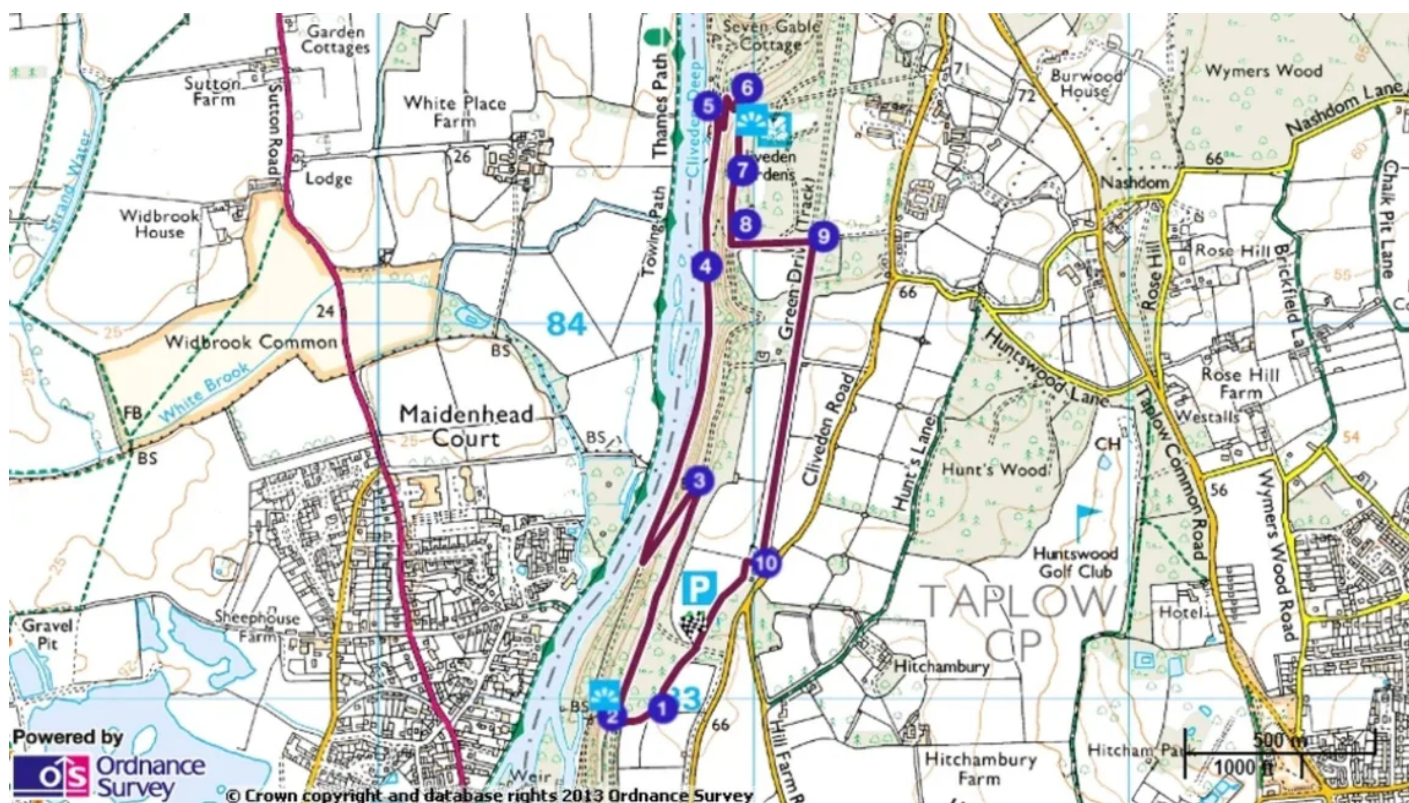


## Cliveden gold walking trail

Take in tranquil riverside scenery, shady woodland, dramatic views of the Berkshire countryside and places of historical interest on this circular trail.

### Accessing Cliveden estate

The historic country estate of Cliveden overlooks the River Thames and is open daily for most of the year. For access to these walking routes, you will need to be a National Trust member or pay the admission fee at the entrance to the estate.



## Information

Address: Cliveden, Taplow, Maidenhead,  
Buckinghamshire, SL6 0HJ

OS map: Explorer 172

### Activity: Walking

Moderate: With some steep parts. For further details, see the Terrain section.

**Dog friendly:** Dogs are welcome in the woodland. At Cliveden, there is a traffic light system with different levels of access. Please pick up a dog walker's guide from outside the information centre or the woodland car park. Please dispose of your dog's waste in the bins provided.

Full trail: Miles: 3.1 (km: 4.96)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 1 hour 30 mins - 2 hours

## Terrain

This route follows footpaths and studded stone pathways through the woods and along the riverbank. The terrain is generally flat but with one very steep walk

Total steps: 10

Start point: Woodland car park, grid ref: SU909832

1. From the woodland car park, take the path signposted 'Viewpoint'. Go through the large kissing gate to the right. As you continue along the path, the elephant and bear wood carvings will appear on your right. Follow the route to the left past the picnic benches.
2. Continue down the slope and past the carved wooden Cliveden snails. Stop at the viewing area to see the Berkshire countryside and the River Thames spread out below. To your right, in the distance, you can also see Cliveden House Hotel. After the viewpoint, turn right and follow the path along the clifftop.
3. At the gold marker (where the fingerpost indicates 'River'), take the sharp left onto a steep sloping track down towards the river (be careful, as this is slippery when wet). At the bottom, take the right fork back on yourself, following the fingerpost towards 'House and Gardens'. Continue along the path with the river on your left.
4. Keep following the riverside path. With its islands and plenty of birdlife, this is one of the prettiest spots on the River Thames.
5. When you reach Spring Cottage on your left, follow the red marker and bear right, climbing to the top of the steep and winding steps beside the cottage.
6. Stop to admire a 5-metre-wide slice of a Californian redwood tree (*Sequoia gigantea*), known as the sequoia section. Then take the steps on your right up to the statue of the Duke of Sutherland, who built the current Cliveden House. From here, there are views

down to the river at the start and steep steps uphill further on. Some areas can become very muddy.

over the house and gardens. Looking out from the statue, with the river below you on your right, take the path to your left, signposted 'Viewpoint'.

7. Continue along the clifftop path.
8. When you reach the red marker turn left into an avenue of lime trees.
9. Follow this path to its end. When you reach the junction, turn right. This avenue, known as Green Drive, narrows towards the end as it leads you back to the woodland car park.
10. Take the kissing gate on your right. Head straight through the small central walkway with fields on your left before entering a sheltered wooded area that takes you back to the woodland car park.

End point: Woodland car park, grid ref: SU909832

---