



Hackwood Country Walk

HACKWOOD 3 MILE CIRCULAR WALK

- 1 Starting at the car park for Hackwood Cafe, walk back through the car park entrance, turn left and walk straight ahead towards the footpath that runs between the houses.
- 2 Turn left onto Radbourne Lane, continue a short distance until you reach a stile on your left.
- 3 Over the stile and walk along the footpath until you reach the steps down onto the abandoned railway line. You will see pieces of the old railway bridge that used to lead to Hackwood Farm still remain. At the bottom of these steps turn right and continue along the former railway line. This former railway line was part of the Great Northern Railway, later London and North Eastern Railway opened in 1878. Regular services on this line ended in 1968.
- 4 At the crossroads turn right (left takes you to Mickleover) towards Radbourne. Cross the foot bridge over the stream and continue on towards a stile. Beyond this stile is Black Wood on your left, a plantation of Scots Pine. As you climb the stile at the top of the slope, take in the excellent views of the countryside. To your right is Mickleover. From this site you'll pass through three fields and a gate before reaching a minor road.
- 5 Take care to cross over the road. Go through the gate opposite and follow the footpath through the trees. Now climb the stile, cross over the footbridge and turn right. Go through the gate and turn left up the hill, keeping the woodland to your left. As you reach the top of the hill, marked by a triangular enclosure of young beech trees on your right, you may see Radbourne Hall ahead of you through the trees. Continue on, heading down the hill. Ahead of you is Radbourne Church which stands back from the village in the Hall grounds.

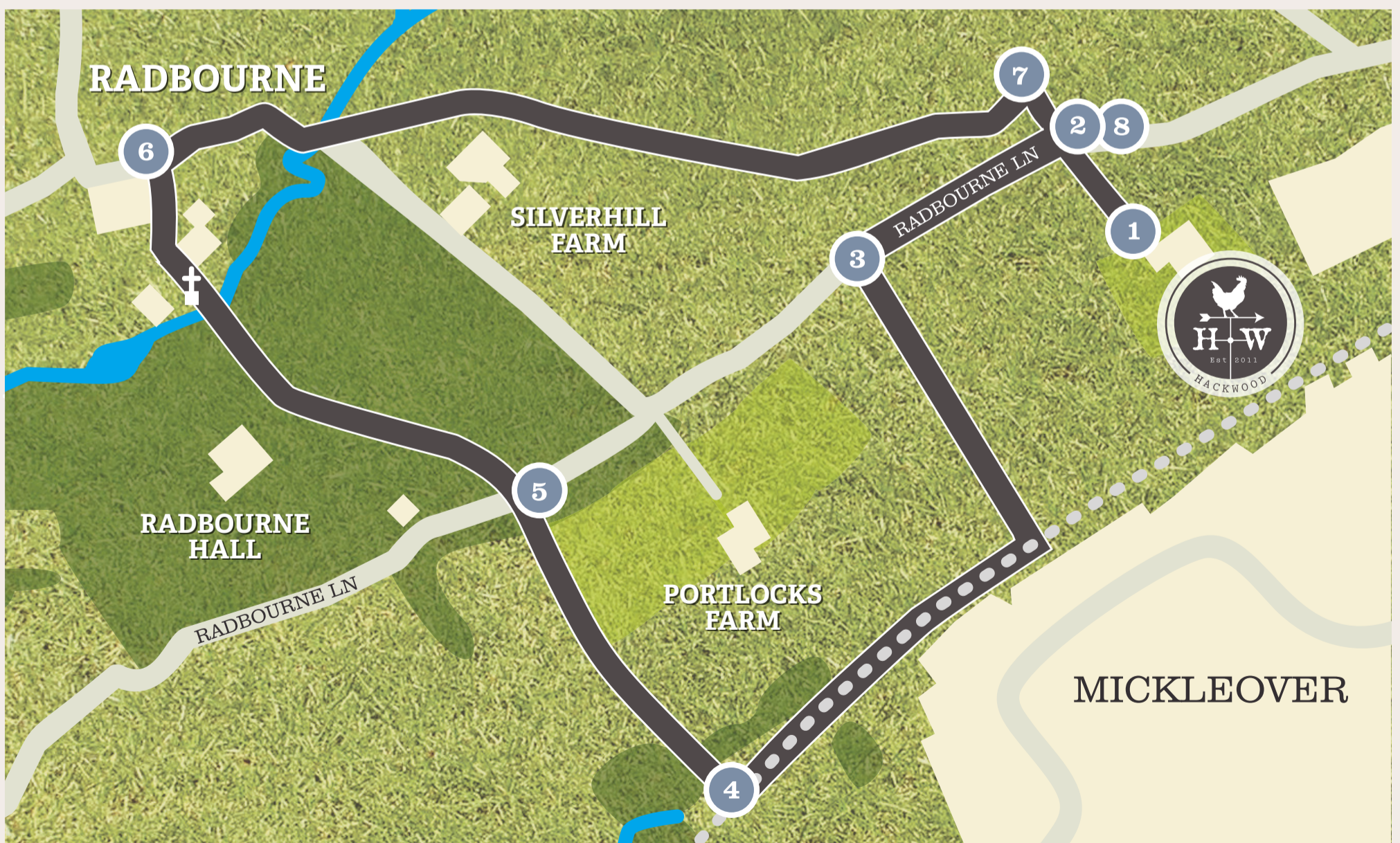
At the bottom of the hill go through the field gate and carry straight on until you reach the metal 'kissing gate'. Pass through this gate, under the Yew tree, and follow the path round to the left, past the church. You are now in Radbourne Continue along the path, through the metal gate and along the track until you reach the road.

- 6 Turn right, keeping to the right hand verge. To your right is Cunnery Wood, a cunnery being a rabbit warren. Keep on the road until you have gone over the little brick bridge. On the left, just beyond the bridge, is the sign to the footpath you will be following. Go through the gate and walk up the field, heading towards the oak trees in the distance, to the left of Silverhill Farm. As you walk up the hill, the views around you open up. Head towards the solitary oak tree.

The path continues on into the next field. At the field boundary, follow the line of telegraph poles. The white structure in the distance on your left is Mackworth Water Tower. Continue straight into the next field, until you reach the hedgerow. Keeping the hedgerow on your right, follow it until you come to a stile. Climb over the stile and continue over the next field towards Mackworth Water Tower.

- 7 Turn right and walk towards the road, climbing the stile onto the road – take care when getting onto the road.
- 8 Turn left after the stile and walk along the road finally turning right onto the footpath back towards Hackwood Café.

For more information visit www.hackwoodfarm.com



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