

Travel directions to ORC

By car:

Enter Postcode RG20 0HR into your satnav or follow directions below.

From the M4 Junction 13 - take the A34 south towards Winchester. Exit the A34 at the 3rd exit on to the A4 west towards Hungerford. Travel approximately 1.5 miles along the A4 until the road dips down a gentle hill with a crossroads at the end of the straight, take the left turning (signposted for Marsh Benham and Hamstead Marshall). Proceed along this country road, across a railway line, the canal and the River Kennet, and up a winding hill (approx. 2 miles in all). Fork left at the top of the hill, signposted for Hamstead Marshall. Continue to

follow the road down the hill to a staggered crossroads in the village of Hamstead Marshall. Turn right. Elm Farm Research Centre is approx. half a mile on the left, almost opposite the White Hart Inn.

From the M4 Junction 14 - take the A338 south towards Hungerford. At the mini-roundabout turn left on to the A4 towards Newbury. Travel approximately 5 miles along the A4 to the second crossroads after the Halfway Inn, take the right turning, (signposted for Marsh Benham and Hamstead Marshall). Proceed along this country road, across a railway line, the canal and the River Kennet, and up a winding hill (approx. 2 miles in all). Fork left at the top of the hill, signposted for Hamstead Marshall. Continue to follow the road down the hill to a staggered crossroads in the village of Hamstead Marshall. Turn right. Elm Farm Research Centre is approx. half a mile on the left, almost opposite the White Hart Inn.

From the South - take the A34 North towards Newbury. Exit the A34 at the A4 Hungerford sliproad. Follow the A4 West towards Hungerford, travel approximately 1.5 miles along the A4 until the road dips down a gentle hill with a crossroads at the end of the straight, take the left turning (signposted for Marsh Benham and Hamstead Marshall). Follow directions as per first paragraph.

OR - take the A338 to Hungerford. At the mini roundabout by The Bear Hotel turn right onto the A4 and follow the directions as in the second paragraph above.

By air:

London Heathrow airport or Southampton airport are closest. From both airports it takes about 2 hours travel by bus and/or train to the nearest train station (Newbury, ca. 10 min from ORC). Further options are Birmingham Airport, London Gatwick (or London Stansted or London Luton for other cheap flights), but journeys from there to Newbury take about 3 hours (Gatwick and Birmingham, which both have direct trains to Reading) or at least 4 hours (other airports). If travelling by car, Newbury is about 1 hour from Heathrow and Southampton, 1.5 hours from Luton and Gatwick and 2 hours from Birmingham and Bristol.

Option 1: From Heathrow - Usually the cheapest and quickest option to go to Newbury is to take the Railair bus from Heathrow to Reading train station: <http://www.railair.com/>. Book your bus ticket online before travelling to get cheaper tickets. If you arrive at Terminal 5, you find the Railair bus stop by following signs for Local Buses upon exiting arrivals. If you do not already have a ticket, these can be purchased from the National Express Sales Desk which is located inside the Terminal building (turn left out of arrivals) opposite Costa Coffee. You will find stand 10 by exiting the terminal building opposite the National Express Sales desk. For bus stops at all other terminals visit <http://www.railair.com/wheretoboard.php>. Buses leave Heathrow every 30 minutes on Saturdays and Sundays and very 20 min on weekdays. The bus journey from Heathrow to Reading takes about 40 minutes and takes you right to Reading train station.

Alternatively, you can travel from Heathrow with the Heathrow Express, which first goes into London Paddington from where you can take a train to Reading or direct to Newbury. However, the journey takes longer and is more expensive than with the bus option. There are however some other train connections with the stopping train to Reading which might work out cheaper and quicker than either the Railair bus or the Heathrow Express to London Paddington. To check all the options for timing and prices go to <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>. Once a day (!) there is also a National Express bus direct from Heathrow to Newbury). At **Reading train station**, enter the building (see map at <http://www.railair.com/wheretoboard2.php>) and buy a train ticket to Newbury station (or buy online before the journey at <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>). Trains to **Newbury** are either from platform 7 (fast trains) or from platform 1 (for a map of the station go to <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/stations/sjp/RDG/plan.html>).

Option 2: From Southampton airport - The train station is located directly at the terminal building (5 min walking). Buy a ticket to Newbury (or buy online at <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>). Take a train to Reading station (direction London), then change at Reading, where trains to **Newbury** are either from platform 7 (fast trains) or from platform 1. The train journey from Southampton to Newbury takes about 1 h 20 min. For most of the day, there is one train per hour from Southampton to Reading.

By train:

Newbury is on the mainline service from southwest England to London, with frequent direct trains from London taking 45-60 minutes. From other regions, change at Reading for Newbury. Visit <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/> to search for travel options and to buy cheaper tickets in advance, but be aware that peak pricing (double price) operates for trains leaving Newbury to London before 08:57 and also trains leaving London between 16:00 and 19:00 (exceptions being trains at 16:18, 17:06 and 18:06 (check the rail website for any changes to this information)). If you are unused to the peculiarities of UK train pricing, you need to be aware that significant savings can also be obtained by purchasing return tickets, particularly Advance (fixed train), offpeak or super offpeak versions.

If travelling from the Continent with **Eurostar** to London St Pancras (visit <http://www.eurostar.com/dynamic/index.jsp> to buy tickets in advance) take the tube (**Underground**) to London Paddington (find an Underground map here <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/gettingaround/14091.aspx>). St. Pancras tube station is called "King's Cross and St. Pancras", and is located in zone 1 (at 5/6 C on the map). Take the Hammersmith and City line (pink) or the Circle line (yellow) to Paddington. The journey on the Underground takes about 20 min.

