



The **Ramsbury Estate**, owned by the boss of the H&M chain, occupies around 19,000 acres of Wiltshire, Berkshire and Hampshire countryside, centred on the village of Ramsbury in the Kennet valley north-west of Froxfield.



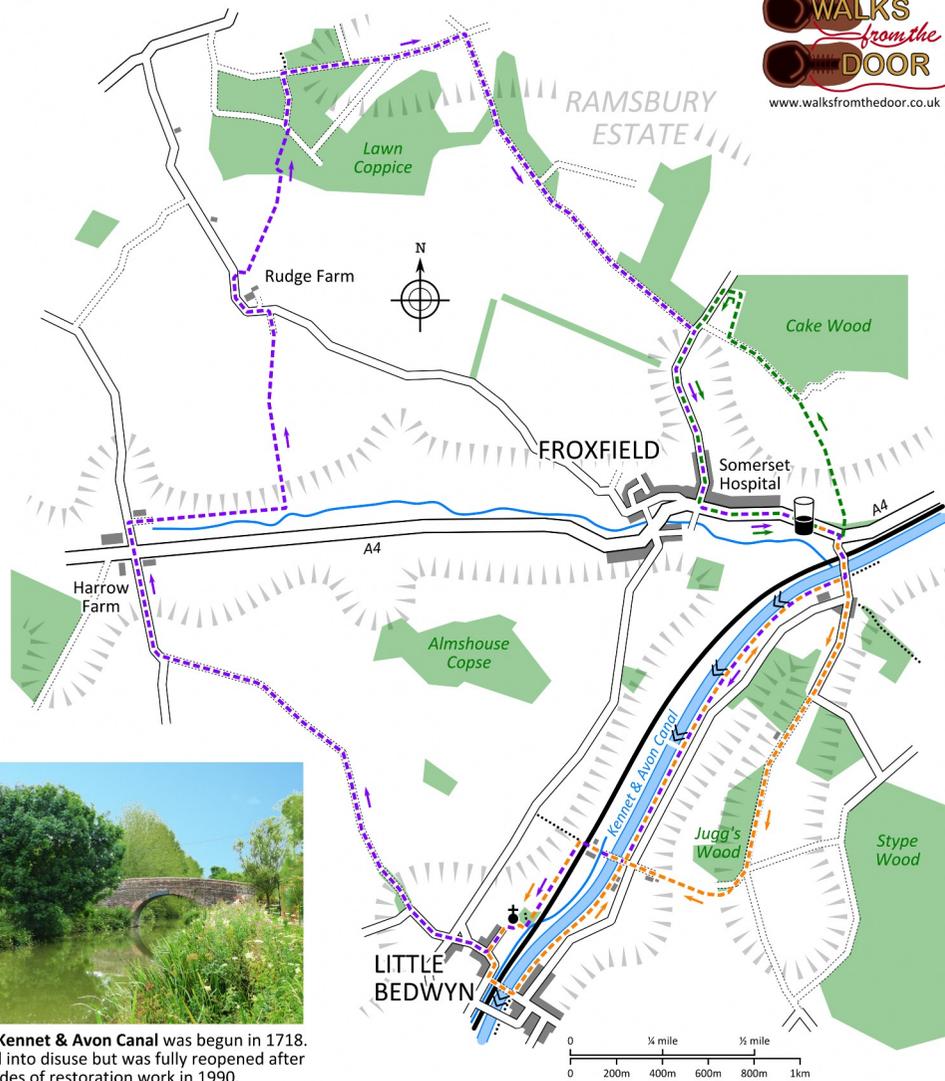
The **Somerset Hospital** was bequeathed by Sarah, Duchess of Somerset, in 1695. The east (right) wing is original; the west (left) wing was built in 1775. The central gatehouse and courtyard chapel were added in 1813.



**Little Bedwyn church** has a 12th-century arcade with crisp Norman carvings including a comical snaggle-toothed face leering from a capital.



The **Kennet & Avon Canal** was begun in 1718. It fell into disuse but was fully reopened after decades of restoration work in 1990.

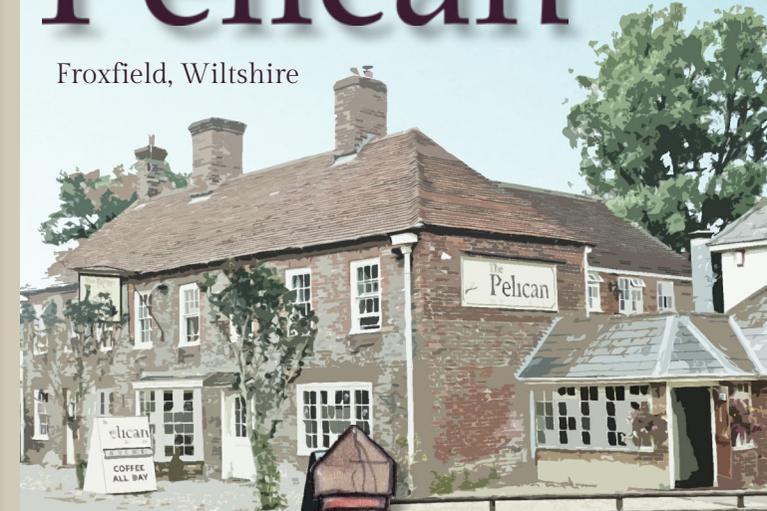


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# The Pelican

Froxfield, Wiltshire



**Cake Wood & Froxfield village**  
1¾ miles: Fairly easy  
Wide downland views, woodland edge and a stroll through the historic village of Froxfield.

**Little Bedwyn and the Kennet & Avon**  
3¾ miles: Fairly easy  
A figure-of-eight route to a pretty canalside village with thatched cottages and an ancient church.

**Little Bedwyn & the Ramsbury Estate**  
7¼ miles: Moderate  
Along the towpath to Little Bedwyn, returning via farmland and parkland with distant views.

## The Pelican Inn

Bath Rd, Froxfield, Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 3JY  
tel 01488 682479  
website [www.pelicaninn.co.uk](http://www.pelicaninn.co.uk)  
email [enquiries@pelicaninn.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@pelicaninn.co.uk)



bar open  
Mon—Sat: 11am—11pm  
Sun: 12 noon—10pm

food served  
Mon—Fri: 12 noon—2.30pm, 6pm—9pm  
Sat: 12 noon—3pm, 6pm—9pm  
Sun: 12 noon—4pm

## Cake Wood and Froxfield village

1¾ miles: Fairly easy

Allow 1–1½ hours. Two stiles, one moderate climb and some road walking; initial fieldside path may be a little overgrown or muddy.

**1** From the front door of the Pelican, cross the A4 carefully and turn right along the pavement. **2** Opposite the turning to Little Bedwyn, just in front of the “Welcome to West Berkshire” sign, turn left and climb the steps up the wooded bank. **3** Climb a stile into an overgrown corner of a field and walk up the hedge to a second stile. **4** Beyond, follow the edge of the field uphill. **5** When the hedge bends left, follow the path straight on across the field. **6** At the far side, turn left and follow the track along the edge of Cake Wood, with good views to your left and behind you. **7** At the end of the wood, by a waymark within sight of the lane ahead, the right of way officially turns right and skirts round a field surrounded by woodland; an unofficial short-cut leads straight on, directly to the road. **8** Whichever route you choose, when you reach the lane, turn left (downhill). **9** Follow the lane for half a mile to reach the A4 next to the Somerset Hospital. **10** Turn right if you wish to explore the village, otherwise turn left to return to the Pelican.

## Little Bedwyn and the Kennet & Avon

3¾ miles: Fairly easy

Allow 2½ hours. Some paths may be muddy or overgrown in places. **Caution:** crosses a busy railway line at a level crossing.

**1** From the front door of the Pelican, turn right along the pavement beside the A4. **2** Turn right at the road junction, signposted to Little Bedwyn. **3** Cross the railway and canal, then at a junction take the lane straight ahead, between two thatched cottages (signposted to North Standen). **4** When the lane bends left, follow the track up the shallow valley ahead of you. **5** Pass an open-fronted barn on the right after 250 yards, continuing along the track with woodland to your right. **6** At a junction of tracks at the end of the wood, turn right, still with the woodland on your immediate right. **7** When the track bears right to a field gate, join a footpath leading straight on, which may be easy to overlook. **8** This path becomes a descending “hollow way” that meets the end of a drive by an isolated house and leads out to the road and canal. **9** Cross the canal bridge ahead of you and follow the driveway beyond, passing between two houses to the railway. **10** Cross quickly but carefully. **11** Beyond the metal gate on the other side, turn left and walk parallel to the railway for 400 yards, with the spire of Little Bedwyn church ahead. **12** Just before the church, drop down into woodland. **13** At the end of the wood, turn right through a gate into the churchyard. **14** Walk round the church and out into Church Street. **15** At the end of the road, turn left. **16** Beyond the phone box, turn left over a footbridge over the railway line and canal. **17** Join the towpath and turn *away* from the lock to pass under the bridge you’ve just crossed. **18** Follow the

towpath for half a mile to bridge no. 92 (which you crossed earlier), continuing along the canal beyond. **19** After a further half-mile, with the road in close attendance to your right, pass Oakhill Down Lock and bridge. **20** Go through a gate and resume your journey along the towpath, passing two further locks (Froxfield Middle and Bottom Locks). **21** At the brick-built Froxfield Bridge (no. 90), leave the towpath and join the road. **22** Turn left over the canal and railway. **23** At the junction with the A4, turn left to return to the Pelican.

## Little Bedwyn and the Ramsbury Estate

7¼ miles: Moderate

Allow 4 hours. Some moderate climbs; may be muddy or overgrown in places. **Caution:** crosses a busy railway line at a level crossing.

**1** From the front door of the Pelican, turn right along the pavement beside the A4. **2** Turn right at the road junction, signposted to Little Bedwyn. **3** Cross the railway and canal bridges, and turn right onto the towpath. **4** Follow the canal past Froxfield Bottom and Middle locks until you meet a road at Oakhill Down Lock. **5** Continue along the canal to Fore Bridge (no. 92). **6** Leave the towpath here and cross the bridge; follow the driveway beyond, passing between two houses to the railway. **7** Cross quickly but carefully. **8** Beyond the metal gate on the other side, turn left and walk parallel to the railway for 400 yards, with the spire of Little Bedwyn church ahead. **9** Just before the church, drop down into woodland. **10** At the end of the wood, turn right through a gate into the churchyard. **11** Walk round the church and out into Church Street. **12** At the end of the road, turn right and walk up the road out of the village. **13** Beyond the old school, go straight on at a road junction. **14** When the lane bends left, follow a bridleway straight on (if the opening section is overgrown, bypass it along the field edge to the right). **15** At the top of the hill continue along the field edge. **16** Descend, passing through a hedge, to cross a shallow dry valley. **17** Walk through open fields to a tarmac lane. **18** Turn right and walk down to the A4 at Harrow Farm. **19** Cross the main road into the lane beyond, then turn right in front of a semi-detached house. **20** Follow the narrow hedged path beyond, turning 90 degrees left after ½ mile and heading uphill. **21** Eventually the path levels off then descends to a lane. **22** Turn left and walk past Rudge Farm. **23** Beyond the farmhouse, turn right onto a public footpath that curves right then left up to a wood. **24** Turn left then swing right along a ride that follows power lines through the wood. **25** At a metalled driveway, turn left then immediately right onto a concrete track. **26** At the next junction, turn right and follow the track through the wood and down a grassy valley; another track joins obliquely from the right. **27** At a crossroad of tracks, turn right, heading uphill. **28** Beyond a belt of trees the track continues alongside a wood on your left. **29** Keep straight ahead along the woodland edge when the main track swings left into the wood. **30** On reaching a metalled lane, turn right and walk downhill for half a mile to Froxfield. **31** Turn left along the A4 past the Somerset Hospital to return to the Pelican.

# The Pelican



The 17th-century Pelican Inn is a well-known landmark in the village of Froxfield, on the A4 between Marlborough and Hungerford. It is just 8 miles from junction 14 of the M4.

Following refurbishment, The Pelican is now a contemporary pub with rooms, with a growing reputation since Kirsty took over in November 2012.

This freehouse has a large locals/walkers bar and three cosy restaurant areas, whilst upstairs there are eight comfortable en-suite bedrooms. Outside there is a large garden with stream, duck pond and two car parks. It is in a perfect spot for those enjoying the local countryside, being a 5-minute stroll from the Kennet & Avon Canal (bridge 90 and lock 70). Walkers, fishermen, cyclists, boaters, children and friendly dogs are all welcome.

## Menus

Our standard menu is based around traditional pub favourites. We pride ourselves that all our food is prepared and cooked on the premises. We are therefore able to cater for all dietary requirements and by prior arrangement we are more than happy to provide anything from lobster to fillet steak. On Sundays we also offer a choice of roast meals with traditional trimmings alongside our normal main menu.

Our menus are changed seasonally and in addition there are ever-changing blackboard specials.

## Accommodation

Following recent refurbishments, we now have eight rooms. All are en suite and most have both bath and showers. The bedrooms all have a writing/dressing table, with complimentary tea & coffee-making facilities and toiletries. Technology-wise, all rooms have flat-screen TVs and free wifi.

Most of our rooms are doubles but we also have a twin and a family room that can sleep four. Additionally, the twin does have an interconnecting door to a double which proves popular with families.

For those travelling with dogs, we have identified two rooms where we allow well-behaved dogs to stay (accompanied at all times please). Dog breakfast included in room rate!



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