

# The Tally Ho and Blackwater Valley, Eversley, Hampshire



Moderate Terrain

2 miles  
Circular  
1 hour

080218



## Access Notes



1. The walk is almost entirely flat and the paths can be a little overgrown in the summer and can get muddy after rain and in the winter.
2. The route passes through three paddocks that are likely to be holding horses so take care with children and dogs.
3. You will need to negotiate several gates, a long narrow footbridge and two stiles (both of which have open fencing surrounds which should be suitable for most dogs to pass through).

The Tally Ho is a beautiful Hampshire farmhouse lovingly converted to a great pub with open fires in the winter and an enormous garden to enjoy in the summer.

A 2 mile circular pub walk from the Tally Ho in Eversley, in north-east Hampshire. The short walk follows a section of the Blackwater Valley path, a long distance path which meanders alongside the River Blackwater, to reach the beautiful old ford, weir and mill at nearby Lower Common. If you wish, there's chance to extend the walk by exploring Bramshill Forest at this point. The return leg follows a quiet lane and woodland footpath before joining the main road back to the pub. You'll have chance to meet lots of horses in the paddocks along the way and enjoy the beautiful River Blackwater which is a haven for a variety of wildlife.

## Getting there

Eversley is on the Berkshire/Hampshire border, on the A327 between Farnborough and Reading. The walk starts and finishes at the Tally Ho pub which can be found on the junction of the A327 Reading Road and B3348 Fleet Hill. The pub has a large car park alongside.

Approximate post code **RG27 0RR**.

## Walk Sections



### Start to New Mill Lane



From the pub car park return towards the road and turn left across the grass triangle in front of the pub to reach the post holding the hanging pub sign alongside the road junction. Cross over the main Reading Road, taking care, and turn left along the pavement. You will cross over the River Blackwater and pass alongside the Hampshire boundary sign – the river forms the boundary between Berkshire and Hampshire along this stretch.

Keep ahead into Eversley Village. (The turning into the

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next footpath is fairly well concealed so take care to follow the next instruction carefully). Follow the pavement and pass the gateway entrance into Baker's Farm on your right and after the curved hedge turn right immediately before the white brick and black wood converted barn, down a small concealed signed footpath. Pass through the gate and stay close to the white wall on the left. Keep left to join the grass footpath with a tall brick wall on the left and a hedgerow on the right.

Continue to follow the narrow grass path, later with fenced horse paddocks on your left. When you reach a T-junction with a tarmac lane, cross straight over to continue on the Blackwater Valley grass path opposite, with more horse paddocks to the left.

Eventually you will come to a kissing gate ahead. Pass through this into a horse paddock and follow the path along the right-hand field edge. At the far side pass through the metal kissing gate into the second paddock and, again, cross this following the right-hand boundary. At the opposite side cross the embankment bridge, via a kissing gate and wide metal gate, to reach the third paddock (which contains stretches of electric fencing). Keep along the right-hand edge of this field, through the next kissing gate and on in the same direction through the next paddock. Keep ahead through a staggered barrier and two more gates to reach a T-junction with New Mill Lane.



## New Mill Lane to End



(Should you wish to extend the walk, you can take the stone track at 10 o'clock which will lead you into Bramshill Forest which you can take time to explore before returning to this point). To follow the main walk, turn right out of the kissing gate and after a few paces you'll reach a large ford.

Enjoy this idyllic scene, which is also a great place for a paddle in hot weather. Over the last 200 years the River Blackwater had suffered neglect but in recent years the water quality and banks have been improved. As a result fish stocks are improving and other wildlife has returned including otters.

Cross the ford via the long footbridge taking time to enjoy the views of the weir and old mill over to the right. At the far side of the bridge keep straight ahead on the quiet tarmac lane. Continue until you reach the side road called Forges Lane on the left. Turn right opposite this onto the signed footpath into woodland. Soon the path continues alongside a tall wooden fence on the left.

Cross the gravel driveway via a pair of stiles to continue on the pretty, long, dead straight woodland path with a tall fence on the right. You will emerge through a wooden gate (good luck with the elaborate catch!) to a T-junction with the main Reading Road. Turn right along the pavement.

On the right you'll pass Horn's Farm, a livery yard. Follow the pavement for some distance – the traffic can be quite fast moving so take care with children and dogs. As the road bends hard right, cross over with extreme care to reach the Tally Ho for some well earned hospitality.

## Disclaimer

This walking route was walked and checked at the time of writing. We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

## Walking Safety

For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and an Ordnance Survey map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before you set out.

