

## Bus 142 Walking Route from the Pack Saddle, Mapledurham

Taking the 142 bus to the start of a walking route or picking up the bus at the end of your walk provides an opportunity to extend your walking options without a circular route. There are many possibilities using the bus and I describe one here to whet your appetite. The walking time is about 2 hours. The bus picks you up in Whitchurch High Street and takes you via The Sun at Whitchurch Hill to Cray's Pond and then Woodcote and on towards Caversham. The bus timetable can be seen [here](#).

Ask the driver to drop you off by the Pack Saddle pub. There is a pull-in where the bus can safely stop. You could, of course, do this walk in the opposite direction ending up at the pub for lunch and catching the bus home.

Cross the main road with the lane towards Goring Heath ahead of you. Take the foot path that runs parallel and to the left of the lane. Very shortly you come to a foot path in front of you. Turn left and the path takes you through the golf course. When you reach a thatched cottage called The Three Chimneys, take a right turn down a concreted track. The track eventually takes you down a hill towards the river. Shortly after passing some farm buildings you come to a T-junction where you turn left. After a short distance, turn right by a bungalow called New Lodge and continue along the track with magnificent views of Mapledurham House ahead of you. When you reach Mapledurham village, turn right up the lane for a short distance, then turn left by a cottage to take a bridle way signposted to Whitchurch. Continue along the bridle way with lovely views of the river on your left. Pass through the black gates, then past Hardwick House and the horse stables and fields. Along this stretch there are foot paths that can take you towards Goring Heath or Whitchurch Hill. If you continue straight you reach a lane, where you can continue straight to go to Whitchurch-on-Thames or turn right towards Path Hill and Goring Heath.

David Robinson, Swanston Field, Whitchurch, February 2018

