

### Key Info

#### Start and finish:

Riverside Road, Bellfields, Guildford  
GU1 1LW

Time: 2 - 4 hours



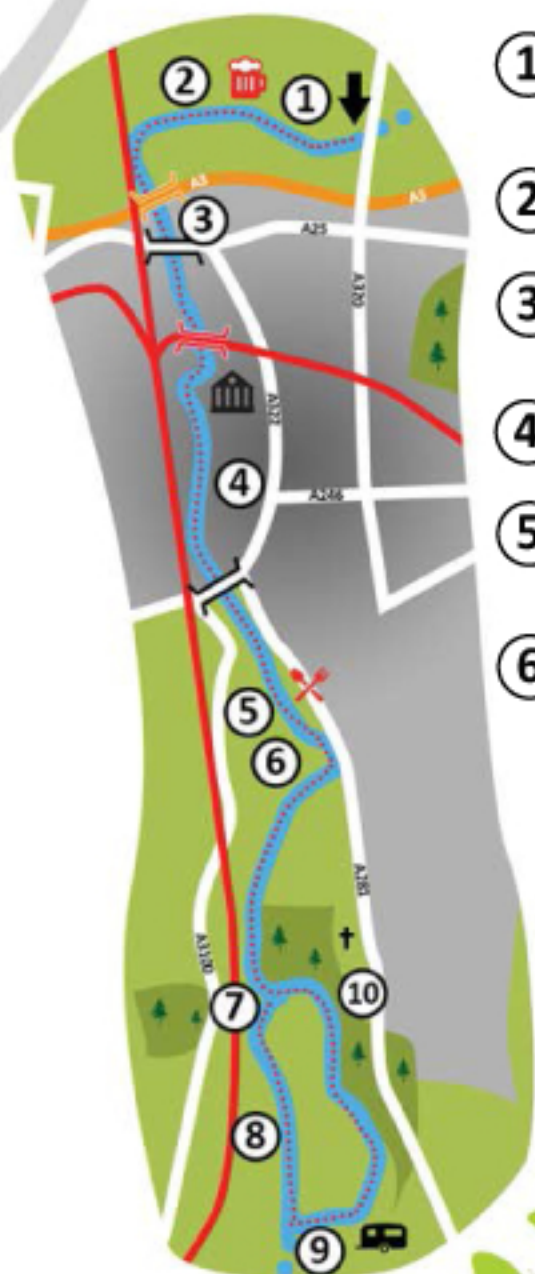
Scan or visit  
[bit.ly/Wey-Navigation](http://bit.ly/Wey-Navigation)  
to find the map  
in Mapometer and  
download the GPX file

Distance: 7.3 miles

Locks/Portages: 3

OS Map: Explorer 145 Guildford  
and Farnham

Enjoy a paddle along the Wey; one of the first rivers to be made navigable and opened to barge traffic in 1653.



- 1 Park by the river, to the left of the Row Barge Public House. Launch from the small triangle of land near the road bridge or at Wey Kayak Club just down the road. Do not launch from the pub car park.
- 2 Put in and turn right, away from the Woking Road bridge. As soon as you leave the bank you have countryside on your left and houses to your right.
- 3 Pass under the A3 road bridge and then meander gently into Guildford town centre past a mixture of countryside, pretty bridges, historic and industrial buildings. On your right just after the A3 is Woodbridge Meadows.
- 4 At just over 1 mile you reach Dapdune Wharf. Look out for other boats on the blind bends here.
- 5 At just under 2 miles Debenhams will appear on your left hand side. The river appears to split here. Take the right hand channel. Go under the footbridge and up to the sluice. Portage across the island and put in clear of Millmead Lock.
- 6 After a short distance the river bends sharply right. Watch out for rowers here. From here on you leave Guildford and head into open countryside. There are some good examples of Ox Bow lakes here.
- 7 Shortly after reaching a wooden footbridge at 2.8 miles you will come to a fork in the river. Take the right fork, this is the main river channel, you will return via the left side.
- 8 St Catherine's Lock is reached a few hundred yards further on. The lock is portaged on the towpath side. Back on the water, continue a few hundred yards, passing a weir on the left before the railway bridge.
- 9 To return to Guildford, land on the grassy bank between the weir and railway bridge. Portage to get in below the weir. Take care as the water can flow quickly with a back eddy.
- 10 From here on you can enjoy the pleasures of this section of natural river. Reach the point the river divided and retrace your journey back to your start point by the Row Barge pub.

Find more  
paddling trails at:  
[gopaddling.info](http://gopaddling.info)



**NOTE: At times of high flow the locks are padlocked and the waterway is closed to all navigation.**

It's a good idea to check there are no events at the waterside centre (home of Wey Kayak Club) when you are planning to visit, as the roads can get very full.

The Wey has two separate sources in two different counties. The two River Wey's unite near the historic Tilford Oak in Surrey. The Wey and its two navigations flow across 87 miles of countryside yet drop a mere 98 feet by the time the waterway joins the Thames at Weybridge.

Woodbridge Meadows: These natural meadows have some amazing wooden sculptures which are well worth a look.

Dapdune Wharf: The National Trust has a visitor centre here. This houses a museum telling the story of the history of the Wey navigation and the people who lived and worked along it.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/river-wey-and-godalming-navigations-and-dapdune-wharf>



Visit our website  
[britishcanoeing.org.uk](http://britishcanoeing.org.uk)  
for more information

Winter Warmer: The Row Barge is a dog friendly pub, with an open fire. Serving real ales and pub food, this is a great place for a stop off by the river.

<http://www.therowbargeguildford.com/index>

## Safety and Licenses

*We want you to enjoy a safe trip, so here are a few tips for staying safe and paddling responsibly.*

### Paddle Safe:

Be prepared and take the right kit:

- Wear a correctly sized buoyancy aid
- Mobile phone – in a waterproof case
- Whistle – to attract attention in case of emergency
- Map and / or route description
- Appropriate clothing for the weather conditions + spares in a dry bag
- Food, drink & suncream!

### Paddle Responsibly:

Respect the natural environment and other users:

- Respect other waterway users #sharethespace
- Be environmentally aware, minimise your impact
- Ensure you have the correct licence if required
- Observe navigational rules – keep right and give other users space
- Check, Clean, Dry after every trip!

#DontDrinkandDrown

[www.rls.org.uk](http://www.rls.org.uk)

An important campaign by the RLSS encourages people to remember the effects of alcohol and the potential implications around water safety. 'Don't drink and drown' reminds people to be mindful of their alcohol consumption which is especially important for paddlers to remember too.

**License Information:** The waterways in this trail are managed by the National Trust and require paddlers to hold a license. British Canoeing membership includes a full annual license for this waterway - please take your membership card with you as this acts as your license. Non-members can either purchase a British Canoeing membership from [www.britishcanoeing.org.uk](http://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk) or buy licenses direct from The National Trust.