

Zone 6 inner

Section 8: Purley Oaks to Banstead

Distance: 7.30 mi, 11.68 km

Introduction

The is a moderately long section. It is suburban at the start and in the middle, but all the rest is rural. Towards the end, the route follows the London Loop for part of the way.

There are a few places to eat in Purley Oaks, and rather more, including a pub some distance off the route, in Banstead; but between these there is only the cafe in Oaks Park.

Directions

Leave Purley Oaks station on the west side, by platform 1.

Go straight ahead past the carpark and down the steps.

Turn left then right down Allenby Avenue.

Go straight ahead at the crossroads, then turn left onto a track.

Follow this all the way to the end, round a right bend.

Cross the main road, and carry on up Biddulph Road.

Turn left up Montpelier Road.

Keep straight ahead when you reach the top of the hill.

Take the footpath on the right, between nos. 37 and 35.

At the top of the steps, bear left.

At the end, turn right then left into Wyvern Road.

On the left bend, take the footpath straight ahead to the main road.

Cross the main road into Russell Green Close.

Carry on to the end. Then turn right up the steps.

Turn right again at the top of the steps.

At the end, turn left.

Turn right into Hillcrest Road, then keep straight ahead along Overhill Road.

At the end carry on along the footpath ahead, hidden behind a tree.

Bear left, then follow the main path round several bends, passing playing fields on the left, until you come out onto Roundshaw Downs at a bench.

Take the rightmost of the two paths on the left.

Keep straight ahead, passing a fenced-off area on the right, to the edge of a wood.

At a junction keep straight ahead into the wood.

Keep on the main path, passing allotments on the left and houses (a little way off) on the right.

Cross the road, and turn left onto the path on the other side.

Once back in the woods, before the path joins the road, turn right.

Take the second of two turnings close together on the left.

Keep on the main path, and keep going in the same direction when you reach a tarmac path, passing a playground on the left and playing fields on the right.

At the end, turn left along the road.

At the main road, turn right then left into The Newlands.

At the end, turn right.

Go straight on at the mini-roundabout.

Turn left at the next two T junctions.

After a right bend, turn left into Onslow Gardens.

After another right bend, cross the main road, and carry on along Dower Avenue.

At the end, carry straight on ahead along a residential road.

Keep straight ahead up Wood End when the road bends right.

Skirt round the roundabout clockwise, then bear left and keep going along a footpath.

At the end, turn left, and then keep straight ahead along the cycle track.

At the crossroads, turn right.

After a long descent to a main road, turn right, then left into Oaks Park.

Climb past a linear carpark.

At the top of the hill, opposite the cafe, pass the entrance to a carpark on the right, then immediately take the footpath on the right.

Turn right at the T junction. Here we join the London Loop.

Keep on the main path through the woods. Bear right in front of a wooden barrier, then carry on downhill.

When you reach a wooden fence atop a brick wall, follow alongside it (on your left).

When the path emerges onto a wider track, turn right onto it.

A little later, just after Rotherfield House, take the bridleway on the left, passing to the left of the wooden fence.

Keep straight ahead. Eventually you pass HMP Belmont on the right.

Opposite the corner of a brick wall on the right, ignore the first turning left and take the second, immediately after it.

Cross the road and carry on along the footpath opposite.

Follow this footpath all the way to the end. If instead you take either of the paths on the left at the next intersection, you will reach a pub in 15 minutes.

Just before it joins the road, turn right.

At the first junction, turn left.

Cross the dual carriageway, and carry on along the path with the railway on your right.

At the end, you will see Banstead station ahead.