



Celandine Route

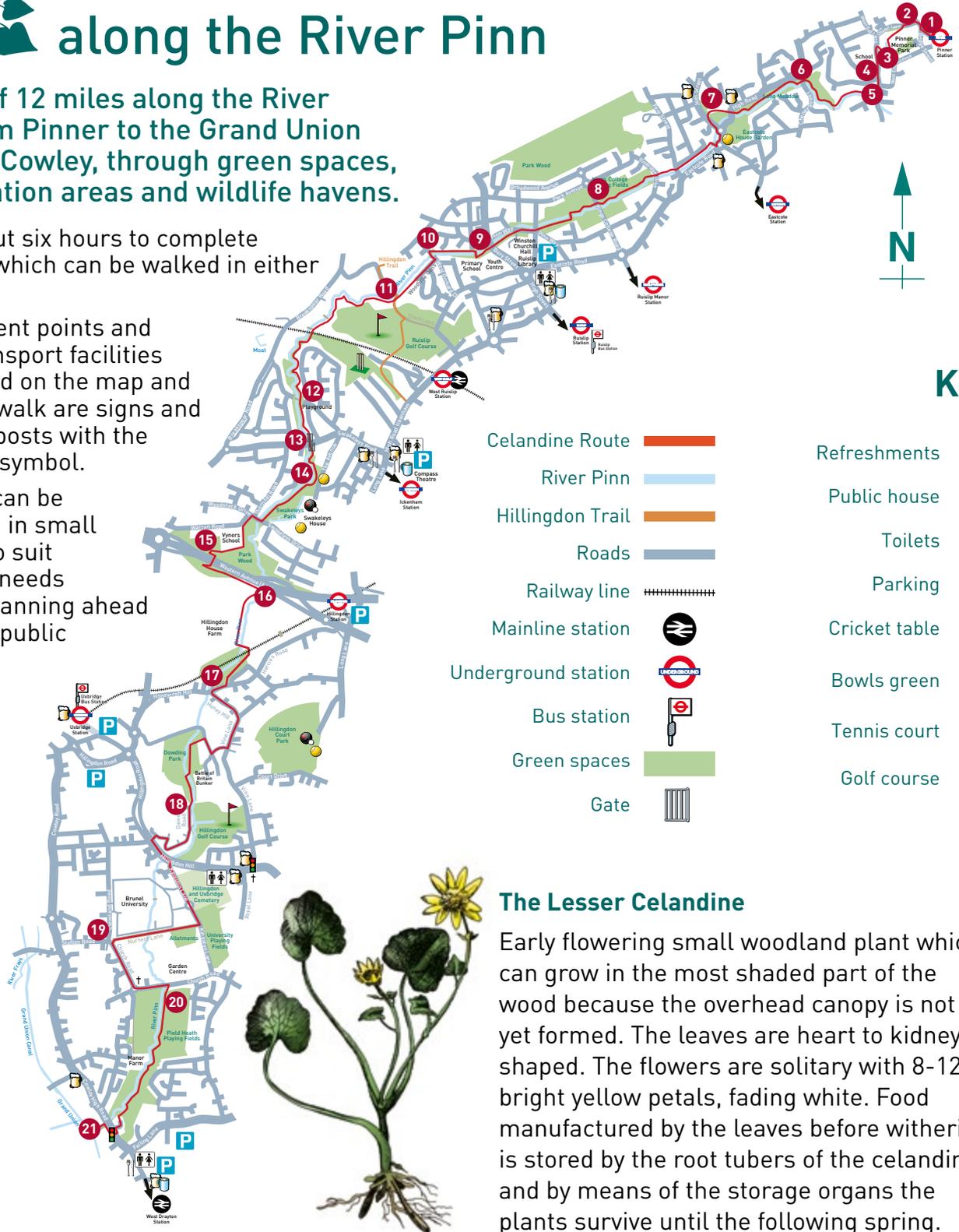
along the River Pinn

A Walk of 12 miles along the River Pinn from Pinner to the Grand Union Canal at Cowley, through green spaces, conservation areas and wildlife havens.

Allow about six hours to complete the route which can be walked in either direction.

Refreshment points and public transport facilities are marked on the map and along the walk are signs and waymark posts with the celandine symbol.

The walk can be completed in small sections to suit individual needs through planning ahead and using public transport.



Key

- Celandine Route
- River Pinn
- Hillingdon Trail
- Roads
- Railway line
- Mainline station
- Underground station
- Bus station
- Green spaces
- Gate
- Refreshments
- Public house
- Toilets
- Parking
- Cricket table
- Bowls green
- Tennis court
- Golf course

The Lesser Celandine

Early flowering small woodland plant which can grow in the most shaded part of the wood because the overhead canopy is not yet formed. The leaves are heart to kidney shaped. The flowers are solitary with 8-12 bright yellow petals, fading white. Food manufactured by the leaves before withering is stored by the root tubers of the celandine and by means of the storage organs the plants survive until the following spring.





Celandine Route

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2.7 miles
1 hour, 20 minutes

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Celandine Route along the River Pinn

1 Starting from Pinner station (Metropolitan Line) walk down Station Approach and turn right along Bridge Street. Cross the road at the zebra crossing; here the River Pinn may be seen from the bridge.

The High Street has many fine old buildings including the 14th century church of St John the Baptist and others over 300 years old.

2 Turn right and then left into Chapel Lane. Walk under the bridge and cross the car park entrance to enter Pinner Memorial Park. This park was bought by the residents and Friends of Pinner and given to Harrow Council to commemorate those who died in the two world wars (here the route leaves the river for a while as it disappears underground).

Walk along the path through the park and turn left at the play area and before the aviary to walk around the edge of the lake.

The building you see is the remains of West House which was the home of Nelson Ward, grandson of Lord Nelson.

3 Turn to the left of West House and follow the path to the gate passing the small dog cemetery dating from the 19th century.

4 Cross West End Lane with care and turn left past the school. On your left is Rose Cottage with its rose decoration on the front. This cottage was built when West End was part of a hamlet.

Continue along the road crossing two other roads until Cranbourne Drive, then turn right and enter Cuckoo Hill allotments.

5 Here the walk rejoins the river. Walk straight ahead along a wide path through some woodland and on reaching the open grass area keep to the path on the left. In spring a common yellow flower called celandine can be seen here and at many places along the walk.

Many of the open spaces between Eastcote and Ickenham are managed as hay meadows, to encourage wildlife, and increase biodiversity.

You are now entering the London Borough of Hillingdon.

6 Cross Cheney Street and enter Long Meadow open space where cows used to graze; walk ahead past a group of poplar trees.

These trees are called Hinman Copse named after Margaret Hinman who was a great benefactor to Eastcote during the 1940 and 50s. Here a bird called the tree creeper may be seen.

At the wooden bridge it is possible to cross the river and enter Eastcote House Gardens containing 16th Century buildings; Stables, Dovecot and Walled Garden. The Walled Garden has recently been replanted as has the rockery in the orchard

Return to the road and cross Eastcote High Road with great care. Walk through Haydon Hall grounds; on the left there are the remains of an old lake now enjoyed by local young cyclists.

7 Walk past the large sequoia tree and other conifers and go through gate. Cross road with care, turn left along Joel Street to bridge and T-junction. Turn right to walk past tennis courts, and a mock Tudor building (a substation).

Walk through Forge Green Open Space which used to be the site of a blacksmiths forge.

Turn right over footbridge and then immediately left with the river on the left. Follow the riverside path as it crosses over two roads and enter King's College Playing Fields.

8 Cross King's College Road with care. Enter via a metal gate and pass between the river and a skate-boarding park and continue ahead with the river on your left. After 200 yards cross over the footbridge and continue with the river on your right.

Cross St Martins Approach and Pinn Way.

At Pinn Way an interesting diversion is possible. Bear left and walk up path to the left of the Winston Churchill Hall to visit the Manor Farm, an ancient moat site, the Great Barn built about 1300, Manor Farm House, Little Barn (now Ruislip Library), Cow Byre art gallery and tea rooms, craft workshops.

Continue through Pinn Meadow until reaching main road at Bury Street and cross at the pedestrian crossing and enter King's Gardens.



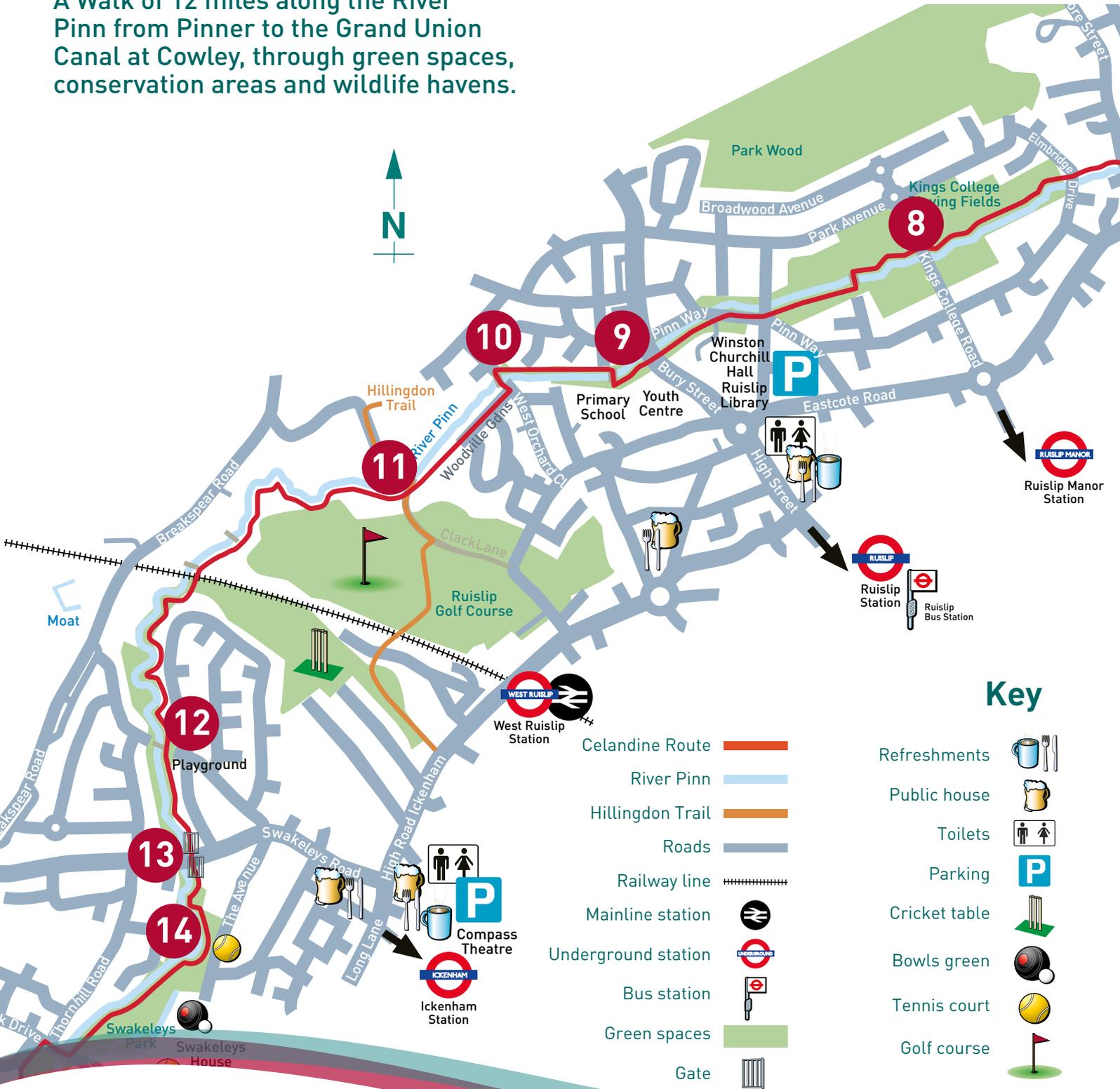
Celandine Route

along the River Pinn

8 → 14

3 miles
1 hour, 30 minutes

A Walk of 12 miles along the River Pinn from Pinner to the Grand Union Canal at Cowley, through green spaces, conservation areas and wildlife havens.





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8 Cross King's College Road with care. Enter via a metal gate and pass between the river and a skate-boarding park and continue ahead with the river on your left. After 200 yards cross over the footbridge and continue with the river on your right. Continue ahead crossing St Martins Approach and Pinn Way.

At Pinn Way an interesting diversion is possible. Bear left and walk up path to the left of the Winston Churchill Hall to visit the Manor Farm, an ancient moat site, the Great Barn built about 1300, Manor Farm House, Little Barn (now Ruislip Library), Cow Byre art gallery and tea rooms, craft workshops.

Continue through Pinn Meadow until reaching main road at Bury Street and cross at the pedestrian crossing and enter King's Gardens.

9 Walk along surfaced path with river to the right. Cross footbridge and continue with river on the left.

This area is very popular with green woodpeckers.

10 At the end of the open space turn left over footbridge into Westcote Rise, then take first right along Woodville Gardens.

Walk to the end of this road, duck under vehicle gate and enter another open space, with recent flood alleviation measures. Rejoin the river on the right. In the corner can be seen the aqueduct that carried the canal feeder from Ruislip Lido over the river.

11 Continue ahead with care along the edge of the golf course crossing the Hillingdon Trail (a 20 mile network of paths through the Hillingdon Countryside).

This area is very popular with many bird species including the winter visitors such as redwings and fieldfares. The west meadow is an excellent area for wild flowers such as ragged robin.

Do not cross the next footbridge but continue straight under the railway line, keeping the river on your right.

This stretch of the river is a favourite feeding place for grey wagtails and kingfishers are often seen.

12 At the next footbridge, near a play area, it is possible to cross the river and turn right and walk back to the site of the old Pynchester Moat which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

13 Continue past the play area to Swakeleys Road (dual carriageway). Cross at the traffic lights and enter gate.

It is possible to turn left here and walk about 800 metres (half a mile) into Ickenham conservation area with a pond and village pump..

14 Continue through open space past tennis courts and another play area.

To the left is Swakeleys House, a fine example of Jacobean architecture with its lake.

Follow the river and cross Swakeleys Drive, bearing right, over the bridge. Fork left up Warren Road. Just before Vyners School turn left to the footpath/cycling route. Follow the path round the perimeter fence of the school and cross the footbridge over the A40.



Celandine Route

along the River Pinn

14 → 18

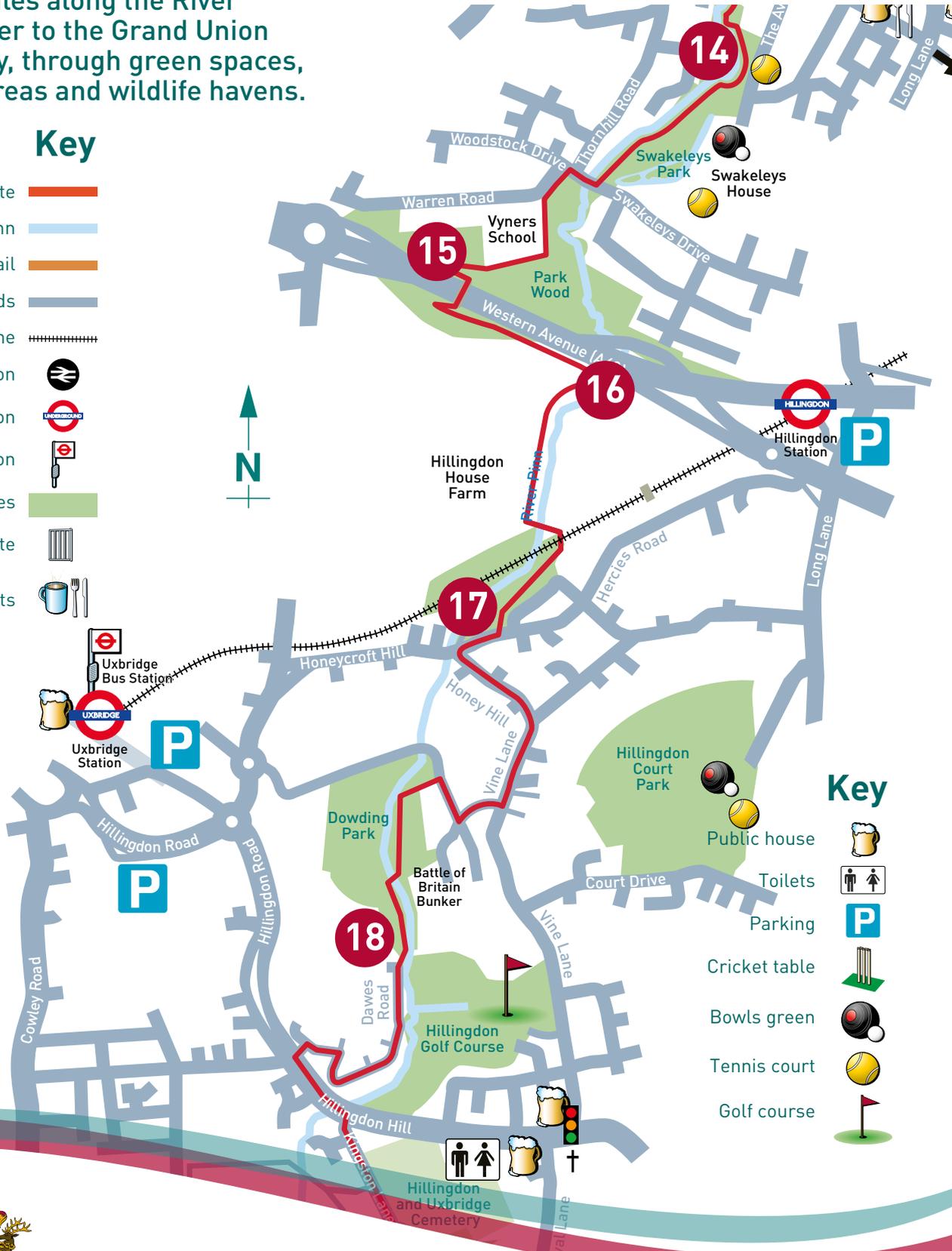
3.3 miles

1 hour, 40 minutes

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Celandine Route along the River Pinn

- 14** Continue through open space past tennis courts and another play area.

To the left is Swakeleys House, a fine example of Jacobean architecture with its lake.

Follow the river and cross Swakeleys Drive, bearing right, over the bridge. Fork left up Warren Road. Just before Vyners School turn left to the footpath/cycling route. Follow the path round the perimeter fence of the school and cross the footbridge over the A40.

- 15** On the other side take the footpath to the left of the metal barriers and follow the fenced path in the woods round to the left. This comes out at an open space: Hillingdon House Farm facing a mound with a water tower over to the right. Turn left keeping the wood on your left. Go through into the next field heading back to the A40. When you come to the fence continue with the fence on your left.

- 16** Just before the footbridge over the River Pinn turn right and continue to follow the river for another 150 yards, then cross the river following signage to pass underneath the railway bridge. Walk across this open space and exit to Hercies Road.

- 17** Cross the road with care then turn left and walk up Honey Hill which becomes Vine Lane.

Turn right onto St Andrew's Road and follow the signage through Dowding Park.

This 40 acre park was adopted by Hillingdon Council in March 2018. It is situated on the site of the old RAF Uxbridge base and incorporates a mix of country and recreational parkland with the River Pinn running through a copse of mature trees.

- 18** Exit the park onto Dawes Road and follow the signage to Hillingdon Road. Turn left onto Hillingdon Road and continue until the bridge over the River Pinn, where you will cross at the traffic lights to Kingston Lane. After walking 500 yards down Kingston Lane, turn right onto a public footpath and continue along a track for another 700 yards.



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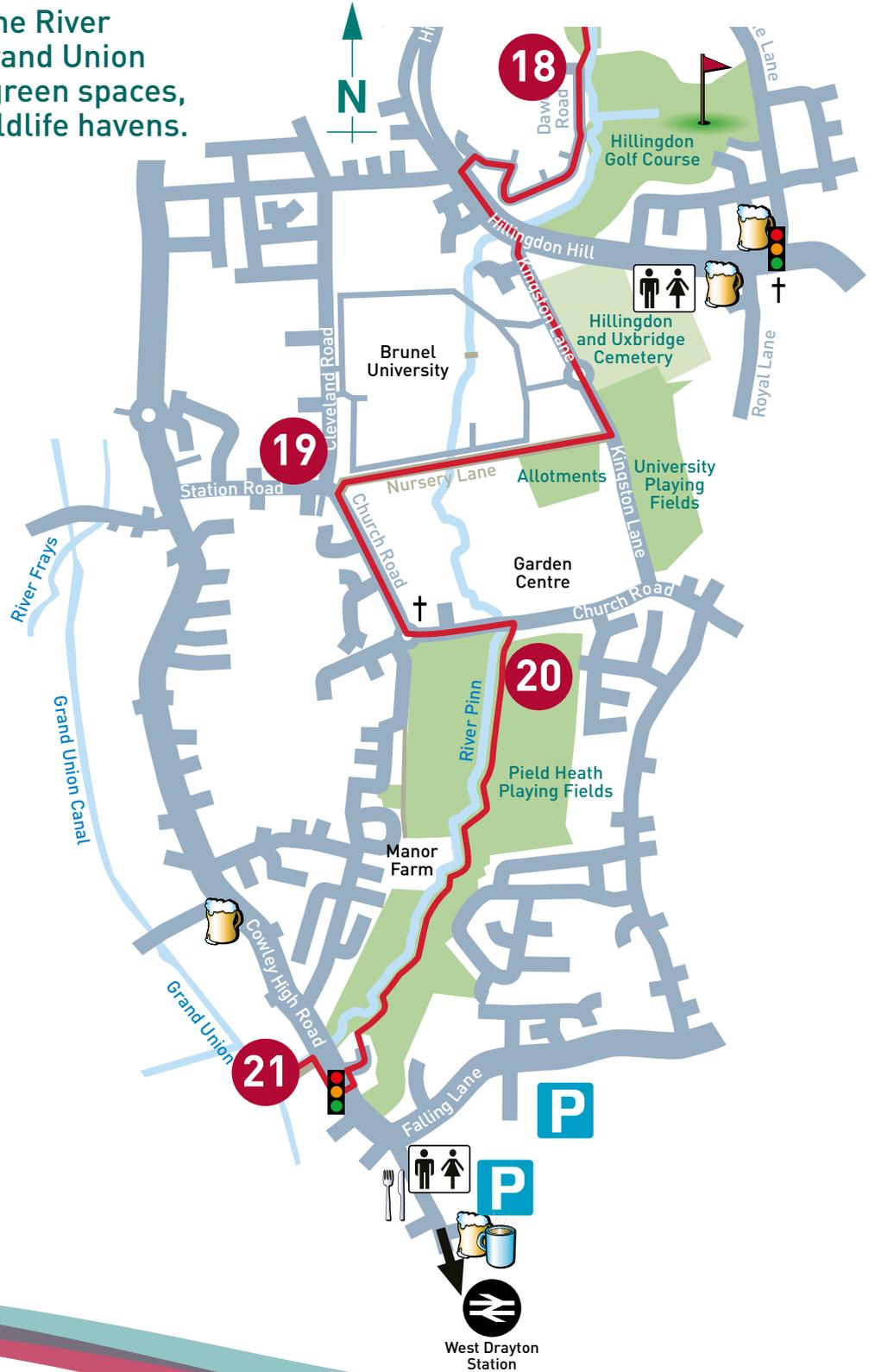
18 → 21

3 miles
1 hour, 30 minutes

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19 On reaching Church Road, turn left and walk along pavement passing St Lawrence Church, Cowley. Turn left into Field Heath Road. At Robbie Bell Bridge, cross the road with care and rejoin the riverside path, with the river on the right.

20 Continue along the path 3/4 mile (1000 metres) through meadow area until Cowley High Road. Turn right and cross the road with care at the central refuge. Cross the river, then turn left onto the path alongside the river, passing behind new commercial buildings, to the canal towpath.

21 Here it is possible to extend your walk, using the Slough Arm towpath or The Grand Union Canal Walk, a long distance route between London and Birmingham (it is not possible to follow the River Pinn, as it passes under the canal into private land, but soon joins Frays River and loses its identity on its way to the River Thames).