Green Chain Walk Section 3

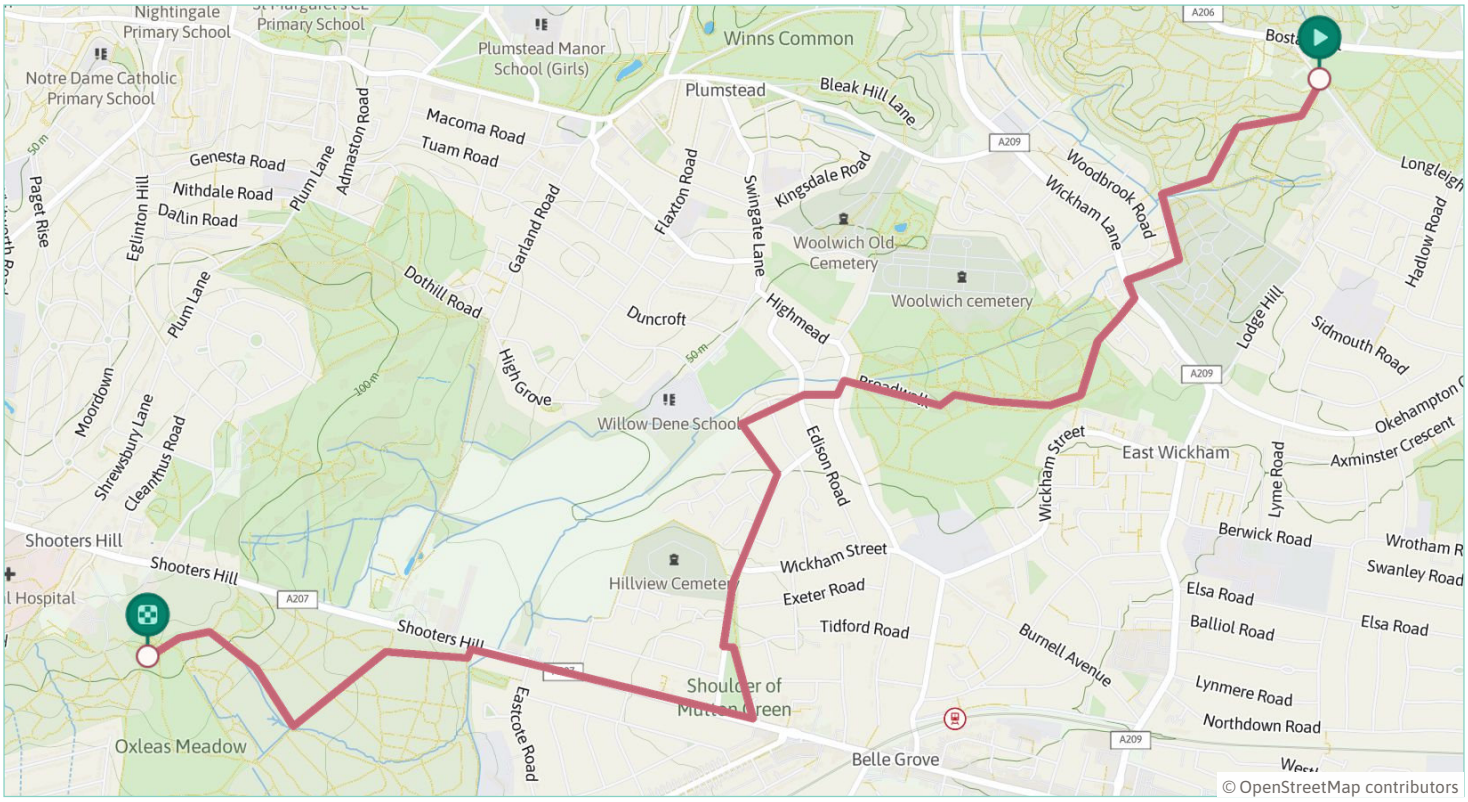
Explore delightful stretches of ancient woodland, enjoying the nature in all its splendour.

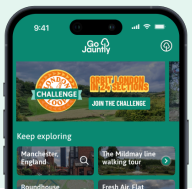
Distance 5.1 kilometres / 3.2 miles
Duration 1 hour and 55 minutes

Wildlife | Refreshments | Public transport | Picnic spot | History | Hilly & steep

Use the QR code or link below to view this walk on our website or app.

View the walk here





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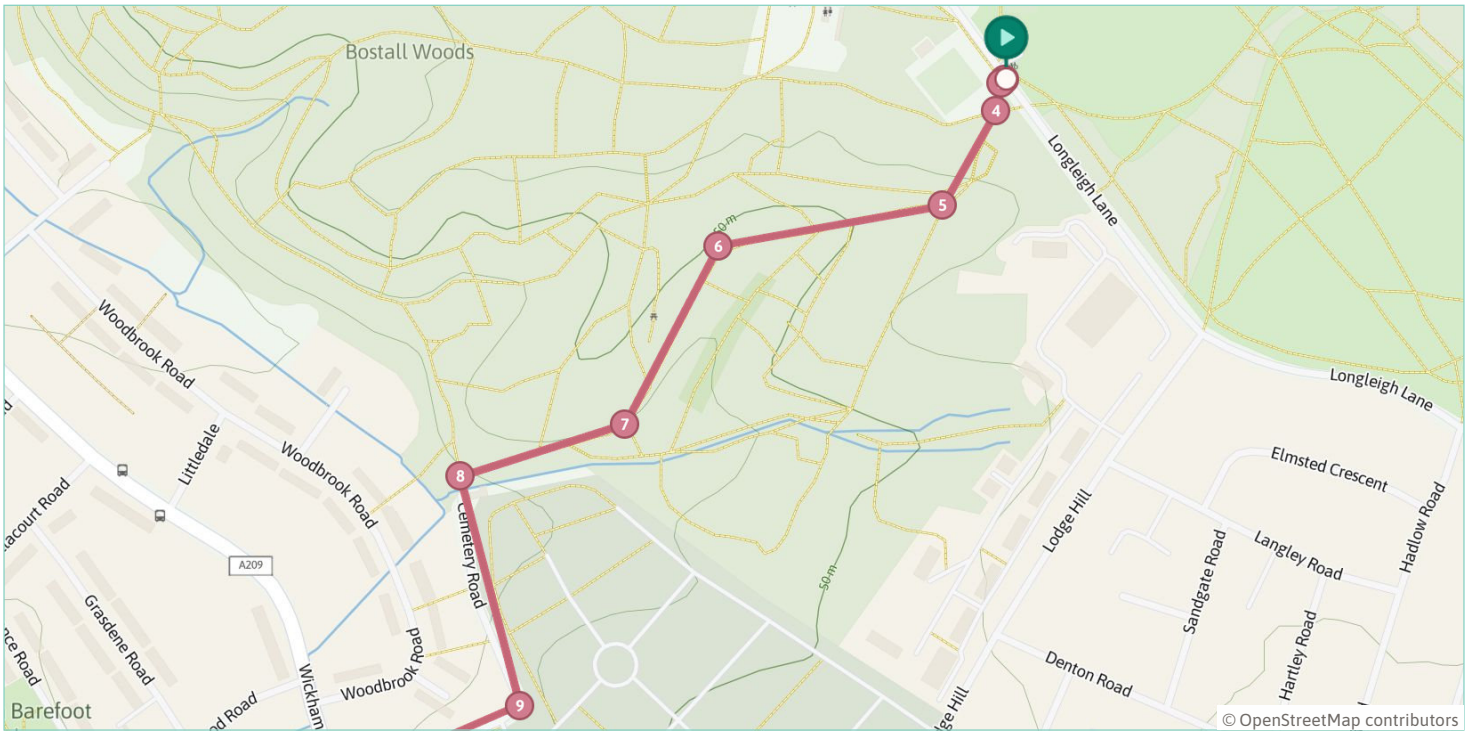

Step 1: Welcome to section 3 of the Green Chain Walk. This walk begins at Bostall Woods and ends at Oxleas Meadows.

Step 2: If you have come on bus route 99 from Erith or Plumstead stations get off at Longleigh Lane but stop on Bostall Hill and turn left at the nearby junction of Longleigh Lane. Just after the car park take the path to the right.

Step 3: At the Green Chain signpost take the left hand path and continue straight ahead through Bostall Woods.

Did you know?

Bostall Woods was originally known as 'Old Park Wood'. In 1906 the woods were described as picturesque and charming beyond description, densely planted with Scots Pine. By 1939 they had been ravaged by a beetle infestation and only a few tree's survived.

Step 4: Follow the path down the hill.

Step 5: Keep following the Green Chain sign posts.

Step 6: Follow the marker posts through Bostall Woods.

Step 7: The path can be steep and uneven in places

Step 8: At Woodside turn left down the track to Cemetery Road.

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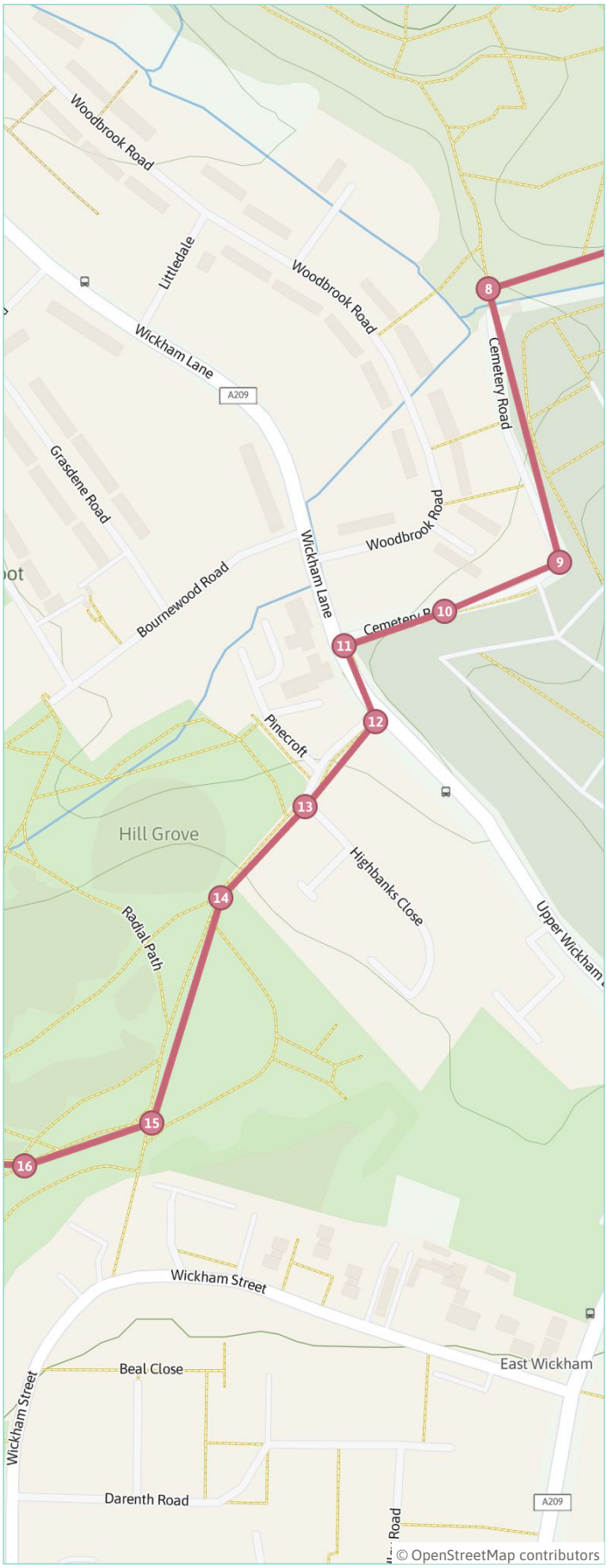
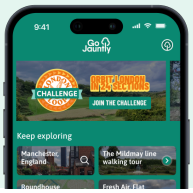


Step 9: Turn right to follow the cemetery wall.

Step 10: Continue along Cemetery Road and left into Wickham Lane.

Step 11: Cross Wickham Lane.



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Step 12: Then turn right at the Foresters Arms. Follow Highbanks Close until it turns to the left.

Step 13: At this point enter East Wickham Open Space.

Did you know?

East Wickham Open Space provides an open grassland corridor between the ancient woodlands of Bostall and Oxleas. Surveys have recorded 34 bird species, 17 butterfly species and 115 flowering plant species.

Step 14: Climb to the top of the hill and the Green Chain information board.

Step 15: Continue straight on to the Green Chain Walk signpost.

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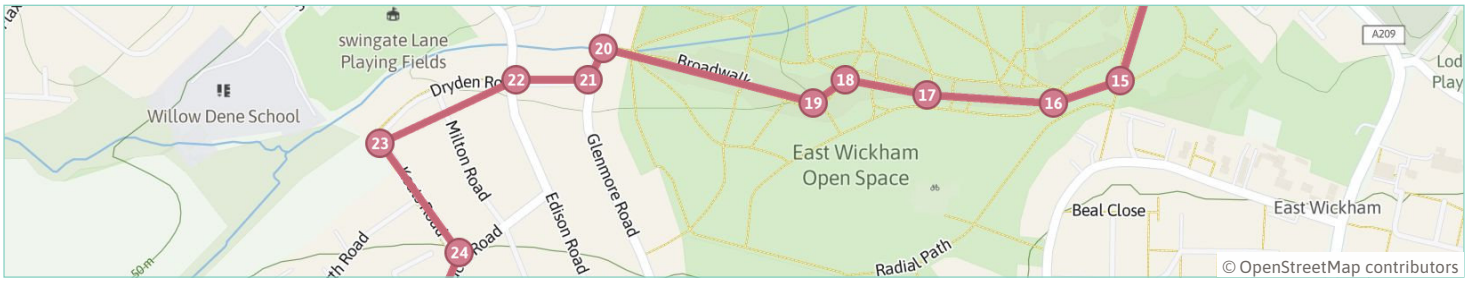

Step 16: At the signpost bear right along the edge of the planting.

Step 17: Follow the wooden marker posts through the areas of recently-planted trees.

Step 18: Bear left following the sign posts.

Step 19: Follow the path through the woods along the wooden boardwalk.

Step 20: Turn left along Glenmore Road.

Step 21: Then turn right into Dryden Road.

Step 22: Follow Dryden Road to the end of the road.

Step 23: The route follows a division here and no longer passes through Woodlands Farm. Turn left and head up Keats Road.

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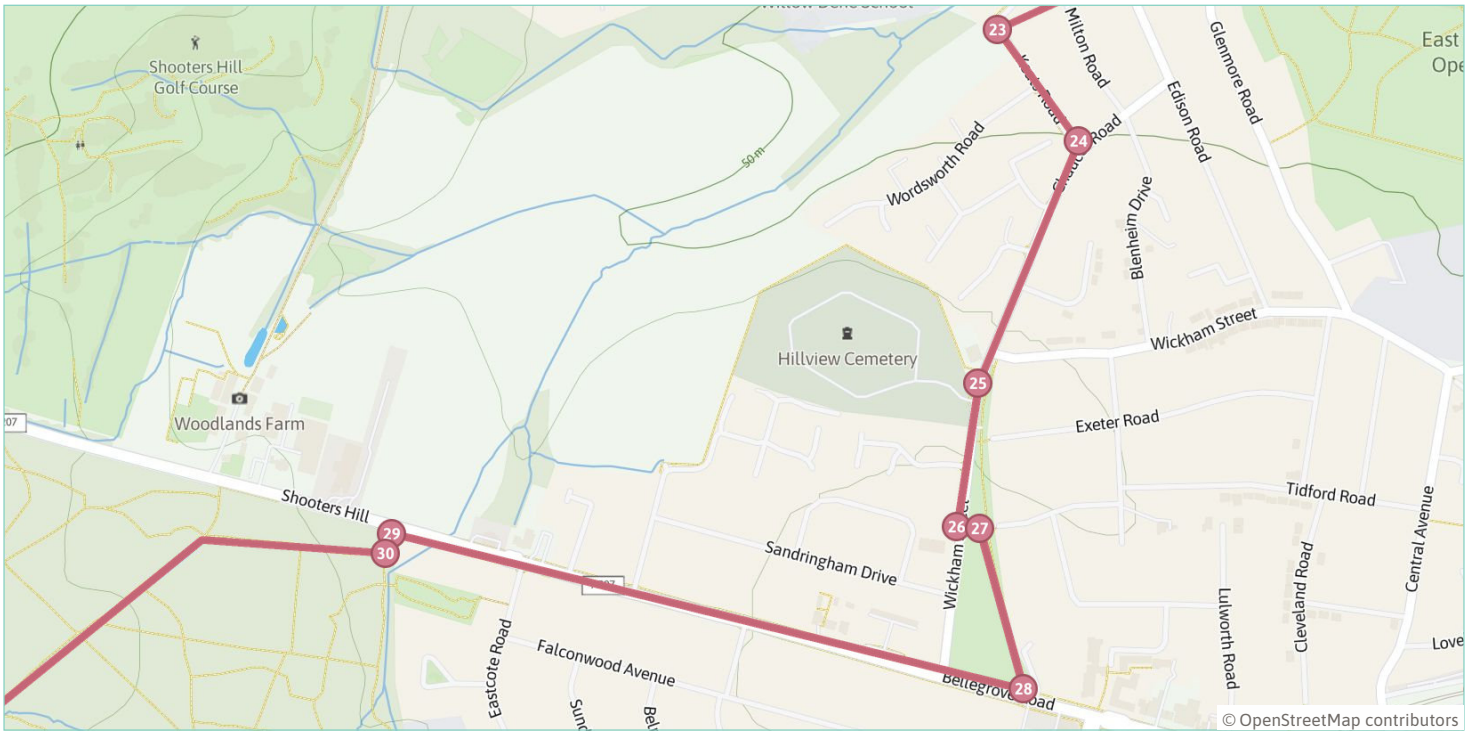

Step 24: Turn right onto Chaucer Road. Green Chain signage here is limited. Keep going straight.

Step 25: Chaucer Road becomes Wicker Street. Keep following along until you reach Shoulder of Mutton Green.

Step 26: Halfway along Wickham Street cross over to Shoulder of Mutton Green.

Step 27: Follow the path along Shoulder of Mutton Green.

Step 28: Take a right and carry along Bellegrove Road until it becomes Shooters Hill.

Did you know?

The name 'Shooters Hill' is popularly accepted as a reference to highway robbers and thieves operating on the hill. A more likely explanation is a combination of the ancient words 'shaw' (a wood) and 'tot' (a hill), or it may be a reference to the archers who practised their shooting here. In 1661 Samuel Pepys reported riding under the "filthy remains" of a man hanging on a gibbet, a public display used as a warning to highway robbers.

Step 29: Cross over Shooters Hill and enter Oxleas Wood on the left.

Did you know?

Oxleas Wood is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and Local Nature Reserve, it contains a variety of trees including oak, birch, hornbeam and alder.

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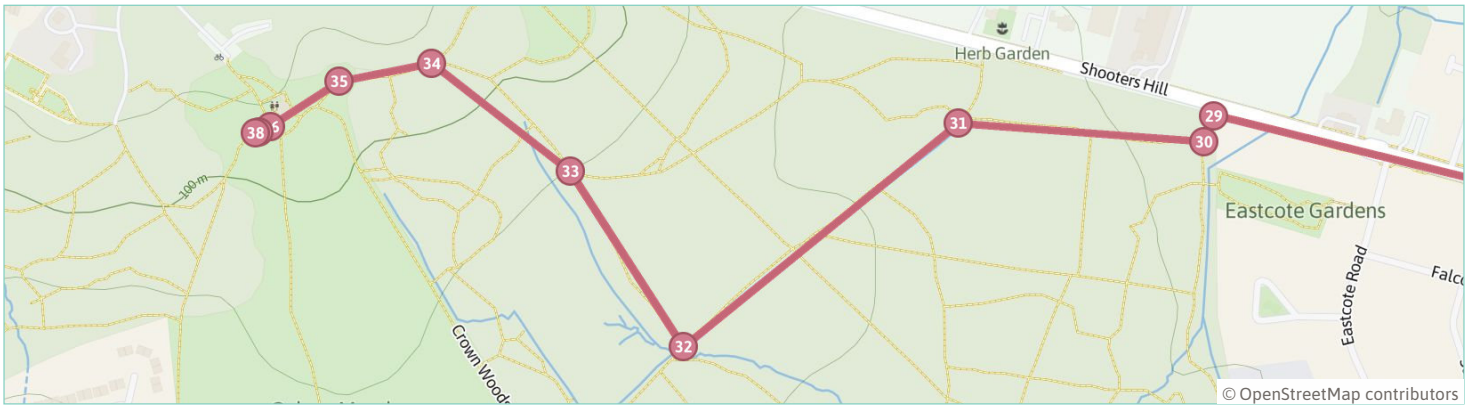
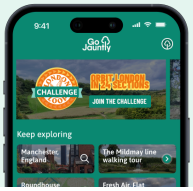


Step 30: Take a right turn a short way inside the woods and follow the marker posts.

Step 31: Carrying on through the woods take a left here and continue for some distance. It may be quite muddy here with uneven ground.

Step 32: Reach the Green Chain signpost. The path joins the Capital Ring Walk here. Turn right.

Step 33: Following the Green Chain posts keep going bearing left.



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Step 34: Turn left following the Green Chain and Capital Ring posts.

Step 35: Enjoy the wonderful view across Oxleas Meadow.

Step 36: Oxleas Wood Cafe is where this section ends. Sections four and five also finish here.

Step 37: You've now completed this section of the Green Chain Walk. How about moving on to section 6, which starts from this point and takes you to Mottingham?

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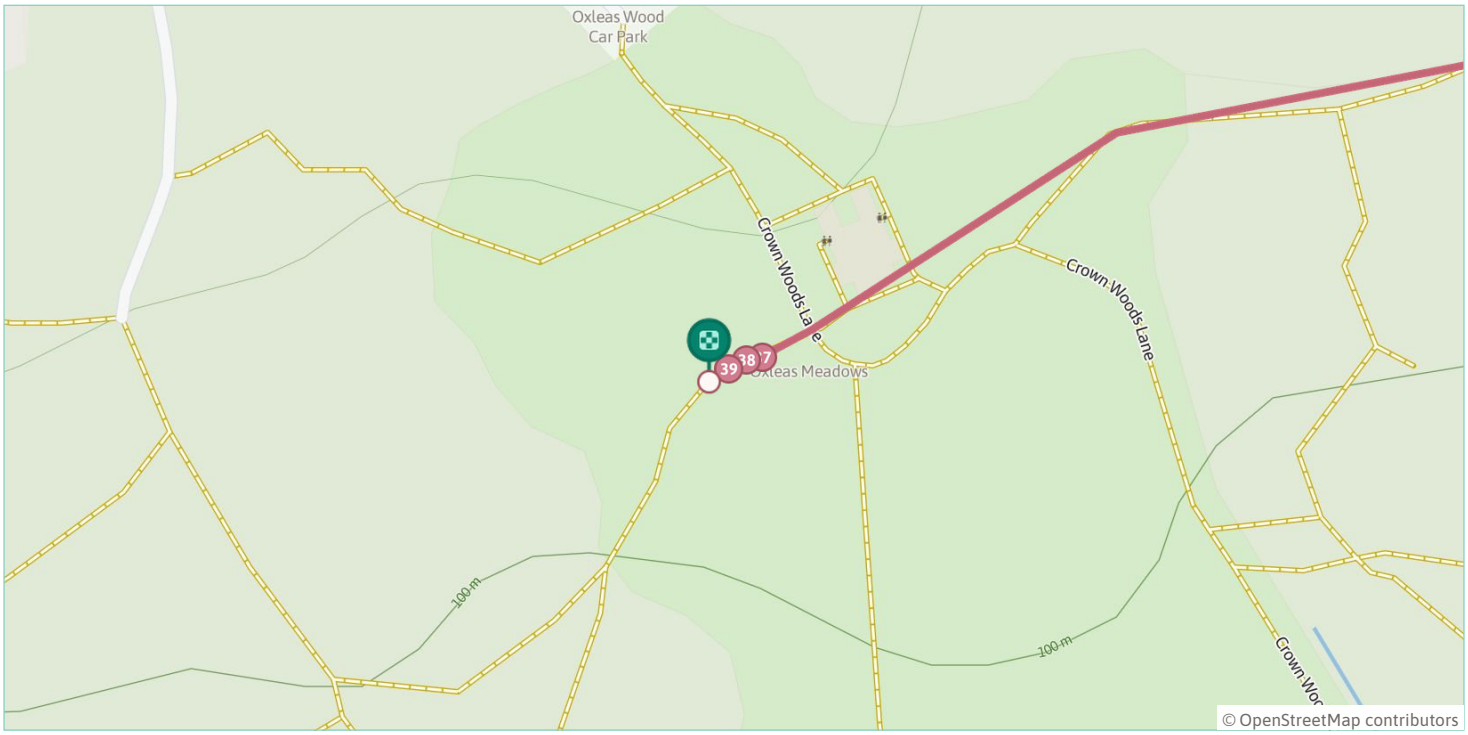

Step 38: If you are finishing here the nearest bus stops are on Shooters Hill. Walk back down the path you came up. Where the Green Chain Walk turn right carry on ahead to the main road.

Step 39: Here you can get bus route 89 to Blackheath Rail Station or bus 486 to Woolwich Arsenal Rail and DLR Station. On the opposite side of the road you can get buses to Welling Station.

Step 40: For Falconwood station, from the Green Chain signposts in the middles of Oxleas Wood follow the marker posts south. Turning left to emerge at the junction of Welling Way and Rochester Way. Cross over and head south to the station.

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