# ALBAN WAY

### **The Alban Way**

...the green route between St Albans Abbey to Hatfield House...

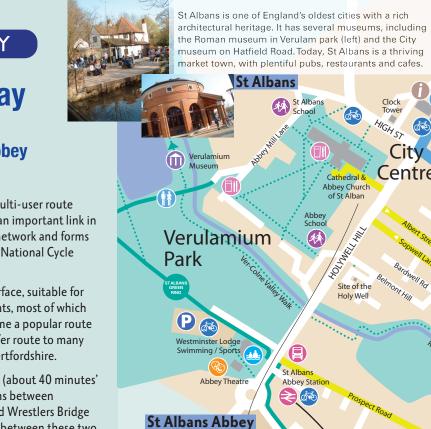
The Alban Way is a traffic free multi-user route along a former railway line. It is an important link in the local sustainable transport network and forms part of Route 61 of the Sustrans National Cycle

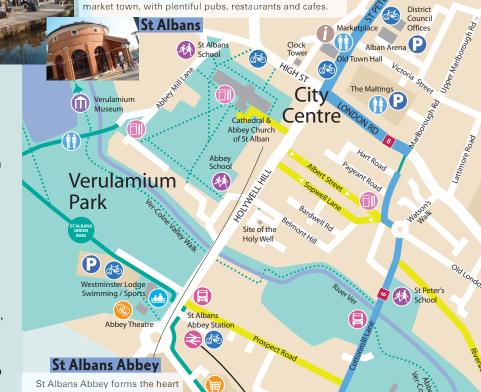
The Alban Way has a smooth surface, suitable for all users. It has many access points, most of which are ramped or level. It has become a popular route for commuting, leisure and a safer route to many schools and the University of Hertfordshire.

The Alban Way is  $6^{1/2}$  miles long (about 40 minutes' cycling or 3hours walking). It runs between Cottonmill Lane in St Albans and Wrestlers Bridge in Hatfield, providing a safe link between these two historic towns, with access to many amenities and facilities.

For most of its length, the Alban Way runs along the former route of the Hatfield to St Albans branch line of the Great Northern Railway. Opened in 1865, the line was used for freight and passenger services until it was closed and dismantled in 1969.

Part of the Alban Way between Cottonmill Lane and Sutton Road is used by the St Albans Green Ring a continuous walking and cycling route (approx. 9km long) that encircles the city Centre. The route primarily enhances existing cycling and walking routes and extends from Townsend in the north to Fleetville in the east, Sopwell in the south and into Verulam Estate to the west.





eum on Hatfield Road, Today, St Albans is a thriving

of the historic city of St Albans. Following the departure of the Romans from the ancient town of Verulamium, the Abbey was ounded in the fourth century and 🦳 was one of England's greatest Halford's abbeys until the dissolution of the monasteries in the sixteenth century, after which it fell into disrepair until its restoration at the end of the nineteenth century.

From the city, follow any of the vellow roads on the map to reach the Alban Wav.



Start/Finish This is the official start of the St

## Albans end of

Watercress Beds Just off Riverside Road and just y the access ramp up onto the Alban Way is the Watercress Wildlife Association Local Nature Reserve, Maintained y volunteers, this small space provides an urban sanctuary or wildlife on the site of former watercress beds and includes butterfly meadow, woodland, wetlands and an orchard

# London Road station was one of the main

Oaklands College

St Albans

Loreto School

Addiktion Cycles

passenger stations on the old railway line. The grade II listed building now houses a nursery. Near the old station, the Alban Way passes under a huge railway bridge carrying today'

nder's Orchids, where the school is, and

alvation Army Printing Works and Musical

Verulam School

nstrument Works in Campfield Road, who

moved from East London in 1901.

Camp Road

Cunningham School

Salvation Army Halt

### River Ver

The River Ver is a chalk river, an internationally rare Biodiversity Action Plan habita Chalk rivers flow from underground aguifers and are typified by good water quality and steady temperatures.

The old platform on the south side used to be n World War 2, the railway was used to erry wounded soldiers









The Camp













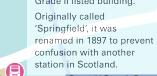




Hill End Lane leads o Hixberry Lane, a pleasant off-road route to the village

Nicholas Breakspear









Smallford











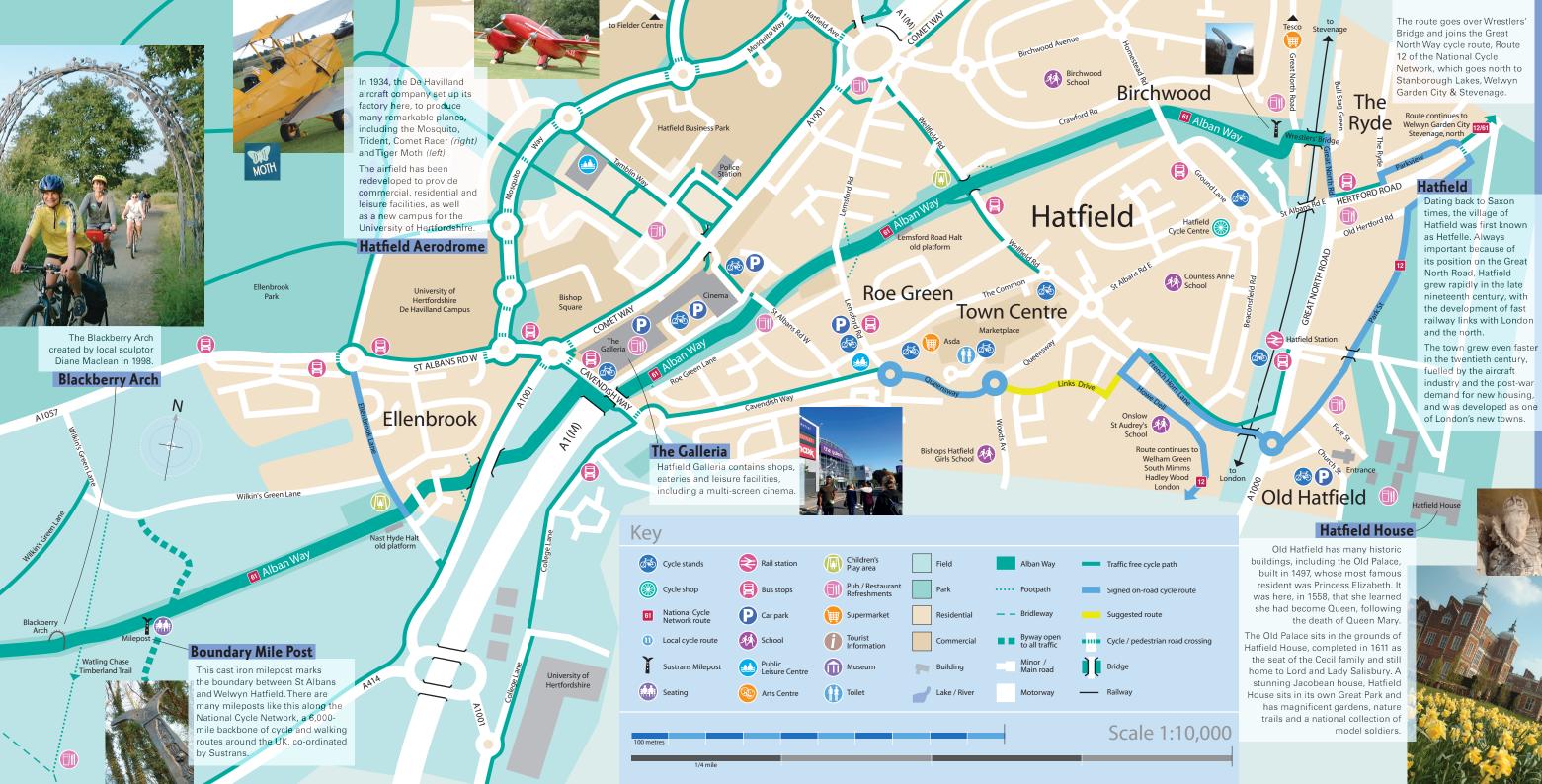
These fields and private fishing lake have been created from a former landfill site. Please keep to the paths in this area.

Smallford Pit





Colney Heath



#### Alban Way Feedback

If you have any comments concerning the Alban Way, contact St Albans City & District Council: Tel: 01727 866100

Email: cycling@stalbans.gov.uk

or Pedal Point (see below) for Hatfield section.

#### **Pedal Point**

The one point of contact for all issues relating to cycling in the Welwyn Hatfield area: Tel: 01707 357551

www.welhat.gov.uk/pedalpoint Email: pedalpoint@welhat.gov.uk

#### St Albans Cycle Campaign

Working for cycling in St Albans district. Contact us for help or information on all aspects of cycling: www.stacc.org.uk

#### WelHatCycling

Working to improve cycling in Welwyn and Hatfield, plus social rides every month. For further details see: www.welhatcycling.org.uk

#### Welwyn Hatfield Activity Map

This shows walking and cycling routes in the Welwyn Hatfield area - available from Pedal Point, The Galleria or Hatfield Cycle Centre.

#### Hertfordshire County Council

For Hertfordshire County Council cycling information see: www.hertsdirect.org/cycleweb

#### Other information

For information about the local area visit the Tourist Information Centre, St Albans in the OldTown Hall -Tel: 01727 864511, or Campus West, Welwyn Garden City Tel: 01707 357150.

For bus and rail information call Traveline Tel: 0300 124050 www.intalink.org.uk

#### **Useful contacts:**

St Albans Abbey -Tel: 01727 860780 www.stalbanscathedral.org.uk

Hatfield House -Tel: 01727 287010 www.hatfield-house.co.uk

Museum of St Albans - Tel: 01727 819340 www.stalbansmuseums.org.uk

Verulamium Museum -Tel: 01727 751810 www.stalbansmuseums.org.uk

Sustrans -Tel: 0117 929 0888 www.sustrans.org.uk

Countryside Management Service (CMS) Tel 01992 588433 www.hertslink.org/cms All users please follow the Alban Way code of conduct.

- Take care along the trail, remember cycles are very quiet and you may not hear them coming.
- Please keep dogs under control and clear up all dog mess.
- Please keep the Alban Way tidy, take your litter home.
- Please do not pick the wildflowers.
- Do not wander onto adjacent private land.

#### Cyclists

- Please be considerate to other users and allow plenty of room when passing.
- Fit a bell to warn others, considerately, of your approach, don't assume pedestrians can hear or see you.
- Take special care when approaching all junctions.
- Make sure your bike is in good order.

#### Horse Riders

 Horse riding is permitted along the Alban Way from Hill End Lane to Ellenbrook.

#### Misuse

To report criminal activity or misuse of the Alban Way contact the Community Team at St Albans Police Station Tel: 01727 796042.

### Other Walking & Cycling Maps

Visit Countryside Management Service (CMS) www.hertslink.org/cms/getactive for copies of other free maps in this series including:

The Cole Green Way The Great North Way

The Abbey Way The Nickey Line The Ayots













Map / photography / leaflet design by Stephen Wragg: Wragg Art House & St Albans Cycle Campaign member: www.wah.co.uk. Additional photos from Roger Taylor Collection, Steve Ballard and The Watercress Wildlife Association

distorical information about the former railway line is based on: The Hatfield to St Albans Branch Line by R Taylor and B Anderson (Oakwood Press). 5th edition December 2015 © WAH 2015

