



Walk Description

Title: Summer Leys – White Mills

Map: OS Explorer 224

Distance: 5½ Miles

Ascent: 78ft

Start: Car Park - Hardwater Road – Wollaston - NN29 7PT – MapRef SP 88628 63349

- 1) From the car park walk to the entrance and cross the road to a waymarked bridleway – Go through the kiss gate and head across the field in a 1 o'clock direction to a gate – Go through the kiss gate and head slightly left across the field to a kiss gate and a bridge across a brook – Continue on in a 11 o'clock direction across an arable field to another kiss gate – Now head across the pasture field in an 1 o'clock direction to yet another kiss gate and a road – Cross over the road into the access road for **Grendon Lakes** and walk to where the road bears right – Continue straight on and take the path with the hedge on the left (At the time of writing this is different from the OS Map which shows the path on the other side of the hedge) – Walk on the path to a junction with a track. (1¼ Miles)
- 2) Turn RIGHT and follow the track slightly downhill – The track peters out into a path which crosses over **Grendon Brook** and meets a crossing track – Cross over and go through a tall gate – Carry on straight in front of you on a causeway between two lakes – You soon reach another tall gate – Go through and ignoring any side tracks continue in the same direction over a ditch into an arable field - Head across the field passing under a pylon to another bridge over a ditch into another arable field – Keep to the edge of the field on the right (The path on the OS Map disappears) – Follow the edge to the corner of the field – Enter the next field and keep the the right edge of the field and some trees on the right – Walk to a wire fence – Turn LEFT and follow the fence to a kiss gate on the RIGHT – Cross over the quarry track and then a bridge over a conveyor belt – Walk to a bridge over a ditch and a road. (2 Miles)
- 3) Turn RIGHT and walk past the entrance to the quarry on the right – Walk with care to a left hand bend in the road – Continue slightly LEFT into a car parking area and walk to the end of the car park – Bear RIGHT on to a footpath and walk to an access track beside the **River Nene** – Continue with the river on your left and the quarry on your right to a kiss gate – The track continues through a strip of pasture to **Earls Barton Lock** – Follow the path past the lock keeping the river on the left – Follow the path beside the river through a kiss gate on to **Hardwater Mill** and through another kiss gate to a road. (4¼ Miles)
- 4) Turn LEFT and with care cross the bridge over the river – Look for a kiss gate on the RIGHT and follow the path across some scrubby land to another kiss gate by a gate an access road – Follow the access road to just before a sewage works – Turn RIGHT at a gap follow the path with the river on your right to a kiss gate – Go through the

gate and cross over the river – Keep close the to a hedge on the right to a kiss gate – Cross over the next field to a bridge over a backwater and enter into **Summer Leys** – Go through a kiss gate in front of you and bear right – Follow the path around the lake on your left and walk back to the car park and the start.

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