



FRIENDS OF COCK ROAD RIDGE

Walk 2 - Cock Road Ridge and Grimsbury Farm

1 Park in Westons Way (BS15 9RR). Walk along Westons Way, passing The Old Plough pub on the right, to Cock Road and turn right. Cross the road when it is safe to do so and continue on up the hill.

2 Just past the second bus stop on the left turn left into Hollyguest Road. Walk down the road and turn left at Bay Tree House into Hollyguest Lane. At the bottom of the lane turn left through the gate onto Cock Road Ridge.

Cock Road Ridge is owned by South Gloucestershire Council who cut the grass and empty litter and dog bins, but is managed by the Friends of Cock Road Ridge.

3 Go past the information board and take the right fork to the pond.

The pond was constructed in 1989-90 on the site of an old house to replace the original pond which is now buried below the ring road! The pond is fed by water being pumped from an old pit shaft next to the allotments. The main shaft is approximately 152 metres deep with a diameter of 1.4 metres and was backfilled in 1967-70 by the National Coal Board.

Ahead you will see the Great Oak tree which is thought to be one of five oaks planted in a line along the lower edge of the ridge by one of the early Kings of England, this being one of the remaining three.

4 Follow the path straight past the Great Oak and across the field. When you reach the band of trees leave the main path and turn left into Steps Wood. Pass the old cider apple orchard on the left and continue up the steps.

5 At the top of the steps take the middle path towards a white house passing the old Quarry (now wooded) on the right.

This large hole in the ground was excavated to obtain Blue Pennant stone to build the old coal pit Engine House which can be seen on the left in line with the houses.

6 Leave the made up path and carry on to the right of the information board. Keep on the right hand path until you reach the tree trunk carving.

The carving is one of a pair, the other one being in Overscourt Wood. The oak tree came from Overscourt Wood and the work was commissioned by the Forest of Avon and funded by a grant from South Gloucestershire Council to create a link between two parts of the Forest of Avon. During the winter when the leaves have fallen, another sculpture can be seen at Overscourt Wood. The wood carver, Yousef, is from Ghana and was helped by local youth groups. See what you can spot on the carving.

7 Continue down the hill to exit Cock Road Ridge onto Wraxall Road. Turn left up the hill and cross the road at the traffic islands. Walk down Grimsbury Road and turn right to enter Kingswood

Remembrance Park which was created in 2010. (OR, if you have dogs with you, continue straight down the road to the main gate to Grimsbury Farm. Dogs are not allowed on the Farm. Continue the walk from the *.) Follow the tarmac path in the Remembrance Park and after a short distance turn left down the footpath to Grimsbury Farm.

This city farm is managed by the Friends of Grimsbury Farm who now run a café in one of the old barns. The café may not be open on a Sunday but the toilets usually are. There are horses and ponies, guinea pigs, birds in the aviaries, sheep, pigs and goats to see as well as a children's play area.

8 Turn left past the stables, and then the barn café and duck pond on the right and walk down the drive to the road. *What can you spot on the wood carving to the right of the main gate?*

9 Turn left and walk up the road crossing when it is safe to do so. Take the right hand turning into Staverton Way. Follow this pedestrian path around and as you come to the end of it you will see a road to your left. Cross this road and take the lane opposite which is called Lower Cock Road. Follow the lane, which becomes a footpath, until you reach Westons Way.