, the path takes you through Cock Marsh, purchased by local residents in 1934 and given to the National Trust. It is one of the best lowland wetland sites in the country, noted as an important breeding ground for wading birds and home to an outstanding selection of plants. Bronze Age bowl barrows can also be seen here. Once in Cookham why not visit the Stanley Spencer Gallery? Stanley Spence lived in Cookham most of his life and the village's former Victorian Methodist Chapel has been converted into the gallery where you can see much of the artist's work exhibited.

Refreshments: You will find plenty of places to stop for a drink or bite to eat in Marlow, and again at the Spade Oak pub just a short walk from the river before Bourne End. You will find more to choose from in Bourne End and Cookham.

Distance: 5½ miles

Duration: 2¼ hours

Train stations: Marlow and Cookham

Boat trips: During the summer months you can walk in one direction and get a boat back. See <http://www.salterssteamers.co.uk/marwin.htm> for details.

