

Freedom Pass circuit

Section 17: Heathrow Terminal 5 to West Drayton

Distance 4.26 mi, 6.82 km

Introduction

This section takes us north from the western end of Heathrow airport. Getting away from the airport is not very easy, the environment not being designed with pedestrians in mind, but once that has been achieved the walk becomes immediately much more pleasant.

There are places to eat in Harmondsworth and West Drayton (as well as the airport, of course).

Directions

Leave the airport at the Arrivals level and follow directions to the local bus station. On reaching it, turn right.

Follow a footpath passing a sign saying “access to control post”. It emerges onto Wagtail Road, which leads on to Windssock Way.

Keep following the pavement alongside the airport’s perimeter fence.

Eventually you will come to a sign forbidding pedestrians. Cross the road at the traffic lights at this point and carry on across the river, ignoring more signs forbidding pedestrians.

Go round the roundabout by turning left, then right, across Stanwell More Road, and leave the roundabout along Bath Road.

Cross the River Colne.

After the bus stop, take the bridleway on the right.

When you see a ramp ahead, leading up to the A4, turn left, go through the line of bollards, then turn right. Follow the path under the A4.

Bear left when you get back to the original path coming down from a ramp on the other side, and carry on in the same direction as before.

When the path meets the Wraysbury River, follow it round to the right (do not cross the river).

Keep on the main path, ignoring various gates on either side. When you first see a carpark on the right, go straight on. You will shortly reach Accommodation Lane.

Go through the kissing gate, and bear left onto the lane.

Cross the River Colne again.

If the gates on the right are open:

Go through the metal gate on the

If the gates on the right are locked:

Keep going along Accommodation

right, and immediately turn left alongside the lane.

Lane.

When the road bends left, turn right.

Keep on the path, as it skirts a lake on the right, then turn left in front of a small mound.

Turn right onto the road.

Go over the bridge and follow the road into Harmondsworth, passing a memorial to Barnes Wallis.

Turn left by the Five Bells, and enter the churchyard, taking the right-hand path.

Just past the church, turn right.

Leave the churchyard through the gate on the left at the far end.

Follow the path over the M4, and carry on in the same direction away from the M4 on the other side.

At the crossroad, turn right into The Brambles, then left through two rows of concrete bollards.

Carry on along the left side of the green.

Bear right at Wise Lane, and turn left after the school opposite the Cat and Fiddle.

Take the path along the right-hand side of the green.

Go over the pedestrian crossing, and carry on along the path straight ahead.

At the 5-way intersection, bear right along a very straight tree-lined avenue.

At the end, after admiring the Tudor gatehouse, turn right into Church Road.

At the end, turn left into Station Road.

After the Six Bells, turn right into Brandville Road.

At the end turn left.

The first turning right takes you to West Drayton Station.