How to get to the start

www.thames-travel.co.uk

By train:

By bicycle:

By car:

By bus:

Free parking is available on the edge of Nettlebed Common near the bus shelter. Call 01865 785400 or visit www.firstgreatwestern.co.uk

Visit or call 01494 771250 for other Chilterns Commons

Photographs kindly provided by © Clive Ormonde

Points of interest

This is one of a series of walks through the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It mainly follows rights of way most of which are waymarked as follows:

- yellow arrow: footpaths (walkers only)
- blue arrow: Brideways (horseriders, cyclists and walkers)
- red arrow: Byways (open to all traffic)
- purple arrow: Restricted Byway (horseriders, cyclists, walkers and non-mechanically propelled vehicles).

Please be considerate in the countryside:

- Keep to public rights of way, and leave farm gates as you find them
- Keep dogs on leads near livestock

There are many other wonderful walks in the Chilterns.

Visit www.chilternsau.co.uk or call 01484 771250 for other Chilterns Country walks.

Learn more about Chilterns commons at www.chilternsau.org/commmons

This leaflet has been produced by the Chilterns Conservation Board as part of the Chilterns Commons Project. The Project benefits from funding by the Heritage Lottery Fund and help from volunteers.

Visit  or call 01844 355500 for other Chilterns Commons walks.

Chilterns Country

Walks on commons near Nettlebed

Discover some Chilterns commons in these circular walks while enjoying beech woods, pretty villages and varied views

10½, 11½ and 17 mile circular walks from Nettlebed

Learn more about Chilterns commons at www.chilternsau.org/commmons

Points of interest

Chilterns Commons

Chilterns Commons Project

LOTTERY FUNDED

These circular walks start and finish at the bus shelter in the centre of Nettlebed. To plan a journey by public transport from anywhere in the country to the starting point, call 0871 200 2233 or visit www.traveline.info

By bicycle: There is a cycle rack in the village.

By train: The nearest station is Henley-on-Thames. Call National Rail Enquiries 0845 600 5165 or visit www.firstgreatwestern.co.uk

By bus: Thames Travel bus 139 stops in the centre of Nettlebed. Call 01865 785400 or visit www.thames-travel.co.uk

By car: Free parking is available on the edge of Nettlebed common near the bus shelter.
Description of route:
The route follows paths and bridleways through commons and woods, and across fields. Some paths are steep and can be muddy in places. There are some stiles. Take care, wear suitable footwear and allow time to rest and enjoy the varied views.

Map: OS Explorer 171

Starting with your back to the four-sided bus shelter in the centre of Nettlebed, walk to your right, cross the main road and follow the access road in front of the houses to the gates. Turn left and, keeping the brick wall on your right, follow the path, over the drive, until it reaches the B481.

Cross the road and follow the bridleway through Lower Common Wood. This track was the old road to Bix.

Keep following the track after it has emerged from the woods then take the second bridleway on the right up a short slope. Follow the track to Bromsden Farm.

At the farm, take the path to the left and walk in front of the house. Go through a field gate and bear right through a second field gate into Tarrywood, carpeted in bluebells each spring.

At the bottom of the slope go straight ahead where the footpath crosses a bridleway and continue into Plassen Wood, part of the National Trust’s Greys Court Estate. Go through a kissing gate on your left and follow the permissive path to another kissing gate. Detour – follow the path on the left to reach Greys Court House and gardens.

Bear left onto Rocky Lane and join the Chiltern Way on the right, over a stile, across a field to another stile. Walk to the right around the cricket pitch to the main road. Turn right and walk along the road.

Approx 100m after the junction, leave the Chiltern Way and take the permissive bridleway on the left running parallel with the road. The path bears to the left and continues through an area of plantation woods on Greys Green golf course, emerging at Peppard Common. Take care crossing the road. The Red Lion is on the right.

Follow the lane to Peppard Hill. The road has no pavement but is quiet. Turn right in front of The Unicorn and follow Colmore Lane beside Kingwood Common.

Approx 250m after ‘Great David’s’ on your left, pass through the field gate on the left and take the footpath on the right. The footpath takes you through Burnt Platt to Bear Wood. Go straight across the road and continue along the footpath in Bush Wood. The footpath brings you to a bend with a lane at the back of Stoke Row. Our route goes back into the wood to the right and bears left down the hill to Newham Hill Bottom. Detour - follow the lane to the left to the centre of Stoke Row for the Maharajah’s Well, The Cherry Tree and a village shop. Along the lane to the right is The Crooked Billet.

Turn left and follow the lane to the end, continuing straight ahead onto the bridleway to English Farm where observant walkers might spot an elephant!

If you are walking the shorter southern circular walk, now return to Nettlebed by following these directions.

Turn right on to the footpath around the back of the traditional barns and go down the slope. At the bottom, go over a stile on the left and follow the path across a large field to another stile.

Once over the stile, bear right and follow the main track until you reach Howberrywood house.

After the house, follow the tarmac track until you reach Nettlebed church.

Turn right and walk up the High Street back to the bus shelter in the centre of Nettlebed.

If you are walking the shorter western circular walk, follow these directions to join the longer walk at point 2.

Starting with your back to the four-sided bus shelter in the centre of Nettlebed, walk to your right, cross the B481 Watlington Road and walk up the High Street to the church.

Immediately after the churchyard, turn left onto a track. Follow the tarmac track to Howberrywood house.

Bear right at the house and follow the track until you reach a junction with six paths. Cross the stile on the left and follow the footpath across a large field to another stile.

Follow the footpath up the slope and around the back of traditional barns to English Farm where observant walkers might spot an elephant!

Take the footpath on the left immediately after the converted barn. After crossing a cattle grid and passing a pond on the left, turn right between a hedge and tennis court. Cross the stile and walk diagonally across the field to another stile. Cross a quiet lane to a third stile. Walk diagonally across the home field to the corner of the garden and enter the wood ahead by another stile.

Follow the path across Iden Heath, cross the road and take the lane sign-posted to Romer Farm, to the King William.

After the pub, take the first track on the right. Continue across fields and through a wood to Woodhouse Farm.

Turn right and follow the bridleway across the wood, up a slope across fields, towards Mongewell Woods. Just before the wood, take the permissive path on the left along the edge of the wood and across the field to a stile.

Over the stile, turn right. Our route now follows the Ridgeway along a spectacular section of Grim’s Ditch. Follow the Ridgeway (identified with an acorn symbol), turning left opposite Nuffield Church, across Nuffield Common (now Huntercombe golf course) and across the A4130. Detour - turn right to reach Nuffield Place, approx 300m on the left.

Go down through a wood and on the other side of the large field, leave the Ridgeway to follow the Chiltern Way on the right through Hazel Wood.

Leaving the Chiltern Way, turn right on the footpath to Digberry Lane. At the junction with a lane by some double bends, go straight ahead and continue straight until you reach the B481.

Turn right and walk approx 50m along the B481 to a footpath on the left. Follow the path straight ahead along the boundary bank on the edge of Nettlebed Common. Bear right at the first fork in the path, cross the first track, at the second track, turn right. Bear left onto a footpath, marked with white arrows on trees, up Windmill Hill. At the top of the hill, the footpath joins a track which leads into Mill Road, which joins the B481 near the centre of the village. Turn left at the T junction to return to the bus shelter.