

Welcome Pack



Welcome to Finchwood Park

August 2023



www.myjourneywokingham.com

About This Booklet

Welcome to your new home in Finchwood Park. This pack has been produced by the My Journey team to provide you with information about planning journeys from your new home.

My Journey Wokingham promotes travel which helps keep our residents healthy and safe and our borough cleaner and greener.

Within this pack you will find reference to local walking and cycle routes, information about local bus and rail services, and where to find your nearest electric car charging points.

We are also pleased to be able to provide you with information on discounted travel and travel related items, some of which are exclusively for new residents of Finchwood Park.

My Developer Details

My Journey Wokingham

As well as welcoming new residents to the borough, My Journey Wokingham provides a series of travel related events and training courses as well as competitions.

For further information about the My Journey Wokingham programme please visit the My Journey Wokingham website.

Additionally, you can follow us on Facebook or Twitter to find out about our latest offers, events and training programmes.

Website:
www.myjourneywokingham.com

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/MJWokingham

Twitter:
[@MJWokingham](https://twitter.com/MJWokingham)

Feedback

We are always looking to improve the information provided in our welcome packs. If you have any comments about the pack or any questions around travel in Wokingham you can contact us.

Email:
myjourney@wokingham.gov.uk



Brief History

Development of Finchwood Park

Finchwood Park features a remarkable expanse of over 140 acres of green open space, drawing on the heritage and unique character of the local landscape, a woodland setting that has evolved over centuries. Finchwood Park has been designed to create walkable neighbourhoods well-connected to village amenities as well as cycle links.

Trees and hedgerows, woodland clearings and water courses each offering an abundance of ecological and wildlife habitats. New infrastructure will include new parkland and public gardens, play areas and outdoor sports areas. 50% of Finchwood Park will be public open space.

History of Finchampstead

The parish church of St James with its 12th century origins, old Roman roads and distinctive wide 'Ridges' forged through the area, Finchampstead's history can be seen in every inch of the landscape.

Finchampstead village itself sits at the top of Fleet Hill in a richly wooded area once part of Windsor Forest and hunting places of royalty. A local tale tells of Henry VII bringing his son to the Finchampstead Ridges to meet his bride-to-be, Catherine of Aragon.

Finchampstead is said to have derived its name from the large variety of finches that still populate the area.

Schools nearby

- Farley Hill Primary School
- The Coombes Primary School
- Nine Mile Ride Primary School
- Gorse Ride Infant/Junior Schools
- Bohunt Secondary School.

Parks in/near Finchwood Park

- Finchwood Park SANG, Sheerlands Road, Finchampstead
- Hazebrouck Meadows, Biggs Lane and Commonfield Lane, Arborfield, RG2 9LS
- California Country Park, Nine Mile Ride, Finchampstead, RG40 4HU – can be accessed via the greenway off Commonfield Lane
- Finchampstead Baptist Centre/Children's Play Park/ Multi-Use Games Area - Gorse Ride, Finchampstead, RG40 4ES – can be accessed via the greenway off Commonfield Lane
- Rooks Nest Wood, Barkham Ride, Finchampstead, RG40 4EU.

Arborfield Green Leisure Centre

There is a leisure centre at Arborfield Green on Sheerlands Road, Arborfield, RG2 9NN. They run various classes and activities. For full details and membership details visit their website:

www.placesleisure.org

BetterPoints - My Journey Wokingham Challenge

Earn rewards whilst you walk, cycle, scoot or use the bus or train. These can be exchanged for high street vouchers or donated to charity.

Find out more here:

www.mjwokingham.betterpoints.uk

Or scan the QR Code below







Walking is simple, free and one of the easiest ways to get more active, lose weight and become healthier

Cambridge University researchers have found that a brisk walk every day has substantial health benefits.

Incorporating walking into your lifestyle will go a long way in helping your health and well-being.

The My Journey Wokingham website can be used to discover walking routes in your local area or to plan walks to your local shops, services and other amenities.

Visit: www.myjourneywokingham.com

Thames Basin Heaths Partnership

To find greenspaces on your doorstep and get outside for some fresh air and exercise.

Visit: www.tbhpartnership.org.uk

Health Walks

There are a number of health walks that take place across the borough. The walks are a great way to meet new friends and keep active.

Visit:

www.wokingham.gov.uk

Places to Walk to



Cycling is a low impact type of exercise which can help you lose weight, reduce stress and improve your fitness

It is often quicker to cycle than travel by car for local journeys in Wokingham, particularly during busier times.

The cycle network in Wokingham Borough is continually being improved and there is a greenway (for cyclists/walkers) between Commonfield Lane, Arborfield and Finchampstead Baptist Centre.

Cycling is one of the easiest ways to fit exercise into your daily routine. For example you could cycle to work or Wokingham station a few days a week.

Visit the My Journey website for the latest copy of the Western Area Cycle Map, information on local bike events, training courses for adults and children as well as discounts at local retailers and much more.

Visit:

www.myjourneywokingham.com

Wokingham Bikeathon

The Bikeathon is an annual family event that takes place around Wokingham every June. The date of the event will be shared on the My Journey website once it is announced.

Love to Ride

If you ride for more than 10 minutes, log your ride at www.lovetoride.net/wokingham for a chance to win cycle related prizes. Encourage friends and family for even more chances to win.

Places to Cycle to



LOVE TO RIDE





Forget about the parking costs and rising fuel prices and let someone else do the driving

Buses to Wokingham

The Leopard 3 serves the Harvest Path bus stop on Nine Mile Ride Extension and travels hourly to Wokingham. The bus stops at Wokingham train station before it goes into the town centre. It takes approximately 5 minutes to walk to the bus stop.

Buses to Reading

Catch the bus from the Harvest Path bus stop on Nine Mile Ride Extension approximately 5 minutes walk from Finchwood Park. There are 3 buses an hour to Reading train station via the Royal Berkshire Hospital.

For fares and for further information on all these bus services visit: www.reading-buses.co.uk

You can also plan your journey using our journey planner: www.myjourneywokingham.com/journey-planner or download the Reading Buses mobile application from your providers' app store.

FREE bus Travel

There are a limited number of free weekly bus passes available for Finchwood Park residents. Please contact us to receive your free voucher:

Email: myjourney@wokingham.gov.uk

Winnersh Triangle Park & Ride

The Winnersh Triangle Park & Ride is currently closed. The ground floor of the car park is open to allow access to disabled spaces, electric vehicle chargers and for rail users to park closer to the station. Those wishing to travel into Reading can use the train or the nearby Lion 4/X4 bus to central Reading.

MereOak Park & Ride

A park and ride service operates from MereOak Park & Ride at MereOak Lane, Grazeley. The site provides nearly 600 parking spaces, plus cycle and motorcycle parking. Reading Buses, Greenwave service provides a fast and frequent service between the site and Reading town centre and Reading train station. A parking fee of £1.00 per day applies to MereOak Park & Ride users. Concessionary passes are valid for bus travel in accordance with the scheme conditions, but pass-holders will be asked to pay a £1.00 parking fee.

Long Distance Coaches

National Express operate coaches to London Victoria Coach Station as well as Heathrow and Gatwick airports from MereOak Park & Ride. Please note that there is no overnight parking at MereOak.

Tickets must be booked in advance at: www.nationalexpress.com or Tel No. 08717 818178

FlixBus also operate coaches from MereOak Park & Ride to London Hammersmith or London Victoria Coach Station.

For further information and tickets please visit their website: www.flixbus.co.uk

Rail travel is a faster, more relaxing and less stressful way to travel on business, and it's easy and hassle-free for leisure trips with your family and friends

Wokingham is the nearest station to Finchwood Park. Your nearest bus stop is 5 minutes walk from Finchwood Park. The Leopard 3 services travels hourly between Arborfield Green and Wokingham train station. It takes approximately 25 minutes to cycle to Wokingham Station from Finchwood Park.

Four trains an hour depart for Reading Station, two direct trains an hour to London Waterloo and two direct trains an hour to Guildford, Redhill and Gatwick Airport. Some additional services are provided at peak times.

The station is located on Station Approach, RG40 2AP. It has a cafe, 118 sheltered cycle storage spaces and 531 parking spaces.

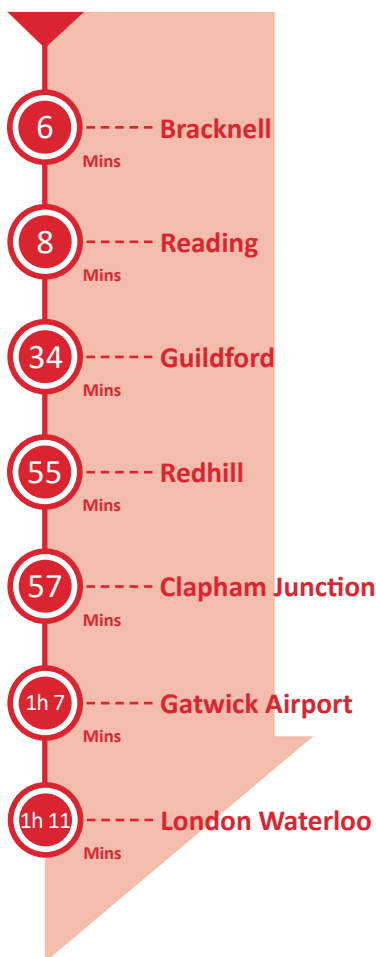
For further information on train times visit:

www.nationalrail.co.uk

For information on tickets and discounted rail travel visit:

www.myjourneywokingham.com

Approximate Journey Times







We save 1560kg
CO2 each year
between us!

Arrange to travel together and share the cost, whilst reducing congestion and pollution at the same time

Electric Vehicles

Electric vehicles are better for the environment, cheaper to run and cheaper to maintain.

Pure electric vehicles have zero exhaust emissions, which means they do not emit any harmful exhaust emissions in the local environment.

Although the upfront cost of purchasing an electric vehicle is higher, savings are made in the longer term with lower running costs. Electric vehicles have lower servicing and maintenance costs due to having fewer mechanical components as well as being more cost effective to charge than petrol cars. Electric charging points are provided locally in the Carnival Pool and Shute End Car Parks in Wokingham. There are also electric charging points at Wokingham, Fleet and Farnborough train station car parks.

For locations of more electric car charge points please visit: www.zap-map.com/

Car Share

Car sharing is a great way to reduce the costs of travelling by car. It is also a great way to meet new people and help the environment.

There is a public car share database available to search for other people looking to car share around your area.

Visit: www.liftshare.com

Smarter Driving

Smarter driving can help keep you safe and cost you less. Here are some tips for smarter driving:

- Check your tyres are at the correct pressure to help the car run more efficiently
- Remove unnecessary weight from your car like heavy equipment, roof racks or items in your boot
- Make sure your car is serviced regularly to ensure it is running as efficiently as possible
- Avoid wasteful fuel consumption with engine idling or air conditioning

Electric Car Charge Points

There are electric car charge points installed at Finchwood Park.



Great care is taken in creating this document and the information contained in this document is correct at the time of writing.



www.wokingham.gov.uk



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www.facebook.com/MJWokingham



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