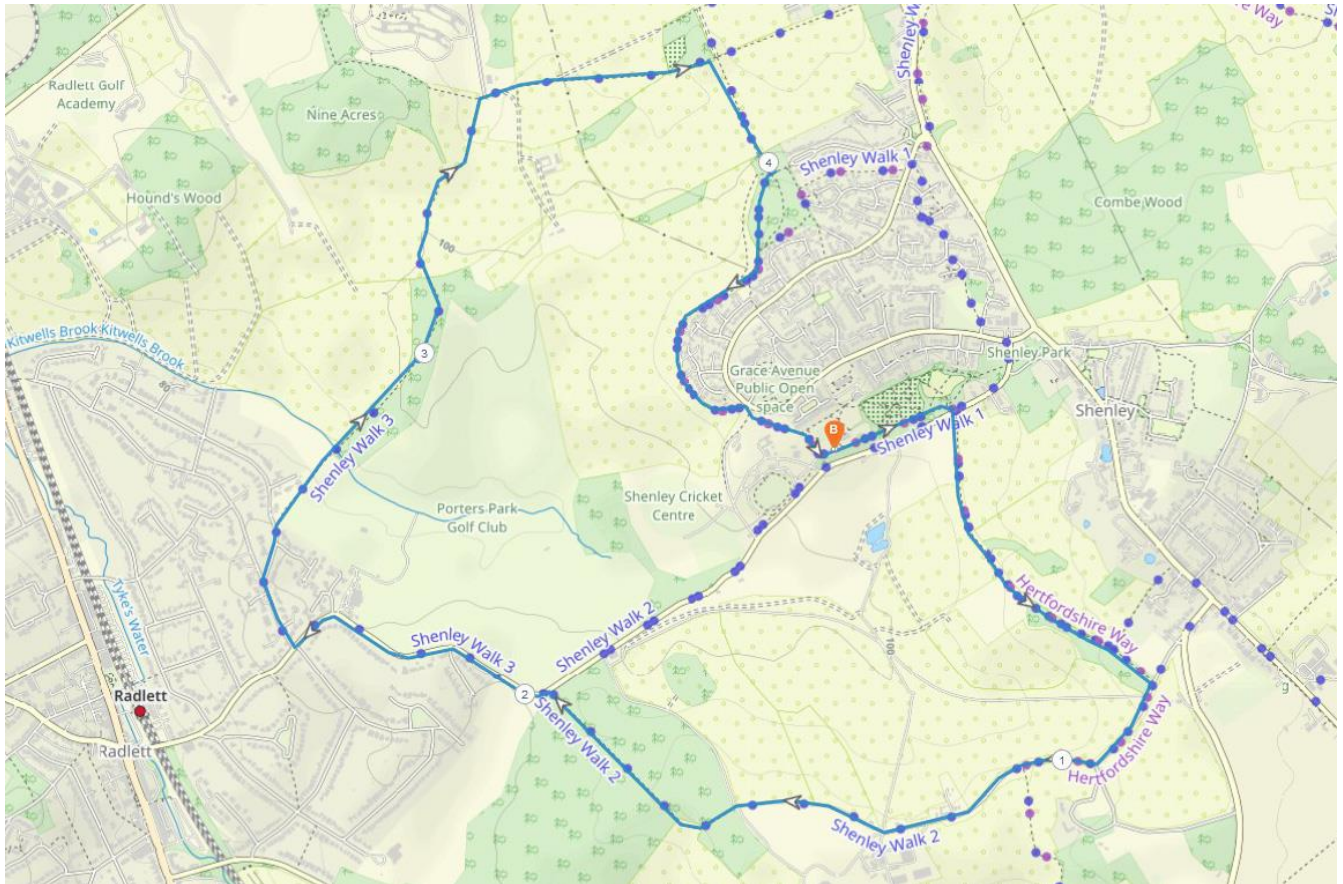




The countryside charity
Hertfordshire

Shenley and Radlett



This 4.7 mile circular walk inside the M25 is surprisingly peaceful as it wends its way through rural countryside and leafy suburbia on lovely footpaths that provide spectacular views and interesting woodlands.

Distance: 4.7 miles / 7.6 km

Ascent: 354 feet / 108 metres

Duration: 2 hours

Difficulty: Easy

Start / finish: Shenley Park - free car park; or start from Radlett Railway Station

Refreshments: Cafe in the Orchard, Shenley Park

Beautiful Shenley Park is run by the Shenley Park Trust for the benefit of the local community. You can visit the apple orchard, the wildflower meadow, the walled garden, or stop for refreshments at the aptly named Cafe in the Orchard.

The walk starts and finishes at the car park for Shenley Park, just off Radlett Lane.

(Alternatively, to access the walk using public transport, start at Radlett Railway Station and walk about four-tenths of a mile east on Shenley Hill to The Avenue, and start the walk from there.)



From the southeast corner of the car park (adjacent to the café), follow the broad footpath in an easterly direction. Continue past the apple orchard on the left and some picnic benches on the right.

Turn right at the signpost for the Watling Chase Timberland Trail.



Proceed over a wooden footbridge and then take care crossing Radlett Lane.

There is a signpost for Public Bridleway 10. Follow this bridleway through a green metal gateway and on up the hill. There is a bench from which to admire the views to the west.



Continue up the path and through Woodhall Spinney, an ancient woodland and designated wildlife site.



Emerge at Woodhall Lane and turn right, as indicated by the Watling Chase Timberland Trail sign pointing towards Borehamwood.

Walk west along Woodhall Lane. Although this is a "no through road" there is some occasional farm traffic so do take care. On a fine day there are spectacular views to the north and northwest.



Ignore the footpath that turns off to the south, and continue along Woodhall Lane into the Wood Hall Estate. Continue past the large signboard to the end of the road.



At the end of the road, turn right and take the footpath, signed "Public Footpath 9, Shenley Road 370 yds". (Note: Shenley Road is a little over half a mile away, not 370 yards!)



The path heads westerly between hedgerows and fields, eventually crossing over a tarmac driveway and entering a wood.



The path comes to a wooden gate, from where there are superb views to the west over a horse pasture and for several miles beyond.



The path then veers to the right and down the hill through a wood named "The Gorse", emerging onto Shenley Road at a metal kissing gate.

Turn left at Shenley Road and walk along the pavement path for about a half mile, passing the entrance to Porters Park Golf Club. Carefully crossing Shenley Road, turn right onto The Avenue and continue to the second street on the right, called The Warren. Turn right here.



Follow The Warren, and at the curve in the street follow Footpath 58 off to the right and into a wood.



Follow the path as it passes over a wooden footbridge and on through the wood where you can occasionally glimpse the golf course off to the right, eventually emerging at a field. Follow the path along the right hand edge of this field.



The path emerges into a small open area between two fields. Follow the path as it veers to the right and then continue along the left-hand edge of this next field.



Continue along as the path becomes a farm track, arriving at an unmarked junction with other farm tracks. Take the right hand track, heading due east. Walk straight ahead and up a short incline towards a distinctive tree, ignoring any side tracks to the right or left.



At this distinctive tree, do not take the track that continues ahead, but take the footpath that bears right across the field towards a wood.



Continue on the path straight on through the wood, keeping the field on your right. Emerge from the wood at a path junction. Turn right (south), onto the Watling Chase Timberland Trail once more.

Follow the broad gravel path in a southerly direction gently uphill and into a wood - this is Cow Banks Wood.



Shortly after entering the wood you will come to a path junction. Take the main path which veers to the right and up the hill.



Emerge at a housing estate and continue on the path, keeping the houses on your left and the field on your right. There are benches from which to enjoy the views.

The path curves around the housing estate, emerging at a row of trees, a street on the left, and a gateway on the right. Turn right and cross the tarmac drive to re-enter Shenley Park, and immediately take the first footpath on the left.



There are lots of footpaths through Shenley Park, but the shortest route back to the car park is via the Hertfordshire Way following the clockwise waymarks.

If you have enjoyed this walk, please consider supporting CPRE Hertfordshire in our efforts to protect and celebrate the Hertfordshire countryside for everyone to enjoy. For more information on our work and how you can help, please visit our website at www.cpreherts.org.uk

This route last walked by CPRE in March 2024.

Note: all walkers do so at their own risk. Suitable footwear and clothing are recommended and a compass may be helpful.

CPRE Hertfordshire is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered charity no. 1162419, address: 31a Church Street, Welwyn, AL6 9LW, tel 01438 717587. We are the county branch of CPRE the Countryside Charity.