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### Diamond Jubilee Orchard



W3W: [sketching.progress.abundance](#)

In 2012 Marlborough Community Orchard gifted this plantation to the town in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II and to reflect historic links between common land and local food for local people. It is the focus of our "town in an orchard" project: a living larder, beauty spot, an outdoor classroom and meeting place. Ten varieties of Wiltshire apple form a central diamond shape with crab apples at two of the points.

2

### Roger's Meadow



W3W: [enable.food.uttering](#)

You will find 14 apple trees thriving in this secluded location and five different apple varieties to enjoy. Next the walk will take you through Bay Meadows Nature Reserve, 30 acres of water meadow restored by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and now an important wildlife corridor.

3

### Mildenhall Churchyard



W3W: [deploying.dipped.packet](#)

Two small apple trees can be found in the far right hand corner. If these little trees leaves you underwhelmed, St John the Baptist church is one of Wiltshire's prettiest churches and well worth a look. John Betjeman wrote: "Like a Jane Austen novel, a forest of the most magnificent oak joinery, an ocean of box-pews stretching shoulder high over all the chancel".

4

### Reeds Ground



W3W: [exam.solved.swarm](#)

At the end of Elcot Lane you will find the Roebuck pub and the final two apple trees across the road. Your route to the finish takes you past Stonebridge Wild River Reserve and across the River Kennet. The boardwalk to your left will take you on a loop through the reserve where you can witness the amazing diversity of wildlife in and around a chalk stream.

Version 1: September 2025

The vision of Marlborough as a "town in an orchard" led to the formation in 2010 of Marlborough Community Orchard. Its aims are to foster community spirit, celebrate biodiversity and the rich variety of orchard fruits that can be grown in Britain. Fruit trees are being planted accordingly, singly and in small groups, all around the town. Locations include public spaces, schools, car parks, private gardens and churchyards; here for the benefit of everyone, the environment and local wildlife.

## Marlborough Community Orchard Tree Trail

### Minal Marathon

**Start/Finish: Diamond Jubilee Orchard, Marlborough Common.**

**What3words: sketching.progress.abundance**

**Distance: 8km**

**Terrain: Mostly traffic free route on footpaths and bridleways.**

**Steps: Yes**

**Pub stop: Roebuck, London Road**

**Dog Friendly: Yes**

**Wheelchair Friendly: NO**



On this walk you cross two chalk streams, the River Kennet and its tributary, the River Og. Action for the River Kennet (ARK) works to protect, improve and monitor this rare internationally important habitat. Otters, water voles, kingfishers and wild brown trout are among the creatures to be found here.



**Start:**

- From the Diamond Jubilee Plantation cross Free's Avenue onto the Common, follow the track across the grass, bear to the right, pass down the steps and cross the A346 at the top of Port Hill.
- Turn directly left and follow Rogers Meadow Road that runs parallel to the A346. Before the bend you will see a car park on the right and beyond is Rogers Meadow Orchard. Stop 2
- Return to the road, turn right, bear right at the corner and take the first left into Rogers Meadow, directly right into Rabley Wood View, turn left again, down the hill and turn left in front of house 20 & 21.
- Turn right and follow the footpath beside the play area, down the hill into Bay Meadows Nature Reserve. Take the footpath to the left and cross the river at the footbridge. Follow the path to the gate.
- Cross the track and take the footpath up the hill and step over the style onto the railway line. Turn right, pass under the bridge and turn left down the steps, follow the footpath across the fields to Minal.
- Stop 3 is St John the Baptist Church, Mildenhall ('Minal' to locals). In the churchyard you will find 2 MCO apple trees and a bench. Those unfamiliar with the church are recommended to take a look.
- Pass through the churchyard taking the footpath across the fields and along the bottom of the cricket pitch. The path passes between the hedges and onto the road, turn right over Werg Bridge.
- Follow the road past the modern houses and around the corner. Just after the thatched cottage take the footpath to the right, it passes in front of the row of cottages. This takes you to Elcot Lane.
- Follow Elcot Lane to the end. At the T-junction you will see the Roebuck pub on your left and Reeds Ground is in front of you, 2 MCO apple trees are on the grass at the entrance. This is stop 4.
- Turn right onto London Road. There is a footpath directly to your right, just after the post box, this is Stonebridge Lane and it will take you past Stonebridge Wild River Nature Reserve.
- You will find footpaths leading through the reserve at the boardwalk, if you have not visited before it is well worth taking a closer look at this reserve, the footpath loops back to Stonebridge Lane.
- At the top of the hill cross the road, Coldharbour Lane will take you back up to the Common where you can retrace your steps to the Diamond Jubilee Plantation and the **Finish**.

**If you would like to join the pruning sessions or get involved with Marlborough Community Orchard please contact the team at: [enquiries@transitionmarlborough.org](mailto:enquiries@transitionmarlborough.org)**