

Walk 9

Rickmansworth Waterways

This leisurely walk takes you along the Grand Union Canal, then through the old part of Rickmansworth town, to Batchworth and Bury Lakes. You should see plenty of birdlife along the way, as the route runs alongside lakes, river and canal. Look out for many different water birds and also possibly a kingfisher.

Distance: 3 miles (allow 2 hours). Extra 1 mile if you also wish to do the circuit around Bury Lake, which is a good walk in itself.

Start: Rickmansworth Aquadrome car park; turn off London Road near Batchworth roundabout. Go past the White Bear pub and follow signs for Aquadrome. Rickmansworth tube and railway station is just a five minute walk from 6 on the route, where this walk can also be started.

Access Information: Level throughout. The walk around Batchworth and Bury Lake is suitable for all terrain push chairs.

Refreshments: Pubs and restaurants in Rickmansworth.

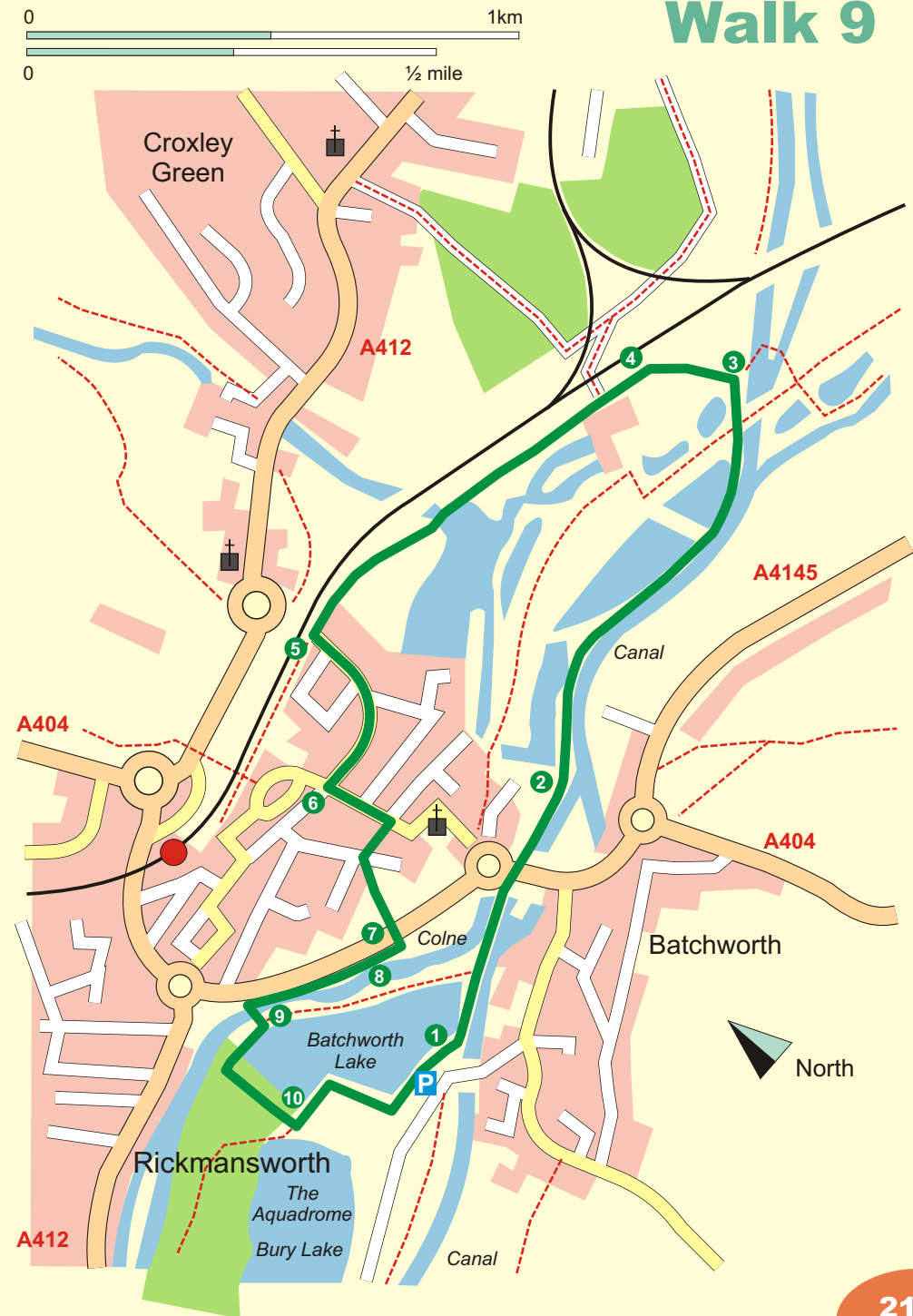
Route:

Exit the car park and turn right along the road. When you reach the bridge keep left to go down to the towpath signposted Ebury Way. 1 Turn left along the towpath and follow it, passing under a road bridge to reach Batchworth Lock. 2 Go over the canal bridge and continue along the canal for about ¼ mile passing under a bridge to reach a second lock. 3 Turn left leaving the canal to go on a track between two houses and follow it as it crosses a field between fences towards trees. When you reach the trees turn left along the track 4 parallel to the railway for about half a mile. The path eventually ends at a road (Caravan Lane) which leads to Rickmansworth High Street. 5

Turn left along the High Street, ignoring side roads and going past the Baptist Church and Watersmeet Theatre on your right. When you reach traffic lights 6 turn left into Church Street and then first right into Bury Lane. Where the lane bends

right, turn left towards 'The Bury' and then immediately right along the unsurfaced path through trees to a footbridge; cross over and bear half-left across the grass to reach the A404 and cross at the pedestrian lights. 7

Turn right on the other side to go across the entrance to a scrap metal yard and at the end of the fence left across the grass to the banks of the River Colne. 8 Turn right and follow the river, eventually crossing a footbridge to rejoin the pavement on the A404 (Riverside Drive). Continue a short way along the road, turning left through green railings just before the roundabout, then across a children's playground and over a footbridge to Batchworth Lake. 9 Turn right to go around the edge of the lake until you emerge in front of Bury Lake. 10 Here turn left along the track bordering the lake to return to the Aquadrome car park, or alternatively you can walk the whole circuit around Bury Lake.



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