

Welford Wharf and the Grand Union Canal



Distance: 17.08 km

Difficulty: Moderate-to-hard

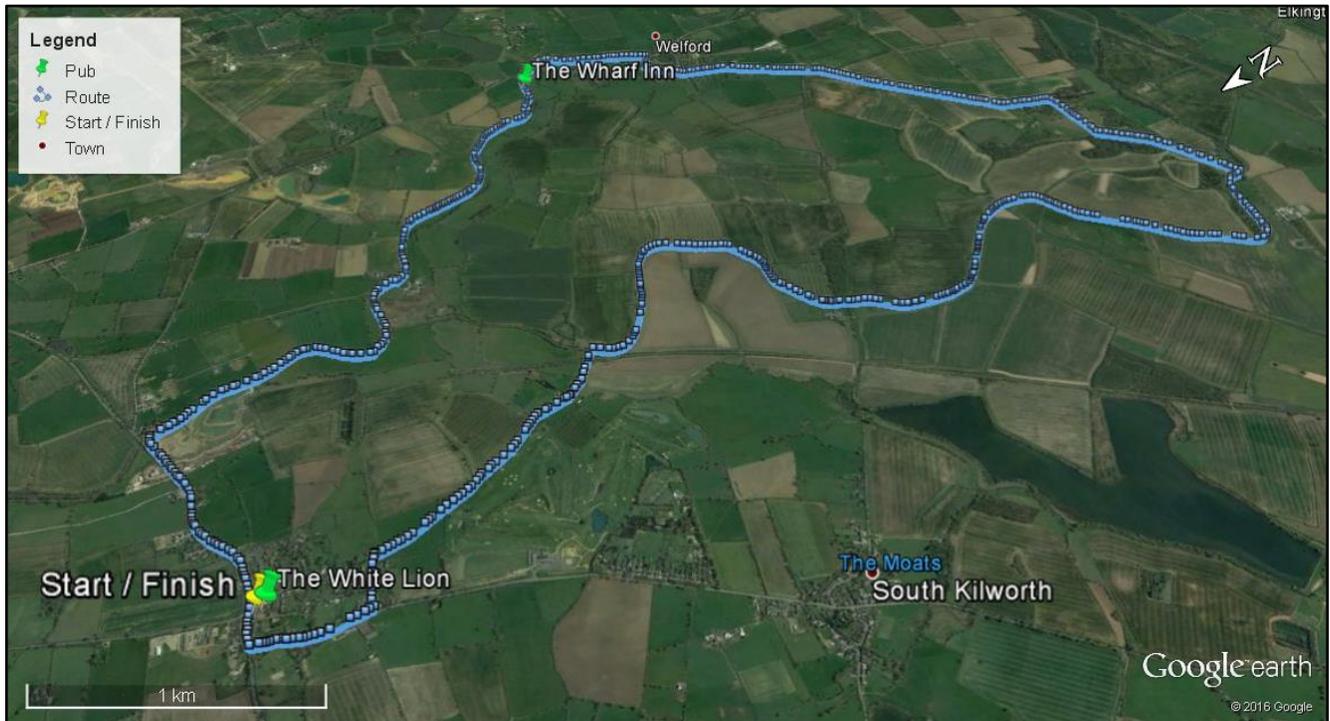
Dog Friendly: Yes

Ascent/Descent: One short but strenuous climb (+/- 242 metres)

Toilets: At the pubs, only

Wildlife: Muntjac deer

Endomondo GPS track: [View/Download here](#)



The Welford Wharf and Grand Union Canal circular walking route (Google Maps)

Starting location: Limited, free parking is available at the front of the White Lion pub (satnav: LE17 6EP) or down any of the residential side streets of North Kilworth.

1. With your back to the White Lion pub, set off left along Station Road. Turn left onto South Kilworth Road, after 70 metres. Turn left onto Dag Lane, just after the tennis courts and passing by the church on the left (pictured right). Follow the lane ahead and around to the right, immediately after the church. Continue along, passing by a golf course on your right. Just before the farm ahead, the path forks off to the right, passing to the right of the farm. Continue on, crossing over the River Avon (it's nothing more than a stream here) and following it along as it goes downhill and uphill, over the railway cutting, then take the left path to descend down to the Grand Union Canal. Go right under the bridge and along the towpath, so the canal is on your left.



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2. Follow the canal path under several bridges until you reach Bridge 31. Here, ascend the steps up to the road and go left, over the bridge, before taking the signposted Jurassic Way path almost immediately on the left. Take the path across the field, aiming for the wooded area atop the hill ahead (pictured left). Climb the steep path uphill, through the trees, until you come to a gate into a field. Cross the field, going in an ahead-and-right direction, following the way-marked path until you come out onto a tarmac road. Here, go left, following the road for several kilometres. Cross straight over at the crossroads and keep going to

the town of Welford.

3. Once in Welford, continue on until you reach the church. At the church, turn right onto Church Lane, then turn left onto High Street, heading downhill. As you start to leave the town, bear left into the Welford Pocket Garden (pictured right) to enjoy a more scenic route.



You will then emerge out at the Wharf Inn pub, where you can enjoy a great selection of real ales from a variety of local breweries.



4. When you leave the Wharf Inn, set off along the right-hand side of the Grand Union Canal; you may have to go around the marina. At Welford Lock, cross over the canal using the footbridge and walk along the

towpath, the canal now on your right. When you reach Bridge 1, cross over to the right-hand side of the canal, so that when you approach the canal junction ahead, you are on the correct side. Immediately after the canal junction, cross over at the next bridge, so that the canal is on your right once again. Follow the towpath all the way to Bridge 45. Here, leave the towpath and join the pavement along the road and go left, following it all the way back into North Kilworth and your start location.

Pub 1: The Wharf Inn

The Wharf Inn at Welford is a castellated Georgian folly located at a Grand Union Canal marina. The classic Grainstore Brewery's Ten Fifty ale is served here permanently with real cider served in an unpretentious bar, popular straightforward 'pubby' food at reasonable prices, good service, pleasant dining section; children and dogs welcome, big waterside garden, open all day



Pub 2: The White Lion

The White Lion at North Kilworth is a newly-refurbished wine bar and restaurant, run by a mother and daughter team, that also serves real ale in a charming lounge environment with exposed brick walls and thick beams. View their website [here](#).

Tips

There are no tips for this walking route.

