

The Chalk Hare and Therfield Heath



Easy to moderate terrain

4 mile
circular walk

Path: A bit tricky
(but not impossible)
with buggies.

Around 2 hours.



The Chalk Hare is set in the beautiful market town of Royston and whilst we are nestled in the centre of life here on Melbourn Street, we are only a short walk away from wide open spaces and the wonderful Hertfordshire countryside.

Here is a suggestion of a walk you can take to work up your thirst and appetite, returning to the pub with the glow of someone that well and truly deserves the pint and meal they are about to order!

Therfield Heath stretches for 420-acres and features a deep geological history as it is a prehistoric seabed and has been utilised for farming, military, and recreation since the Neolithic period. Known for its rich chalk grassland and rare Pasque flowers, it is a protected Site of Special Scientific Interest and is the perfect spot to create your own walk as there are clear paths that cross each other, making picking a route really easy. It does however share land with Royston Golf Club, so be careful!



We have created this walk with the help of AllTrails. Download the app and scan the QR code with your phone to follow the route live. You will find lots of walks across the country including walks from the rest of the Acorn family of pubs

[alltrails.com](https://www.alltrails.com)



The walk

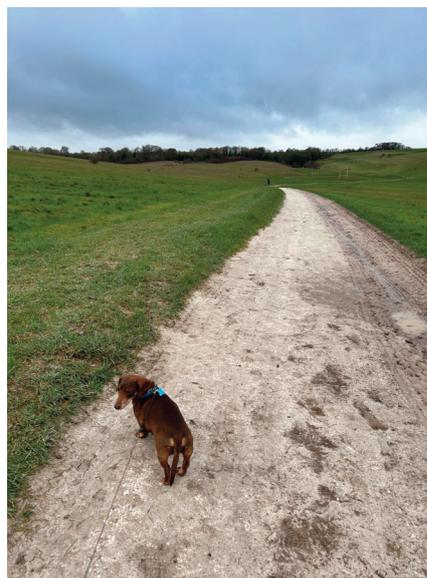
Leave the pub and turn right, walking on the pavement up the Melbourn Street.

Cross over various other roads, but stick in the same general direction, up the hill. On the brow of the hill you will find a pelican crossing. It is quite a busy road, so this is the perfect place to safely cross over the road so that you're now walking on the left-hand side up the hill.

You will be greeted by this sign and now the world is your oyster!



We chose a route that crossed directly across the Golf Club car park to find a chalk path walk that stretches out ahead towards the rugby ground (it's clear to see as it has doggie bins denoting the path all along the way!).



Just keep to the path heading up the hill with the car park to your right-hand side, be careful now because you're crossing over the golf course.

At the top of the hill, you'll find a bench around a stone compass. The perfect spot for a rest as that was quite a hill. It's also a perfect spot to take in the views.



At this point the chalk path continues over the brow of the hill, you can decide to follow it (as we will cross it again later) or bear left onto a grass well-trodden route through the 'hillocks', you are heading for the trees on the skyline, crossing a fairway as you go.

When you get to the fifth tee sign, turn right down the path.



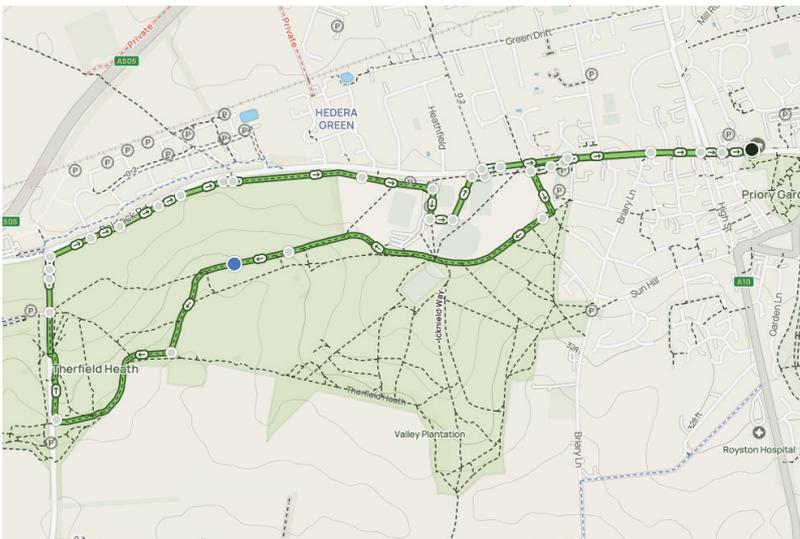
At the bottom of the hill, you can choose to go through the hedgerows and take to the road going left, there is a loop walk in this direction taking you back to the Golf Club, but it is a busy road. We chose to bear right at the hedgerow and follow the path that eventually takes you all the way back to where you started, but a flatter route this time.



You can choose to pay a visit to the Rugby Club on your way back, there are some great informational boards there all about the Heath. Or you can stop off at the Queen Victoria Memorial.



Once back to the Golf Club it's a simple case of retracing your steps back to the pub for a well earned sit down and something to quench your thirst!



Disclaimer: We have taken care to make sure our walk is safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

Walking Safety: For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks (who doesn't love a mid-walk snack), a mobile phone and to wear sensible footwear. If the weather has potential to be a little wet or cold, be sure to carry a waterproof jacket, a woolly hat and maybe a fleece.

Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Some routes include sections along roads, for these please take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs.