



## Walk 9: Suttons Bowls & Maiden Erlegh Lake – Wheelchair Accessible

A mainly flat walk that uses Lower Earley's network of paths and walkways/cycleways (alleys) to link Chalfont Park (and Suttons Bowls Club), Laurel Park and the beautiful Maiden Erlegh Lake. A small amount of travelling on broad pavements is required. All road crossings have dropped kerbs. Two short sections are on good quality, but roughish, gravel paths – see point 9 by Maiden Erlegh Lake and point 11 by Collins Drive. The former may be muddy after prolonged rainfall – an alternative route is described in the instructions and shown on the map.

### Length

2.6 miles (4.2 km). Allow 1 hour plus stops.

### Starting Point

**Chalfont Court Car Park**, Chalfont Way, Earley RG6 5HQ (adjacent Suttons Bowls Club)

OS Grid Ref: SU 7413 7000

w3w: ///levels.tricky.price

**Bus:**     **No 19b:** Chalfont Court Asda stop (next to car park entrance) or  
               **No 21:** Chalfont Circle stop and walk 300m along Chalfont Way past the red post box.  
 (See route instructions for an alternative car park start/finish point and an alternative No 21 bus stop)

### Refreshments

Toby Carvery pub/restaurant, Chalfont Close, Lower Earley

Asda Kitchen, Asda Lower Earley

Costa Coffee, The Square, Lower Earley (opposite the BP petrol station).

McDonalds, The Square, Lower Earley

### Route Instructions (See map attached for numbered points)

1



Exit the car park beneath the barrier and turn right along Chalfont Way. Immediately cross the road at the pedestrian crossing/lights and turn right. Carefully cross the entrance to Asda at the traffic island. Continue along Chalfont Way to reach the roundabout at the junction with Rushey Way. This is point **(2)** below.

2



Turn left onto Rushey Way and continue on the broad pavement past the entrance to Loddon Valley Leisure Centre to reach a bus shelter. This is point **(3)** below.

*(Alternative Start/Finish Point – At Point 3 below, No 21 Bus, Chatton Close Asda stop)*

3



Turn left on the path between the bus shelter and a notice board to go up a path with the Leisure Centre on your left to come metal railings. This is point **(4)** below.

4



Go through the railings and immediately turn right through more railings onto a broad tree-lined walkway/path 'alley'. Then, go through railings to cross Kerris Way and continue on the alley as it bears left slightly uphill. Ignore a path on the right through to an estate road and come to a turning just after a lamp post. This is point **(5)** below.

5



Turn right then continue on the alley to come to metal railings at an estate road – Stockbury Close. Cross this and continue on the alley to come to railings at Beech Lane. This is point **(6)** below.

6



Turn right and after 20m carefully cross Beech Lane at the dropped kerb. Go back up Beech lane on the road and turn right onto minor road – also Beech Lane, Odd Nos 189 to 249 – to meet Rushey Way. *(To avoid short section on road, carry on along Rushey Way on the pavement.)* Continue on the pavement to reach Marefield. This is point **(7)** below.

7



Turn left and go up Marefield to reach a brick sports pavilion next to a car park. This is point **(8)** below.

**Alternative Start/Finish Point:** The car park next to the pavilion is an alternative start/finish point that is reached by driving to the end of Marefield from Rushey Way. **Note:** The car park is locked at 8pm in summer & 5pm in winter.

8



Go across the car park keeping to the left of the building. Take a broad path diagonally left past a children's playground (swings, climbing frame, zip wire). Take the right fork down to meet Maiden Erlegh Lake by a notice board, viewing area and benches. This is point **(9)** below.

9



Go straight on past the bench, across a small bridge by a weir and take the wide **gravel** path that passes to the right of the lake. Look for swans, Egyptian geese, mallards, moorhens, coots, gulls and possibly a heron perched on a pole. Go through a wide, wooden kissing-gate and continue on the **gravel** path. Come to the junction with Beech Lane by concrete bollards. This is point **(10)** below.

**Alternative route – avoiding gravel path.** Turn left at point 9 and follow the tarmac path to Instow Road. Turn right, at the end take to footpath to reach Beech Lane. Turn right and take the pavement as far as the pedestrian crossing by point 10.

10



Go through the bollards and turn left. Immediately cross Beech Lane at the pedestrian crossing. At the notice board cross the green space to Radstock Lane. At the road turn left and take the pavement to come to the junction of Radstock Lane and Redhatch Drive. This is point **(11)** below.

11



Turn right and after 120m carefully cross Redhatch Drive then turn left into Collins Drive. 120m later, after the garage to a 3-storey house on your left, turn left onto a wide, good quality **gravel** path. This is point **(12)** below.

12



Continue on the path, ignoring the bridge on your left after 150m and turnings to the right, until it comes to silver-painted railings (the gate is missing) by a concrete bridge over a small stream (ditch). Ignore the bridge and bear right on a **gravel** path that soon becomes tarmac, with green space on your right. Ignore turnings to the right to reach a T-junction with another path. This is point **(13)** below.

13



Turn left and pass through metal railings. Carefully cross Durand Road to come to an alley by the Salvation Army Centre. This is point **(14)** below.

14



Turn right through the metal railings onto a broad tree-lined alley. *(If refreshments are needed, turn left off of the alley to go through Asda's car park. Asda Kitchen is at the right-hand end of the shop as you face it.)* Come to metal railings where the alley meets Chalfont Way. This is point **(15)** below.

15



Carefully cross Chalfont Way at the traffic island and go through metal railings onto a tree-lined alley and past the Bowls Club. After 100m by green metal railings to the pre-school, turn left to enter Chalfont Park. The park has two children's playgrounds. Journey's end is reached 100 m later at the car park.

