



Our walking trails can be very popular. Please park considerately, and maintain social distancing on your walk. Find directions and booking info where relevant on the property web page.

Start: National Trust Clumber Park main car park, grid ref: SK625745

- 1 Leave the main car park and follow the signs for the café and toilets which take you past the shop and plant sales and through to the Turning Yard. Go past the toilets and at the signpost follow the path to the left towards the lakeside.
- 2 Follow the path as it bears right and becomes a road that is usually car free. The lake is now on your left.

Clumber Park

and the Second World War

Walking trail

The route identifies some possible sites of Second World War activities; in addition look out for evidence of significant earth works which are present throughout the park.

In partnership with



Clumber Park, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S80 3BE

Easy

2 hours - 3 hours

6 miles (9.6 km)

Explorer 270 Sherwood Forest



Winston Churchill with NELLIE, Clumber Park 1941 | National Trust

- 3 In about 0.25 miles (0.4km) you'll reach a wooden barrier. Continue until you get to the cross roads. Beware of traffic from left and right as you go straight across the road and carry on in the same direction.

Checkpoints

During the second world war the park was under the control of the army and used for ammunition storage and military training. Access to the whole park was tightly controlled with several checkpoints. Walk direction 3 - on these crossroads it's believed there was a sentry post and the possible site can be seen on the left just after crossing the road.

- 4 Continue to Lime Tree Avenue which you reach after passing a wooden barrier. Take care crossing the road and turn right to walk along the grass verge until you reach another tarmac road. Walk along this passing a wooden barrier and cattle grid. It's thought there were laboratories in this area where explosives were tested. Just beyond a heathland information board and before you reach a cattle grid sign, look to the left where there's evidence of earth works.

Churchill's visit to Clumber

White Rabbit No. 6 (later known as 'Nellie' after Naval Land Equipment) was a prototype trench cutting tank that was developed and secretly tested at Clumber. It was the idea of Churchill who wanted a machine capable of digging large trenches through no man's land and in November 1941 Churchill visited the park to watch a demonstration. Despite the success of the machine it was never used in the war due to changes in the nature of warfare.

- 5 Cross another cattle grid and continue along the road for approximately 0.5 miles (0.8 kms). After a slight uphill incline you reach a road junction with a wooden barrier. Cross the road with care and turn left. In the distance is Truman's Lodge. Continue towards the lodge for about 220yd (200m) looking out for cycle route marker post 19 where you turn right to follow cycle route marker 18.
- 6 At the first crossroad of paths, just after a wooden bench, turn right. Continue straight on ignoring any paths on the left and right.
- 7 At a T junction of paths turn right onto a cycle track. Very shortly you turn left to follow cycle route marker 17.

- 8 Continue to follow route marker 17 as it turns left and eventually right. At cycle post 17 turn left to pick up cycle route marker 16.
- 9 Continue with route marker 16 until you reach an information board displaying a map of Clumber Park. Go straight on towards Lime Tree Avenue. During the Second World War Lime Tree Avenue was lined with hundreds of corrugated iron ammunition stores. Each contained 400 cubic feet of shells including naval shells over 3 feet high.
- 10 Cross Lime Tree Avenue with care and go more or less straight on along a path with a wooden public bridleway sign and cycle route marker 8.

Nissen Huts

In addition to ammunition stores there were Nissen huts erected all over the park including along Lime Tree Avenue. These were used to accommodate disappointed army personnel who thought they were going to be housed in the splendour of Clumber House!

- 11 At the road turn right and beware of oncoming traffic along the one way system. Shortly you will reach a cattle grid constructed of tracks taken from railway lines used to bring large quantities of ammunition to be secretly stored in the park.
- 12 At the road junction you turn left and again beware of oncoming one way traffic.
- 13 Follow the road until you reach a wide track on the right. Follow this track (cycle route marker 1) through the woods towards the lake which comes into view as you reach the brow of the incline. Continue towards the lake and pass between 2 stone pillars. Following the path towards the right you'll see a stone archway and metal gate which you go through into the Pleasure Ground.
- 14 By walking more or less straight ahead you will reach Lincoln Terrace where you turn right. Follow the terrace which takes you along the lakeside and make your way back to the Turning Yard, visitor information, shop and cafe. Why not treat yourself to some refreshments, no ration book required!

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