



Little Budworth Common is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest, described as "one of the best surviving examples of lowland heath in Cheshire". A mosaic of heath and woodland with occasional wet areas, it supports three species of heather and other locally rare plants such as white sedge, cotton-grass, bilberry, cranberry and sundew.



Although clearly dammed, **Budworth Pool** may be semi-natural in origin, and there are claims that it has been used by villagers since 1372.



Little Budworth's **pinfold** dates back to the 17th or 18th century. Pinfolds or pounds were used to hold stray animals until they could be claimed by their owners on payment of a fine.



three circular walks from

The Red Lion

Little Budworth, Cheshire



Budworth Pool

2¼ miles: Easy

Follow tracks and green lanes through village and countryside to an attractive lake.

Little Budworth Common

2¾ miles: Easy

Explore our local country park, a rare area of lowland heathland designated as an SSSI.

Oulton Park

6¼ miles: Moderate

Passing Budworth Pool and Little Budworth Common, returning via a park circuit.

Budworth Pool

2¼ miles: Easy

Allow 1–1½ hours. May be muddy in places. Three stiles.

1 From the front door, turn left and walk down the main village street. Pass the end of Booth Avenue and continue past the Church Room on your left. **2** Turn right by the War Memorial and walk past the Egerton Arms and Oulton Park Cricket Club. **3** Turn right at the road junction by the Pinfold. **4** Almost immediately, turn left into a track with a Restricted Byway sign. **5** Follow the track past a house on the left; when the track turns left into a second property, follow the narrow path straight ahead that descends to a stream amongst trees. **6** On meeting a wider track, turn right. **7** The main track bends left; take a sunken, tree-lined path straight ahead. **8** This path shortly meets another track at a Delamere Loop sign; turn right. **9** At a large house on the right, the track joins a public road; just after the house, turn right into a metalled lane with a Restricted Byway sign. **10** Pass a couple more houses on the right then, when the surfaced track bends right, take a green lane on the left (again with a Restricted Byway sign). **11** Follow this hedged track to a T-junction, where you turn right along another byway. **12** When you reach the road, turn right then immediately left into yet another byway. **13** At the corner of a field, join a narrower path between the trees and bushes on the right. **14** After 300 yards, turn right over a stile and cross two paddocks separated by further stiles to reach Budworth Pool. **15** Turn left along a fence, with the Pool to your right. **16** On reaching the road, turn right and walk into Little Budworth and back to the church and pub.

Little Budworth Common

2¾ miles: Easy

Allow 1½–2 hours. May be muddy in places. No stiles.

1 From the front door, turn left and walk down the main village street. Pass the end of Booth Avenue and continue past the Church Room on your left. **2** At the War Memorial, carry straight on. **3** Pass the end of Park Road (on the right) and a private road into the Oulton Estate (left). **4** On the right-hand side of the road, a path leads into the trees; follow it to emerge behind the toilet block in a car park. **5** Follow the woodpecker-waymarked Heathland Trail beyond the car park, passing a carved tree stump on the right. **6** After a gate, cross two driveways, still following the Heathland Trail. **7** Keep right at a fork, still following the woodpecker waymarks. **8** Bear right (the “third exit”) at a five-way junction. **9** Pass the end of a pond, keeping left up some steps, and cross an open area. **10** On reaching a minor road, turn left to a T-junction with the Coach Road, the main road through Little Budworth Common. **11** Cross and follow the track opposite. **12** At a crossroad of tracks at the edge of the wood, turn left (signposted ‘Smithy Lane’). **13** Turn immediately left onto a narrow path leading to an area of open land. Follow the path along the edge of the woodland, passing a log used as a bench and with open land on your

left. **14** When a path joins from the left, bear right, with heathland still to your left. **15** The path leads through a belt of birch trees and crosses a fenced path to return to open heathland. **16** Bear right to meet a broad track, which you follow to the left. **17** Cross another path and continue through the trees; in a grassy area is a log carved into a dragon. **18** The path beyond leads back to the Coach Road; turn right and follow the path parallel to the road. **19** When you emerge from the trees by the road junction, cross over and walk up to the grand gateway of Oulton Park. **20** Turn left along the park wall and follow the road into Little Budworth, retracing your earlier steps past the war memorial and back to the Red Lion.

Oulton Park

6¼ miles: Moderate

Allow 3–4 hours. Some paths may be muddy, under crops or overgrown. Several stiles, and some road walking.

1 From the front door, turn right and follow the road round to the left (Mill Lane). **2** Walk down to the mill and turn left onto the path along the far bank of Budworth Pool. **3** On reaching a Private sign, turn right over a stile and cross a paddock to another stile. **4** Cross a second paddock to a third stile, then turn left. **5** This hedged path emerges at the corner of a field; follow the track ahead, which leads shortly to Park Road. **6** Take a few steps to the right, then take the track opposite. **7** After 400 yards, turn left onto another byway, which leads to a metalled drive. **8** Turn right and follow the driveway until you meet a road (White Hall Lane). **9** Turn right and follow the road for ¼ mile to a road junction. **10** Turn left into Beech Road and follow it for ¾ mile until you meet the Coach Road within the wooded surrounds of Little Budworth Common. **11** Follow the restricted byway opposite for 150 yards until you come to a junction at the far edge of the wood, where you turn left (signposted Smithy Lane). **12** Follow the path within the trees until you come within sight of a track on the right running between fields and woodland. **13** Bear right onto the track and follow it left until you emerge by a road junction. **14** Turn right along Beech Lane and follow it downhill for ½ mile, descending to another attractive millpond. **15** Keep straight at the junction with Oulton Mill Lane then, at the next crossroads, turn left (Brownhills Road, signposted to Rushton). **16** Ignoring a path on the right after 200 yards, pass a driveway on the left then an attractive thatched cottage on the right. **17** Just beyond a gateway, take a footpath on the right, diagonally across a field. **18** In the next field, aim for a gap in the hedge. **19** Bear left to the farm buildings and pass between them and in front of the farmhouse into a winding lane. **20** At a T-junction, turn right then almost immediately left over a stile. **21** Walk up the right-hand side of the field to emerge over another stile into Kings Lane. **22** Follow the road ahead (right) and then follow it round a right-hand bend by a house (Hunters Lodge). **23** Shortly after a second house (Parkside Cottage), turn left through two gates onto a footpath. **24** The path crosses the field to the park wall and bends right, through

a kissing gate behind the farm. **25** Follow the park boundary for ½ mile, crossing a series of stiles, until you reach the corner of the woodland on your left. **26** Cross a stile to the left of a field gate, and bear right along the field edge towards Lower Farm, with a hedge on your right. **27** On meeting a metalled lane, turn left and walk between the buildings. **28** Follow the lane for 500 yards to Home Farm on your right. **29** Just after the farm buildings, turn right over a stile. **30** Cross the field ahead, dropping down into a dip and out again, to a stile. **31** Follow the left-hand hedge to another stile, then continue along the left-hand side of the field to a third, which leads into Booth Avenue. **32** Walk up the road to meet Vicarage Lane. **33** Turn right past the Old Post Office and follow the village street back to the Red Lion.

The Red Lion

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open

Mon–Fri 12 noon–2.30pm,
5pm to close

Sat–Sun open all day

food

Mon–Thu 12–2pm, 5.30–8pm
Fri 12–2pm, 5.30–9pm

Sat–Sun food served all day

The Red Lion is a friendly pub, restaurant and bed & breakfast conveniently located in the delightful village of Little Budworth, close to the local amenities that Tarporley has to offer. Oulton Park Motor Racing Circuit is a five-minute walk away and the beautiful Little Budworth Common is very close by and has many walks and pathways. There's easy access to the historic towns and cities of Chester, Northwich, Middlewich and Nantwich.

The Red Lion is a perfect base to explore the area.

We have four comfortable and well-appointed rooms available for our guests and provide a hearty English breakfast or a lighter continental-style meal to set you up for your day.

We provide a range of hot and cold meals to suit the hungry visitor. Every item on our main menu is homemade: try our delicious pies or homemade lasagne, all cooked to order using local-sourced produce where possible.

Whether you are here for business or pleasure, you can always be assured of a very warm welcome.