

## General information

The Rugby Town and Country Walks start in the urban area of Rugby and include areas of countryside either in or close to the town. The walks are on a mixture of paved surfaces, country footpaths and canal towpaths. They provide an enjoyable way to incorporate physical activity into your life, and also access some areas of country without having to travel far. Walking is the ideal exercise as almost anyone can do it and you can do it almost anywhere and at any time with little risk of injury, but you should observe a few basic rules:

- The walks cross roads that may at times be very busy, and you should exercise great caution when crossing them. Where there is not a suitable pavement, footpath or verge, walk on the right-hand side of the road so that you can see oncoming traffic.
- Treat the environment with respect – do not drop litter, and always leave gates as you find them.
- Carry liquid to keep hydrated.
- Allow sufficient time to carry out the walk in daylight – parts of the walks are unlit and secluded.
- Walks may cross farmland - keep dogs on a lead, do not drop litter, leave gates as you find them, and keep to the route.
- Wear appropriate clothing - although parts of the walks are on good paved surfaces, the rural parts utilise footpaths and bridleways and you therefore need to be equipped for these areas, which may be wet in the winter and dusty in the summer, and possibly with vegetation encroaching on the paths at certain times of the year – this will mean strong shoes or boots, and trousers rather than shorts.



This walk is circular and generally flat for much of the route, but with a steep hill towards the end. There are two variations of the walk; the full length route, which crosses the countryside between Brownsover and the village of Clifton-upon Dunsmore, and a shorter variation that includes a length of the towpath of the Oxford Canal. There are no stiles on the walk, but there are 3 “kissing gates” on the full length route, and steps down to, and a ramp from, the canal on the shorter variation of the walk, making both walks unsuitable for wheelchair users. There are no toilets on the route.

### Walk length

Approximately 3.25 miles for the main route, or 2.5 miles for the canal variation.

### Time required

About 65 – 85 minutes at a brisk pace for the main route, or about 50 – 65 minutes for the canal towpath variation.

### Links to other routes

This walk starts at the same point as The Bluebell Walk.

**This walk is suitable only for adults (children should be accompanied). The maps are not to scale, and distances and walk times given are approximate.**

**Please note that this walk is undertaken at your own risk.**

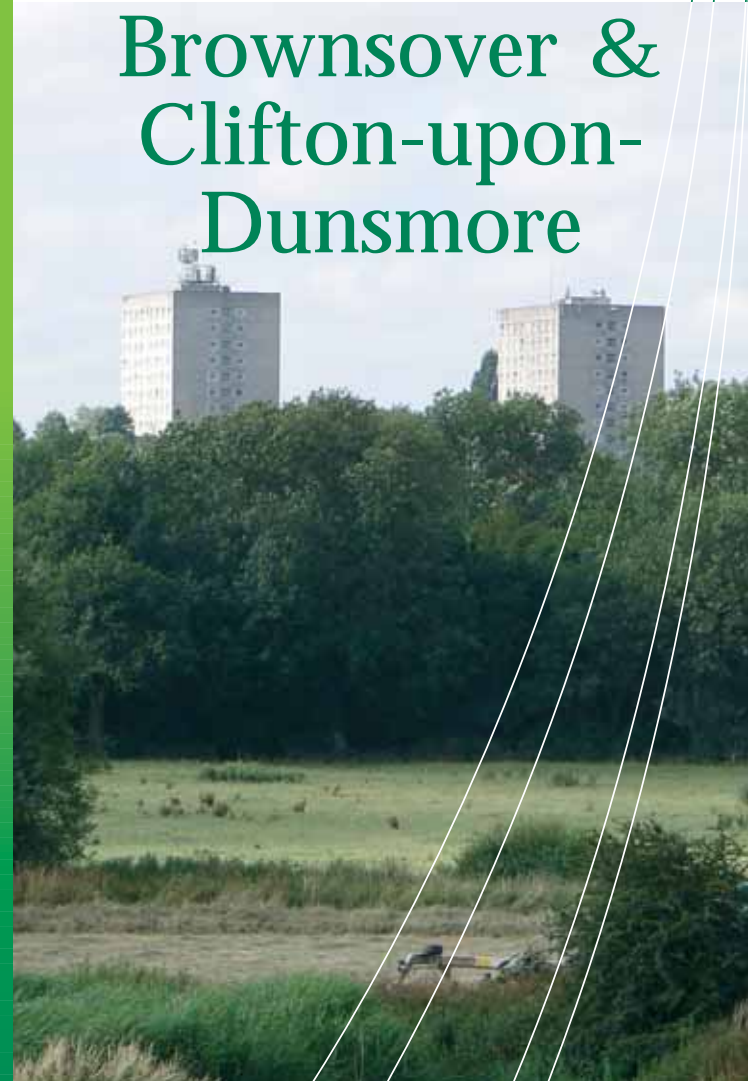
This leaflet has been produced by the Sport & Recreation Development Section of the Leisure Services Division of Rugby Borough Council. For further information or queries, please contact the Active Lifestyles Officer on (01788) 533721, by e-mail on [activelifestyles@rugby.gov.uk](mailto:activelifestyles@rugby.gov.uk), or visit the Council's website at [www.rugby.gov.uk](http://www.rugby.gov.uk) and click on Leisure and Culture. Walk produced September 2006.

### Feedback please!

We've done our best to provide a leaflet that is clear and accurate, and describes walks that you will enjoy. However, we are always seeking to improve what we do, and we therefore welcome any comments or suggestions you have regarding any aspect of this leaflet.

# Rugby Town & Country Walks

## Brownsover & Clifton-upon- Dunsmore



## The walk

**The walk starts at the car park on Whinfield Recreation Ground.**

- 1 Walk away from the car park towards Clifton Road on the footpath on the recreation ground that runs parallel with Butlin Road. Follow the path until it bends left and leave the recreation ground just past the play area, and turn left along Clifton Road for a few yards. Cross the road on the traffic light controlled crossing, and turn left. Carry on for a short distance and then cross and turn right down South Street. Follow the road as it swings first right and then sharp left at the bottom of the hill, becoming Abbey Street. Cross Abbey Street just before Cambridge Street, turn left, and continue to the junction with Murray Road, turning right down the hill.
- 2 After a short distance cross to the other side of Murray Road on the ramp between bollards, and turn right down the hill and cross the railway station entrance road to the tunnel ahead of you (which passes under the station). Continue through it onto Mill Road, passing the Royal Mail sorting office on the left, and continue to the end of the road. Outside the Alstom factory is a large stone memorial “In memory of the men of the British Thomson-Houston Coy who gave their lives in the Great Wars”.
- 3 Turn left along Boughton Road for a short distance before crossing the road between the bollards on the central reservation, and turn right for about 30 yards before turning left into Boughton Road Recreation Ground. The path here is shared by walkers and cyclists (walkers keep to the left side).
- 4 As you continue along the path, you'll come to a reservoir on your right (behind a metal fence), and a few houses (Mill Cottages) on the left as the path swings to the right. Follow the path until it swings sharply to the left to enter a tunnel, where you can either continue on the main route, or take the shorter Oxford Canal variation (see below).

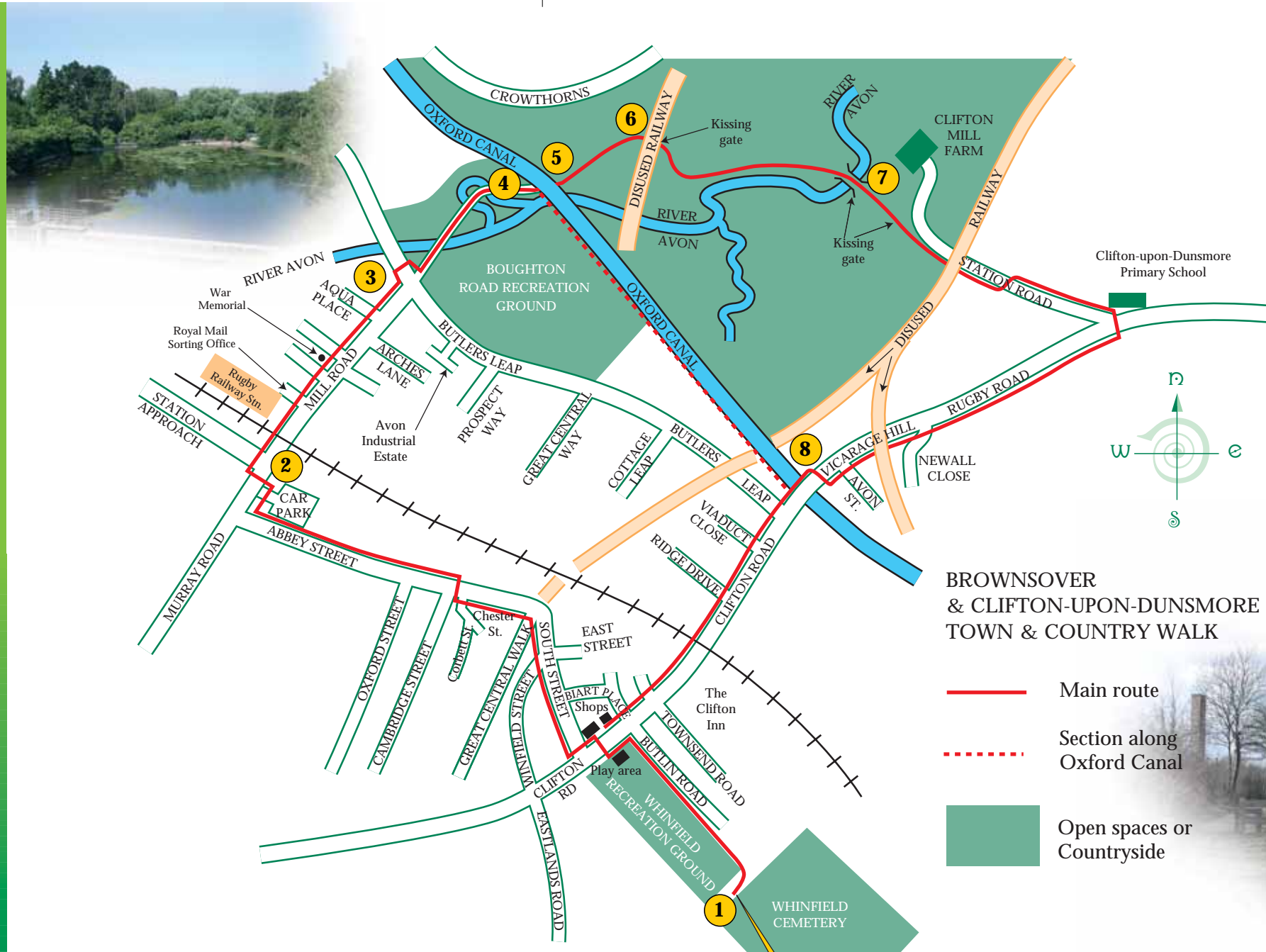
### Oxford Canal variation

Go up the ramp to your right up to the canal. Turn right and continue along the towpath, leaving at the next bridge (which has the number “66” on the brick bridge) up a set of steps, turning right down the hill to re-join the main route at ⑧

*continued overleaf*



- 5 To continue on the main route, go through the tunnel and at the end, turn immediately right across an open space over a series of low ridges, the remnants of an old ridge and furrow field system.
- 6 When you reach the junction with another footpath, turn right under a bridge beneath a disused railway, and then go through a metal kissing gate. Take the path that goes immediately off to the right. The path goes between two groups of trees and then follows, roughly, the River Avon (to your right), only a few yards wide at this point. The path goes over a small wooden bridge to the right of another group of trees, and shortly after, to the right of a third group. The path then meets another footpath to the right of a few trees. Turn right, signposted "Public Footpath to Clifton", across a bridge over the river, and then through a metal kissing gate on the other side.
- 7 The path goes across a small field to another kissing gate (aim for the gap between the houses on the other side) and out onto a lane. Continue straight ahead up the hill (Station Road). There is no footpath until further up on the left hand side, where the houses in Clifton-upon-Dunsmore start. At the top of the hill cross Rugby Road and turn right, crossing Newall Close after a while, across a bridge over a now disused railway, and then down the hill.
- 8 Cross the road where the footpath ends, turn left over the canal bridge, and continue down the hill, crossing Butlers Leap at the traffic light controlled crossing. Continue up the hill, crossing Viaduct Close, Ridge Drive, and then Biart Place at the top, and when you reach the shops, cross Clifton Road on the traffic light controlled crossing. Turn left for a few yards to enter the recreation ground and return to the starting point on the route along the path you followed at the beginning of the walk.



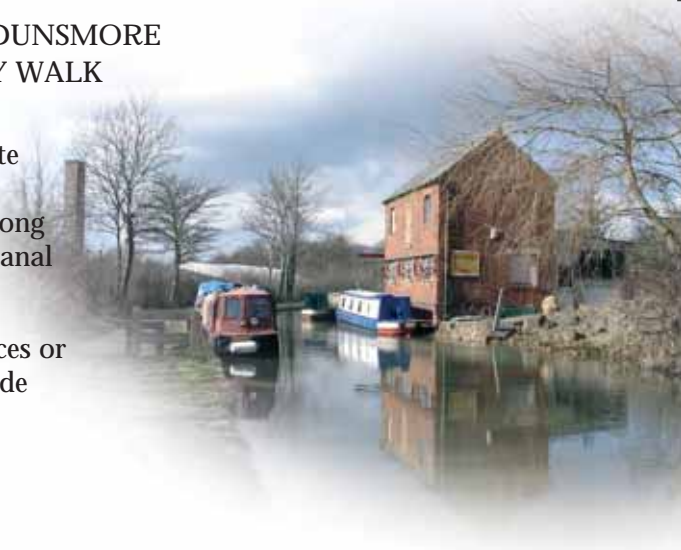
**BROWNSOVER & CLIFTON-UPON-DUNSMORE TOWN & COUNTRY WALK**

- Main route
- - - Section along Oxford Canal
- Open spaces or Countryside



**Brownsover & Clifton – getting to the start**

From Rugby town centre, follow Clifton Road towards Clifton-upon-Dunsmore. Whinfield Recreation Ground is on Butlin Road, off Clifton Road, after about 3/4 mile on your right just after a row of shops on your left. The Clifton Inn pub is opposite Butlin Road.



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