How to get to the start

The circular walk starts and finishes in Wendover. 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 are cycle shelters at the stations in Wendover and Great Missenden.

By train: Both Wendover and Great Missenden are on the Chiltern Railways line between Marylebone and Great Missenden. Call National Rail Enquiries 0845 600 5165 or visit www.chilternrailways.co.uk

By bus: Ariva run bus services to both Wendover and Great Missenden. Tel 0844 800 4411 or visit www.arrivabus.co.uk Tiger Line operate a service between Wendover and Great Missenden on weekdays only. Tel 01494 774411 or visit www.transportforbucks.net

By car: There are public car parks in both Wendover and Great Missenden.

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.chilternsaonb.org or call 01844 355500 for other Chiltern Country walks.

Visit www.chilternsociety.org.uk or call 01494 771250 for information on the Chiltern Society’s walk programme, to obtain Chiltern Society footpath maps or to join the Society.

Learn more about Chilterns commons at www.chilternsaonb.org/commons

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

Points of interest

- High Street, Wendover
- Beacon Hill

An 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’ Bridleways (horsedokers, cyclists and walkers)
- ‘red arrow’ Byways (open to all traffic)
- ‘purple arrow’ Restricted Byway (horsedokers, cyclists, walkers and non-mechanically propelled vehicles)

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**Description of route:**

The routes, which have been described in an anti-clockwise direction, mainly follow paths across commons, woods and fields, and cross stiles. There are short stretches on lanes, and there are usually pavements in the villages. Some paths are steep and can be muddy in places. Take care, especially when crossing roads, wear suitable footwear and allow time to rest and enjoy the views. Map: OS Explorer 181 and a compass may help.

1. Leave the centre of Wendover by walking in a south-westerly direction from the market place, by the mini-roundabout to cross the bridges over the railway and the bypass. Turn right onto the track leading to a field. Follow the Aylesbury Ring sign-posted route for approx 2 miles across fields (ignoring between Wellwick Farm buildings) until you are directly below Blesbrough church. Take care crossing Chalkshire Road in Butler's Cross.

2. Just past a wooden shed, take the path over the stile up to the church. Go through the churchyard, cross the road and turn right. Very shortly, turn left through a gate and cross the road over the stile. You are directly below Hampden Arms.

3. Cross the drive, go through the gate and, where the path forks, take the left path alongside the barbed wire fence. Keep to this path with the fence on your left until it joins the Ridgeway at a gate. Go through the gate and follow the Ridgeway path (marked with arrows) across the main driveway to Chequers and a minor road.

4. Carry on into the woods and turn right onto the South Bucks Way. Follow the South Bucks Way to the edge of Little Hampden Common and then through the common. On leaving the common, continue in the same direction on a broad path, past a terrace of cottages (where there's a stretch of barns) to the triangular village green with a seat. Map: OS Explorer 181 and a compass may help.

5. Turn right at the seat and follow the Chiltern Way to Hampden House.

6. Go through the gate and turn left. Go through a second gate and along the driveway to the church of St Mary Magdalen on your right. Turn right through the churchyard and leave by the gate behind the church. Follow the footpath straight ahead across fields and a farm road. Continue straight ahead across the next field, cross a narrow tarmac road, cross a field and on to a tarmac access road. Follow this to the left to a crossroads. The Hampden Arms is on your left.

7. Go straight on along Memorial Road for approx 600 m. Follow this road when it turns to the right, then shortly afterwards the footpath on the left signposted to Bryants Bottom.

8. We recommend using a compass on this stage to confirm direction due to the number of unmarked paths on the common. Once over the stile you are on Great Hampden common. Follow the path through the trees taking a left hand fork keeping the common boundary on the left and after a while a post and wire fence on your right (in the trees) until you leave the common by a stile.

9. Turn right at the road and go through a gate marked Denner Farm. Follow the drive to the left and, at the end, go over a stile and across the field. At the far side of the field and before the gate turn left (under a power line) to the road.

10. At the road, turn left and then turn right into a gravel drive after approx 10 m. Go through a double wooden gate by a house and follow the footpath sign behind the house. Cross the field to another stile, go over the stile and cross the next field to a gate. Go through the gate and along a path to a pair of gates just before the road. Go through the gates (do not join the road) and follow the path along the edge of the field. At the corner of the field, go through the hedge and over a stile.

11. Cross the road and follow the footpath through a gate, bearing left across the field to another gate. Take the path across the corner of the woodland to a field. Follow the path to the right alongside the wood, then on a clear path across three fields to a gate. Go through the gate and turn left, following the path through the corner of the field and on to the road (Wycombe Road).

12. Go straight on along residential roads - Sixty Acres Road leading to Honor Road. Cross Nainwood Lane and, continuing in the same direction, take the footpath leading to New Road. At the end of New Road, turn right and follow the Chiltern Heritage Trail along the verge and then turn left beside Andlows Farm.

13. Continue through Angling Spring Wood, keeping to the right where the path forks. At the end of the wood pass Angling Spring Farm (was View Farm) continue downhill along Whitefield Lane. At the end of the lane, turn left onto London Road and into Great Missenden.

14. Walk through Great Missenden, turn left at the mini-roundabout and walk on the pavement until the road forks. Take the left fork, Rignall Road. Continue over the railway bridge to the last house on the right (just before the 40 mph sign).

15. Take the footpath through the gate on your right, across the field, keeping to the left on the first occasion that the path forks. Take the right hand fork when nearing the far side of the field. Go through the gate and bear left across the field to a gate in the hedge. Follow the South Bucks Way signs alongside and then through woods to a tarmac road. Cross the road and take the driveway through a small area of grassy common at Cobblershill Farm.

16. Continue to follow the South Bucks Way to Dunsmore.

17. Go straight on over the crossroads, marked to Dunsmore village only. The road becomes a track into the woods and forks shortly afterwards. Take the right fork on the bridleway between fences and continue past a field on the right into the woods. At the next fork, take the left path, keeping close to the wire fence on your left, then take the uphill path on the left. At the marked cross paths, turn left (there is a yellow arrow on a tree) and this soon comes to a stile at the edge of the wood. Go diagonally across three fields and between houses.

18. Turn right onto the tarmac road and after approx 150 m follow the signed footpath over a stile in the hedge on your left. Cross the field between the pylons. Follow the path over stiles until you reach the road. Turn right to go back into Wendover.