

MWW website directions – stage 12, Wootton Rivers to Wilton

Maps: OS Landranger 173 & 174, OS Explorer 157

Distance: 5.4 miles (8.6 km)

West to east

Turn L on coming out of the Royal Oak pub. Pass the village hall on your R en route to the Kennet & Avon Canal. Cross the bridge over the canal and turn L onto the towpath. Walk along the canal for approximately 4 ½ miles (7.2 km), passing under the A346 at Burbage Wharf. When the canal disappears into a tunnel (Bruce Tunnel), go R through a low tunnel under the railway, and then up past a field on R, then what used to be the Forest Hotel, to a minor road (Savernake Road). Continue along the path opposite, past a house with a sign for SBS Ltd on its fence, soon rejoining the towpath. After four locks and a road bridge, the Crofton Pumping station appears to your L, on the other side of the canal.

At this point the MWW leaves the Kennet & Avon Canal by means of a footbridge to R, opposite the pumping station. Follow the path round to the R and through a verdant meadow beside a small lake (Wilton Water) to R. Exit in the far R corner of the meadow onto a metalled road by a duck pond and turn L to arrive at the Swan Inn in Wilton on your R.

East to west

Proceed down Wilton's main street with the Swan Inn to your L. Opposite the duck pond, L, but before the bridge, enter the field opposite and immediately turn L with hedge to L. Continue through a verdant meadow with a small lake (Wilton Water) on your L. As the Crofton Pumping Station comes into view ahead, follow the path R then L to cross a small footbridge onto the Kennet & Avon Canal towpath.

Turn L and walk along the canal towpath for approximately 4 ½ miles (7.2 km), passing four locks and a road bridge, before the canal disappears into a tunnel (Bruce Tunnel); follow the path up to cross a minor road (Savernake Road), with a house on R with a sign SBS Ltd on its fence. Continue along the path opposite, past what used to be the Forest Hotel and an open field to L, to rejoin the towpath via a low tunnel under the railway. Soon after this, pass under the A346 at Burbage Wharf. On arriving at bridge 108 over the canal, just past a lock with a sign on the other side of the canal saying "Welcome to Wootton Rivers Lock", leave the towpath and cross the bridge to join Wootton River's main street. Walk along this for 250m past the village hall on your L to arrive at the Royal Oak pub on your R.