This section crosses many of the north/south transport arteries, passing country villages along the River Lea valley.

Route information: The route is on lanes except when it passes through Markyate. The A5 at Markyate is often very busy but you can use the footbridge. Between Markyate and the M1, there is a ford which is not shown on OS maps. The water in the ford can be knee high at times and there is no raised footpath at the side, take care crossing!

Amenities and Attractions

1. **Markyate**
   A useful place for you to stock up on provisions. There is a café, pub, shops and bank. The long and narrow Markyate High Street is set out along Roman Watling Street. The town prospered in the 18th and earlier 19th century from the coach trade - it had several inns, being half-way between St Albans and Dunstable. On the High Street you will see a mixture of properties, including Georgian, 19th century brick-fronted houses and, at the north end of the village, several 16th and 17th century timber-framed ones.

   **Markyate Cell**, a private house, was home to Katherine Ferrers, a legendary highway woman immortalised on film as the ‘Wicked Lady’.

2. **Luton Hoo**
   Luton Hoo straddles the Hertfordshire/Bedfordshire borders. The unusual name "Hoo" is a Saxon word meaning the spur of a hill. The house was originally built for the 3rd Earl of Bute, but was rebuilt after it was destroyed by fire in 1843. The house is now a privately owned luxury hotel. The extensive parkland (not open to the public) was laid out by Capability Brown in the 18th century, with the modern additions of a rockery and formal gardens.
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Studham Common

Route continued on previous page

Studham

Route continued on following page

Markyate

Caution: Ford

Steep gradient

Busy road crossing
Dismount and use overbridge

Luton Hoo

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