



A lovely circular country walk that starts at the Fountain Inn in Ashurst, a 16th century building, with a garden and large pond. Lord Laurence Olivier used to visit, and Sir Paul McCartney produced a video for the song, "A Wonderful Christmastime" here. This is a good spot for refreshment.

The route then takes you through a series of paddocks and past the ancient church of St James. This small church, with two aisles and a chancel, has been registered since 1658, although it was a chapel from around 1200.

It then leads through meadows, copses and farms to Wiston where a short diversion will reward the walker with a popular tea room, attached to the rural Post Office. There are extensive views from here to Chanctonbury Ring and the imposing line of the South Downs.

From Wiston you follow a country lane for a short stretch before turning back via woodland and bridleways towards Ashurst. The route passes through working farms, pastures, meadows, cattle and wildlife within this scenic part of the Sussex countryside.

### Country Code

- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under control and on the lead through farms
- Consider other people
- Wear sensible clothing and sturdy footwear



### By Car

Steyning lies between the A24 and A23, just north of the A27. The A283 runs past the town. Free car-parking is available at several of the towns car parks.

For route planning information please visit [www.google.co.uk/maps](http://www.google.co.uk/maps)

### By Train

The nearest station is approximately 5 miles away at Shoreham-by-Sea on the South Coast line between Brighton and Portsmouth.

For further information please see [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

### By Bus

Buses run from Brighton via Shoreham-by-Sea and via Upper Beeding and Bramber to Steyning. Visit [www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk) for more information.

### By Foot or By Bike

You can reach Steyning easily from either the South Downs Way or the Downslink from Guildford.

Visit [www.nationaltrail.co.uk/SouthDowns/](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/SouthDowns/) for more information.

### Further Information:

Visit [www.steyningsouthdowns.com](http://www.steyningsouthdowns.com) for more information

Visitor information is also available at:

Steyning Library - Church Street BN44 3TB Tel: 01903 812751  
 Steyning Centre - Fletchers Croft, BN44 3XZ Tel: 01903 812042  
 Steyning Museum - Church Street BN44 3YB Tel: 01903 813333

For further information on the wider area including tourism publications visit:

[www.visitsouthdowns.com](http://www.visitsouthdowns.com)  
[www.visitsussex.com](http://www.visitsussex.com)

[www.horsham.com](http://www.horsham.com)  
[www.ruralways.com](http://www.ruralways.com)

### Supported By:



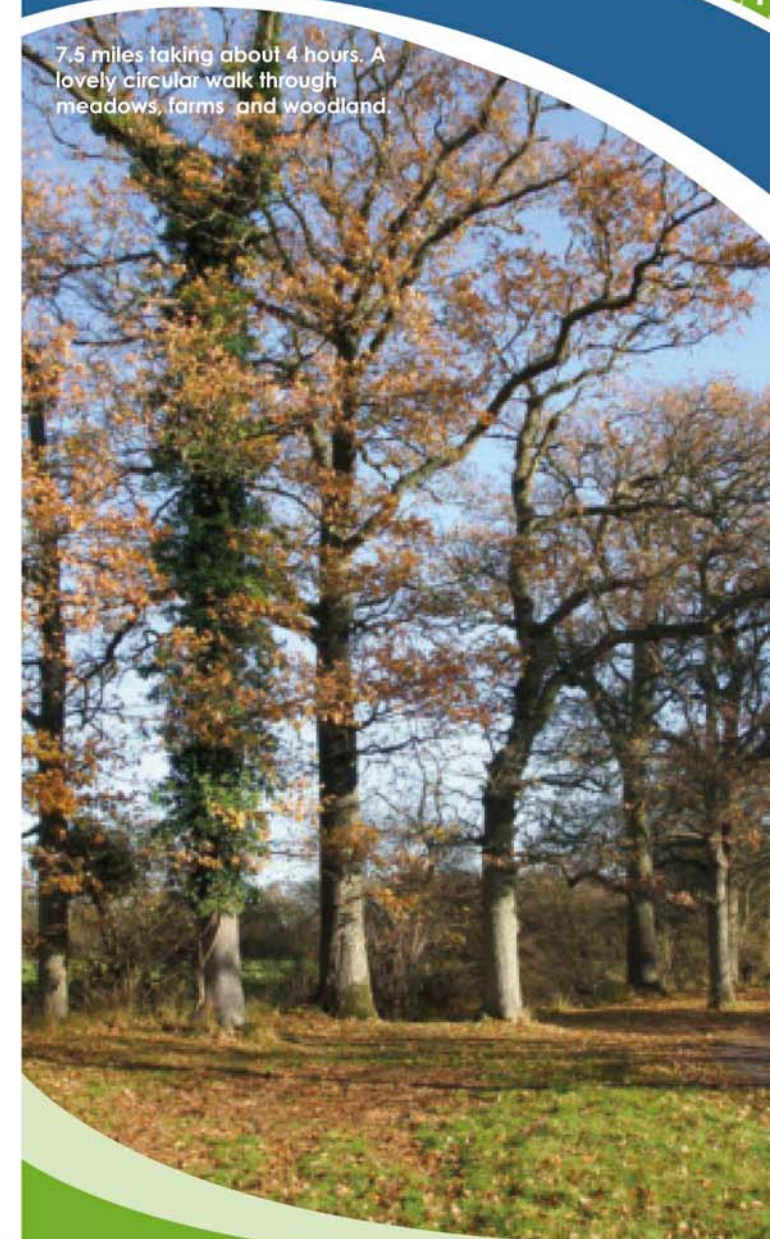
These walks were produced by the Steyning & District Community Partnership with assistance from Hidden Britain South East, and were funded by a lottery grant from Awards For All.

[www.steyningsouthdowns.com](http://www.steyningsouthdowns.com)

# Steyning Walks

## Rural Retreat

7.5 miles taking about 4 hours. A lovely circular walk through meadows, farms and woodland.



[www.steyningsouthdowns.com](http://www.steyningsouthdowns.com)





**H**istoric Steyning, nestling against the inspiring landscape of the South Downs, is well known as one of the most picturesque towns in Sussex.

The town of Saint Cuthman (c750AD), Steyning is rich in history, with scores of timber-framed buildings in and around the ancient High Street, and its excellent museum. It was once a port on the then navigable estuary of the River Adur and was prized by the Normans; their legacy today includes the magnificent parish church and the ruins of the castle in nearby Bramber.

Steyning offers the visitor a fantastic selection of interesting shops (including the award winning Cobblestone Walk), a monthly farmers market and ample free parking. There are also restaurants, pubs and tea rooms offering delicious food and drink, plus a wide selection of great accommodation for the weary traveller.

Rightfully known as a great destination for walkers, Steyning provides easy access to beautiful countryside, the South Downs Way and to other long distance paths. There are also excellent local routes to the mysterious Chanctonbury Ring, the Iron Age hill fort at Cissbury Ring, and delightfully gentle walks through the Adur Valley.

Come and experience Steyning for yourself; the warmest welcome awaits you.



There is always plenty going on in and around Steyning, with events and activities for all tastes. Below is a just a small sample of the many things going on throughout the year:

- **Easter Walking Races**
- **May Fair**
- **Steyning Festival** - May/June
- **Three Forts Challenge** - July
- **Round Hill Romp** - July
- **River Adur Bathtub Race** - August
- **Christmas Late Night Shopping**

There is also the monthly Steyning Farmers Market held on the first Saturday of every month.



For further details and for lots more events please see our website at:  
[www.steyningsouthdowns.com](http://www.steyningsouthdowns.com)

## Walk 1 - Three Ancient Churches Walk

4 miles taking approximately 2 hours.

An easy circular walk exploring three of the ancient village churches of the Adur Valley.

## Walk 2 - River & Countryside Walk

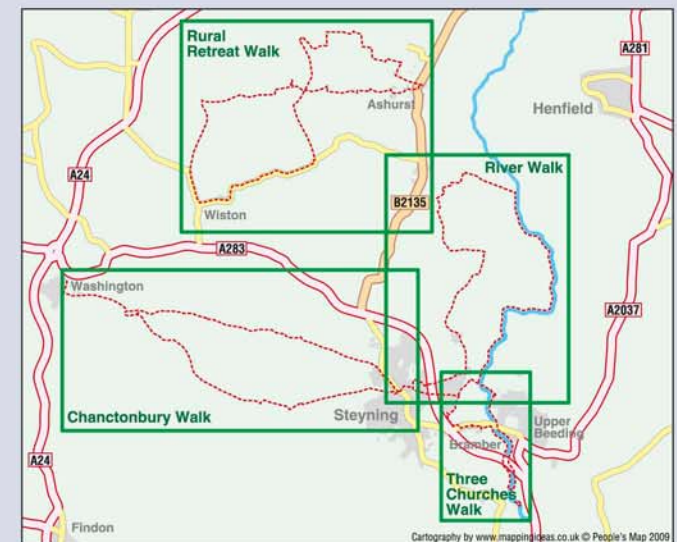
6.5 miles taking approximately 3 hours.

An easy circular walk along the banks of the River Adur, returning to Steyning via the Downslink path.

## Walk 3 - Chanctonbury & Washington Walk

7 miles taking approximately 3-4 hours.

Moderately difficult circular walk with a steep ascent up to the South Downs Way and Chanctonbury Ring, returning via Washington.



## About Us:

The Steyning & District Community Partnership is a voluntary organisation set up as part of a nationwide programme by Action for Market Towns, West Sussex County Council, Horsham District Council and Action in Rural Sussex, to enhance and develop the local community for both residents and visitors.

The information in this leaflet is published in good faith and whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information, Steyning & District Community Partnership cannot be held responsible for any loss, damage or inconvenience caused by errors, omissions or subsequent changes.





## Start

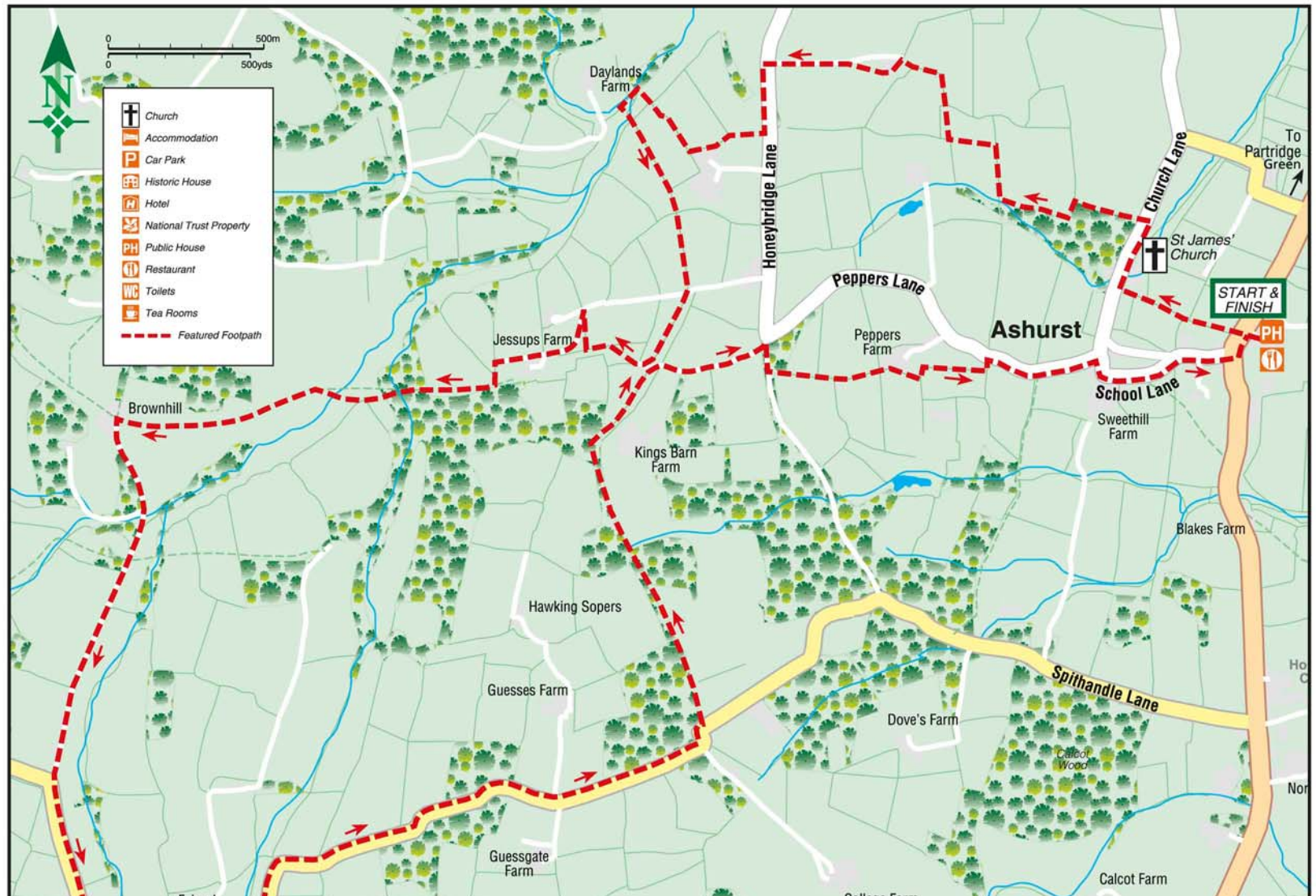
Cross the road in front of the Fountain Inn and take the footpath by the telephone box, walk through a series of paddocks to a lane. Turn right, pass St James' Church on the right and continue to the edge of the woods and take the public footpath over a stile on the left, follow around the edge of two fields (via 2 footpath signs) until you reach another public footpath on the left.

Walk along beside a fenced paddock, and on reaching a 3-way footpath signpost, take the right hand one to pass through a small copse,



and cross a footbridge to an open field, keep to the left until you reach

The walk is about 7.5 miles, taking around 4 hours at a leisurely pace. The route is flat with a number of stiles. It can be muddy in places and boots are advisable. A small part of the route is on country roads so extra care should be taken. There are several places to picnic but the fallen tree mentioned is an ideal spot.





field, keep to the left until you reach Brookwood Farm.

Cross a stile and go through the gate on the left, follow the drive around the house and down to a road. Turn left and walk about 200 metres to a public footpath on the right. Take this path and go straight ahead to a track and turn left passing Honeybridge Farm on the left.



At the end of the track turn right past a concrete trough to a 3-way footpath sign, turn left. Follow this and then soon left again at another 3-way footpath sign. Keep left through 2 open fields, passing into a small copse at the end. The route is straight ahead through a metal gate but just to left in a small glade is a fallen tree, which makes a good stopping point.

Ahead through metal gate and follow the path towards Kings Barn Farm. At the 4-way footpath sign turn right (you pass this point on your return and can turn left for a much shorter walk). After turning right, continue ahead and slightly right to pass through a field gate into a yard area, turn right through a pair of field gates and forward to a track, turn left. At the entrance to a farm, continue ahead through a field gate marked Alternative



Footpath. At the end of the track there are 2 more field gates with a stile on the left, and then another to the right of a gate, to a grassy track. Turn left, and arrive at a small clearing, go straight ahead and slightly right for a few steps. On reaching a footpath sign turn right through woods, initially with high fence on left and eventually to a stile just after a wooden bridge. Cross this and walk right (the path sign points to the exit from this pretty area but the low lying land can be wet so cross to high ground), find a public footpath sign on the right, on the edge of the wood, and cross another wooden bridge.



Follow path ahead through this wood until a stile is reached; ahead through open fields is Brownhills. Go ahead, keeping fence on right and reach a concrete track leading to Wiston. Turn left and walk down to the road (about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile). Turn left, and walk along the road to Spithandle Lane, on the left.



A diversion can be made to Wiston Tea Rooms, which are behind the Post Office a few hundred yards ahead from the junction.

Turn into Spithandle Lane (there is a Victorian water fountain on your right), and walk along the road for about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles, passing a turning and public footpath into Guesses Farm, until around a sharp left hand bend, a wide track ahead, before road turns sharp right, marked Bridleway can be seen.

This is a well kept path, meandering through woods, ignore side path before a gate. Passing through, cross two rough pastures (gate between them), to the 4-way footpath sign at Kings Barn Farm (you were here earlier). Take the right hand path through a field gate; walk through to the road, turning left to a junction. Taking the right hand path, walk through on a track, to a footpath sign on the left, leading to Peppers Farm. Cross the driveway, and three stiles ahead, arriving at Peppers Farm. Keep straight ahead passing another farm, then turn right onto Peppers Lane. At Junction turn right and follow the road back to the Fountain Inn.

