

Walk Seven

Eye the Windrush and Slaughter



A short easy walk that links the River Eye at Lower Slaughter with the River Windrush at Bourton. Classic Cotswold villages and lovely valley views.

This is number seven in a series of walks from the Cotswolds Conservation Board designed to allow people to make their way to the start point using public transport.

Distance: 5km/3.2 miles

Time: allow 2 hrs

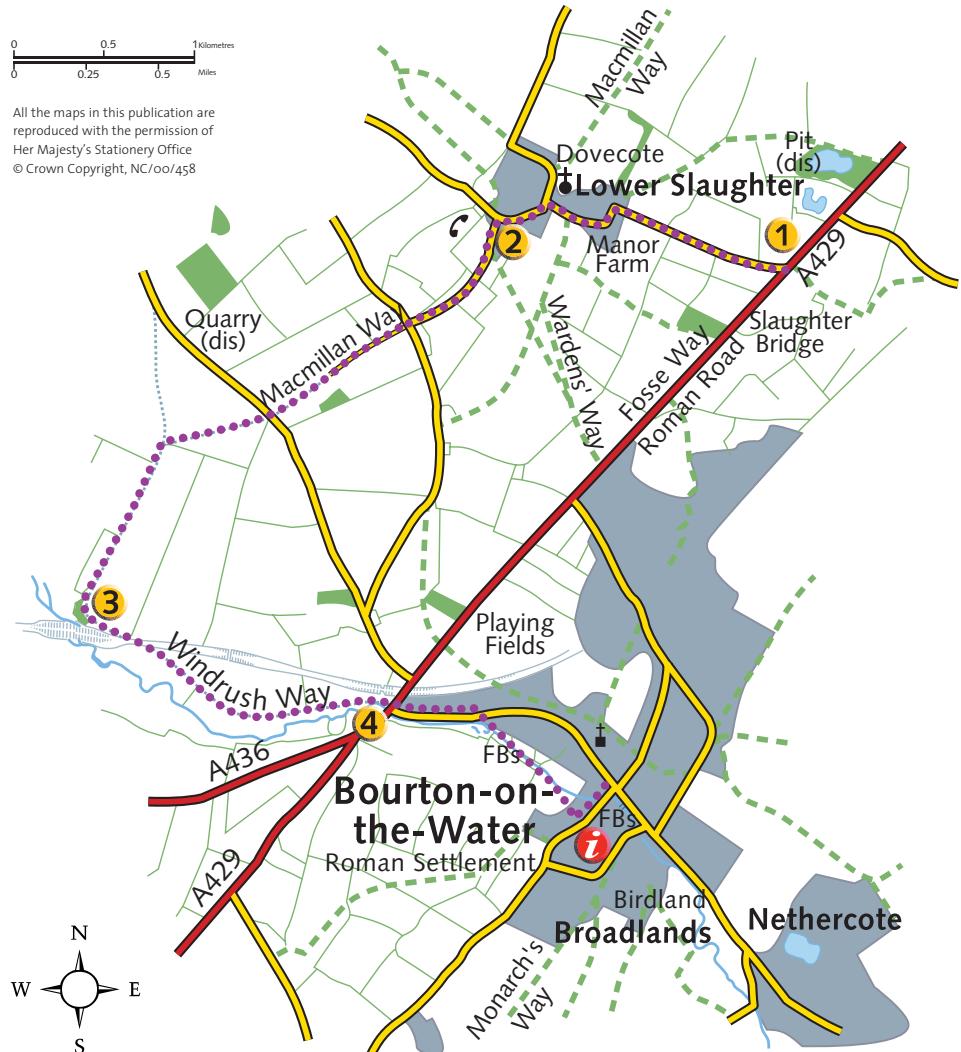
Buses: Pulham's 801 from Bourton high street and ask for Slaughter Pike.

Trains: Rail Enquiries 08457 484950

OS Ref: SP167207, Explorer Sheet OL45



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1 Follow the road sign for 'The Slaughters' into the village of Lower Slaughter. Pass the 17th Century manor house on the right, cross the road and turn right along the surfaced path beside the River Eye to the road bridge. At this point take a short detour to see the 16/17th Century houses (beside the path to the right of the river), the 19th century red brick mill (now a shop and museum) and the rebuilt 13th century church. Cross the bridge and after about 50 meters turn left into a narrow road.

2 Walk up the hill to the T-junction and cross onto a bridleway, cross over the next lane (once an ancient Saxon track known as Buggild Street), through a metal gate and diagonally across a field. At the next gate turn left down hill and pass through a gate into a delightful shady glade.

3 At a junction of paths, turn left following the sign for the 'Windrush Way' into a wood and across the disused railway track bed. Follow the path and bear right

through a gate into an open field. Continue on the right hand side of the field and on to another gate. The River Windrush is on the right. Cross the field to the field gate in the far right hand corner which leads to the busy Fosse Way.

4 Cross the road with care and into Lansdowne. Note the commemorative engraved plaque on the outside parapet of the bridge celebrating its historical importance as the site of an old Roman

bridge. Follow the surfaced path beside the river, noting the traditional pollarded willow trees. After about 200 metres, turn right onto a path signposted the 'Windrush Way'. Cross a footbridge and turn left. Continue through a kissing gate (the field to the right is the site of a Roman settlement) and bear right to an enclosed path. At the junction with the road, turn left, cross the bridge and return to Bourton-on-the-Water.