


Follow Dizzy as he surveys his estate... 4 miles Hughenden - Red Walk

Discover the wonderful and varied landscape of Hughenden Valley as you wander about this historic estate that was once home to Victorian prime minister, Benjamin Disraeli. This four mile walk explores colourful beech woods and pastures, visiting the D'Israeli monument and the church where Dizzy is buried along the way.

Start: Hughenden Manor ticket office - grid ref: SU866955 - map: OS Landranger 165

How to get here

1½ miles north of High Wycombe in the direction of Kingshill. Footpaths head into the estate from surrounding villages. Hughenden Manor ½ mile uphill from main road (A4128) along a carriage drive through parkland. Bus stop at entrance to drive and regular bus service between High Wycombe and Aylesbury (passing close to both )

Facilities

National Trust WCs, restaurant, shop and info centre in the stableyard near a car park. For more info, contact us on 01494 755573 or hughenden@nationaltrust.org.uk

Things to look out for...

Coffin Path

This ancient road was used to transport the dead from Naphill to Hughenden Church in the medieval ages. If you look closely you may see where the flint surface has been ground by iron wheels. It almost certainly marks the edge of a Saxon field boundary.

The Pits

There are various pits alongside the paths, particularly in Flagmore and Woodcock Woods. They range in size from small saw pits (approx 15ft x 10ft) to large flint, clay or marl extractions, which can be up to 30ft across. The material from these pits was once used as a building material and also as a way to adjust acidity levels in local farm soils.

Pet Cemetery

Coningsby Disraeli, nephew and heir of the Prime Minister, erected tombstones at the parkland edge in memory of his beloved dogs. Find them on the other side of a metal fence.

Disraeli's Tomb

The chapel of St Michael's and all Angels is the final resting place for Disraeli, his wife and other family members. Queen Victoria ordered that a porcelain primrose be buried with him, as he started up the Primrose League.

Terrain & accessibility

1 ¾ hrs, 4 mile walk with some **slopes**, paths, tarmac and open country....



Looking out over the valley, the D'Israeli monument was originally built as a surprise for Benjamin by his wife Mary-Anne to commemorate his father.

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You'll see lots of deadwood in Hughenden's woodlands. It is a vital element of a healthy ecosystem. As it decays the fallen wood recycles nutrients into the soil. It provides homes and food for bats, woodpeckers and owls.

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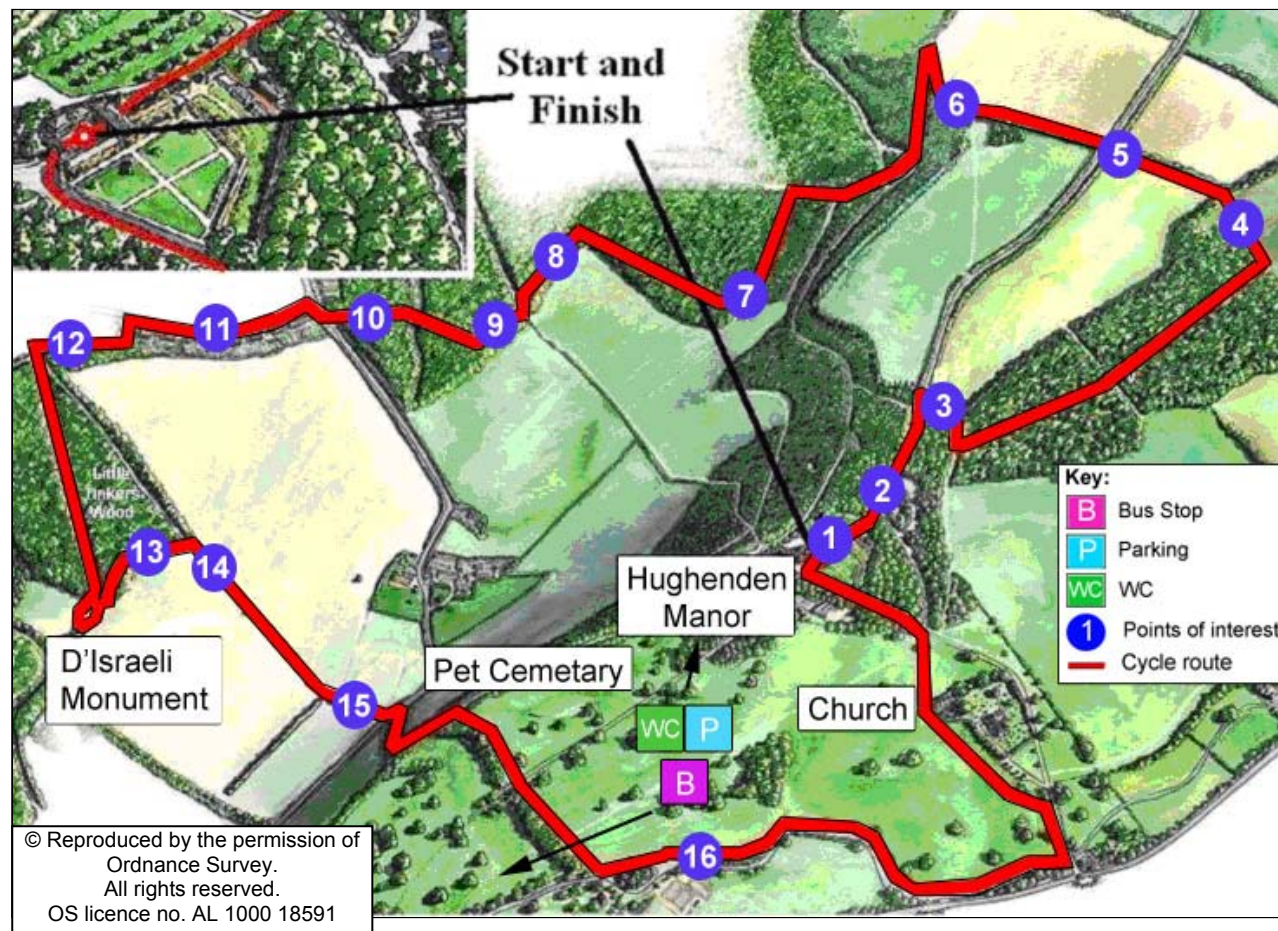
A view of the grand north front of Hughenden Manor. It was Benjamin Disraeli's country home from 1848 until his death in 1881. The facades were remodelled in 1862, in a bizarre Jacobean style.

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"Like all great travellers, I have seen more than I remember, and remember more than I have seen." Benjamin Disraeli

Route and directions...

1. From Hughenden Manor ticket office walk up the stairs and right towards the woodland car park, passing the orchard on your left, follow the **red arrows** for the duration of the walk.
2. At the crossroad near the notice board take the left track (the Coffin Path) into the woods keeping the car park to your right.
3. Turn right along the edge of the field into Woodcock Woods and left at the crossroad. Bear straight through the woods and over a crossroad where the path falls steeply and rises again.
4. Go through the metal gate into a field and head left towards the next gate.
5. Follow the path along the field boundary keeping the hedge to your right, crossing over the large flint track go straight into the opposite field this time keeping the hedge to your left.
6. Follow the path as it bends right along the woodland boundary and turn left through the gate into the woods. Right at the fork and straight over the next crossing point down the slope. Then right at the large fork.
7. Continue straight until the bottom of the hill and turn left onto the track.
8. After a short distance the track ends opposite a gate, turn right before the gate and up the slope, follow this path up hill until it reaches another path running alongside a boundary ditch, turn left keeping the ditch to the right.
9. Go down the slope and straight up the next slope.
10. Follow the path until it exits the woods passing between two fences; take care as you now approach a main road.
11. Cross the road and follow the path opposite (running along Littleworth Road) until you come to a public footpath on the left at house number 78 opposite a brick and flint cottage.



12. Cross at the tarmac drive and go through the gate, following the path behind some houses – left at the 1st fork and right at the 2nd at the edge of the woods the right hand path leads out of a gate to the D'Israeli monument.
13. Exit the field through the same gate you entered and turn right and go to the bottom of the hill.
14. Turn right at the bottom through a gate and follow the field boundary.
15. Cross the road and turn left then immediately right onto a track and through a metal gate. Follow the track and through a gate into the park. Turn right towards the stream.
16. Walk with the stream on your right until you get to the main drive, turn left up the drive and towards the manor until you reach the stable yard.

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