Start the trail underneath the Clock Tower (1) on Great Whye. A prominent local landmark, made of cast iron with typical leaf decoration, erected in 1888 as a memorial to the Revd Edward Fellowes, 1st Baron de Ramsey, nicknamed 'The Dunmy'. It was renovated by the Town Council in 1988.

The most noticeable thing about Great Whye is its extreme width (30 feet/24.5 metres) caused by the covering over of High Code (Bury Brook), which originally ran down the centre as an open waterway and was navigable by small boats.

Cross the Clock Tower walking towards the three lions. Lloyds-TSB (2) on the left, was the town gas; Barclays (3) in the foreground, was a private house built in 1929; and the NatWest Bank (4) straight ahead, straddles the Bury Brook which flows beneath it. This was also the site of the High Bridge, which connected the two halves of the High Street. Continue past Barclays into the short, narrow section of the Great Whye. Note the large golden eagle statue on the Nationwide Building Society (5). This is all that remains of the Eagle Printing Works, which formerly occupied this site.

Cross the High Street to the George Hotel (6), a Victorian hotel with a large façade and many of the original features remaining, including a fine staircase and some timber framing. On leaving the George, turn left.

Continue along the High Street until you reach the Salem Baptist Chapel (7). This has an impressive pedimented façade dated 1857. Internally there is a gallery and original box pews. Cross the High Street and look back across the road, at the prominent former Lion Hotel (8), with its high level 1731 date plaque, now private flats.

Continue until you reach the Methodist Church (9). Built in 1859 on the site of a former workhouse, the church was damaged in 1942 when German bombs fell on the town. An adjoining house took a direct hit and there were several fatalities in the town. Retrace your steps and cross over the junction with the Great Whye and continue east along the High Street. This was originally the southern side of the marketplace until it was built up at the end of 18th century. The Angel Public House (10) is on the left. Further along (on the left) the building with the protruding iron bracket was the mid-18th century Anchor Inn (11). On the roof are two unusual medieval ridge tiles of a man and a bull. These and the usual louvred chimney pot on the adjoining building were possibly salvaged from a major fire in 1731. Cross the road for a better view of the tiles. As you go you will see a building with red-brick detailing, which used to house the post office.

Continue past the Abbey Rooms (12), with its elaborate red-brick detailing, reminiscent of chapel architecture. As you reach the end of the High Street the full impact of Abbey Green comes into view.

Crowds of pilgrims used to congregate on Abbey Green before entering the Abbey precincts. It was the site of an annual fair. Nowadays, on most Sunday afternoons in June and July you can enjoy listening to band concerts here. Across on your left are the almshouses (13), originally built for 12 poor women in 1839, using stone from the Abbey. Adjoining the almshouses is the former Church School (14), dating from 1848, built in light yellow brick of a master's house with the boys' school on one side and the girls' on the other, the central bell tower still stands, but the hall is missing. Cross the road to the middle of Abbey Green.

Abbey Terrace (15) on the right, is a symmetrical group of gabled dwellings dated 1833. Stone plaques on the façade bear the Fellows' family crest. A little further along is the former vicarage, now the Ramsey Golf and Bowls Club (16). Walk towards the impressive range of the Abbey Gatehouse.

The Abbey Gatehouse (17) is now owned by the National Trust. It dominates the south side of Abbey Green. Only the Porter's Lodge now remains of the once magnificent 16th century stone gatehouse. The gatehouse was removed and reassembled at the end of the 19th century in the village of Upper Hall. The ruin is open to the public from 1 April to 31 October between 10.00am and 5.00pm.

Today, the gatehouse is also an entrance to Ramsey Abbey School (18). Although the great Benedictine Abbey prospered from its late 10th century origins to become known as 'Ramsey the Rich', little of the original building survives today. After the Dissolution in 1539, the Abbey was acquired by Sir Richard Williams (alias Cromwell) who had most of the buildings demolished and sold off the site as building materials. Some of the stone was used in the Cambridge colleges (Caius, Kings and Trinity), the towers of several churches including St Thomas's Becket, and many other buildings. The main fragment of the original Abbey still standing is the mid-13th century Lady Chapel, which was incorporated into a large mansion house by the Cromwells during the second half of 16th century. Since then, the house has undergone many changes. It was extended by Sir John Soane in 1804-06, and extensively altered by Sir John Vanbrugh in 1725. In 1938, after the death of Lady Diana Broughton, its owner, the house became the Abbey School.