

## Cranford Park: Cranford Park to Bulls Bridge (2 miles)

The Hillingdon Trail is 20 miles in length and stretches from Cranford Park in the south of the borough to Springwell Lock in the north.



The trail is waymarked and split into six manageable sections, each between two and five miles in length.

### About this section

**Starting point: Cranford Park car park, TW5 9RZ**

**End point: Bulls Bridge, UB2 4NH**

Things to look out for in this section:

- herons
- a Grade II listed bridge
- the Berkeley coat of arms

### Directions

1. Walk from the car park a few yards to enter the stables courtyard.

The stable block is the most impressive and complete part of the remaining buildings of Cranford Park House.

2. Go under the stable block arch.

To the south is a magnificent lime tree with mistletoe, a fine old sweet chestnut and a corner of the extensive ha-ha.

A ha-ha is a feature made up of a sunken wall and ditch. It was designed to keep animals in parkland and out of domestic gardens.

Through the small doorway on the left are the extensive 17th/18th century walls of the walled garden.



3. Follow the path north under the M4 via St Dunstan's subway and turn right.
4. Go down the path parallel to the M4 for 80 metres, then pass through a pleasant area of young woodland known as Dog Kennel Covert.

5. Merging onto open land, continue north-east towards a bridge over the River Crane.

Look out for heron along the river bank, where willow and hazel occur.

6. Follow the river bank and bear north-west through a wooded area and the path emerges onto Watersplash Lane.

Hayes & Harlington mainline railway station is a kilometre away and has a car park.

7. Turn right to the traffic lights, to cross North Hyde Road in safety.

8. Join the footway onto the Hayes Bypass.

As the path rises, the road crosses the Grand Union Canal and from here fine views of West London can be seen.

9. Continue on the footway, descending to the Grand Union Canal towpath and turn east, through the motorcycle barrier, to Bulls Bridge.

Yeading Brook forms the borough boundary between Hillingdon and Ealing. On the towpath, look out for the British Waterways Birmingham/Brentford/Paddington signpost and the interpretation board.

Information correct at time of publication.