



Pewsey Downs from All Cannings

## Discover Pewsey Vale in Wiltshire on the Pewsey Vale Circular Way Walking Route Approximately 77 miles / 124 kms

A self-guided route taking you on a circular walk with the Vale of Pewsey at its heart.

For online links and additional information, go to  
[www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/discover-pewsey-vale](http://www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/discover-pewsey-vale)

Guide notes prepared by Tim Lewis - Wiltshire Ramblers' Area Footpath Secretary -  
[www.wiltsswindonramblers.org.uk](http://www.wiltsswindonramblers.org.uk)

### Detailed Walking Guide

We have divided the Pewsey Vale Circular Walking route into 7 stages and have assumed an anti-clockwise direction. However if you wish to do the route in a clockwise direction, then the timings for the morning and afternoon won't differ too much, so the order can be reversed. The pace that we have set enables you to take time to admire views, take photos, stop for snacks and all the other things that we like to do when we are out walking!

The walk's gpx file **can be downloaded from the website** for use on your walking app. We have also detailed important information about the route, its waymarking and tricky navigation points, as well as information about preparing before you set off. **We would strongly advise you to read this information** as it will help you as you travel the route.



## Travelling to & from each Stage's Start & End Points

Launched in 2023, Wiltshire Connect is a combination of on-demand and scheduled bus services that covers the entire area and beyond, to Marlborough, Devizes, Tidworth, Avebury and Hungerford. This means that you can now get to the start points for each stage and be picked up at the end of the stage without the need for complicated car shares or lifts (the only tricky one is Bishops Cannings as it is outside the on-demand area). We have indicated the closest on-demand stops for each stage.

To book a bus, call 01225 712900 or use the app (look for Wiltshire Connect). Once you have a booking, you can follow its progress on the app whilst you wait.

There are lots of designated pick up and drop off points across the area for you to choose from, making the service extremely convenient. The air-conditioned buses are low floor and wheelchair accessible.

For more information go to: <https://www.connectingwiltshire.co.uk/getting-around/bus/wiltshire-connect/>

There is plenty of travel information, including the Wiltshire Connect bus service, at <https://www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/travel-services/>





# PEWSEY VALE CIRCULAR WAY WAYMARKER GUIDE

WALKING ROUTE

WALKING  
& CYCLING & RIDING ROUTE

CYCLING & RIDING ROUTE



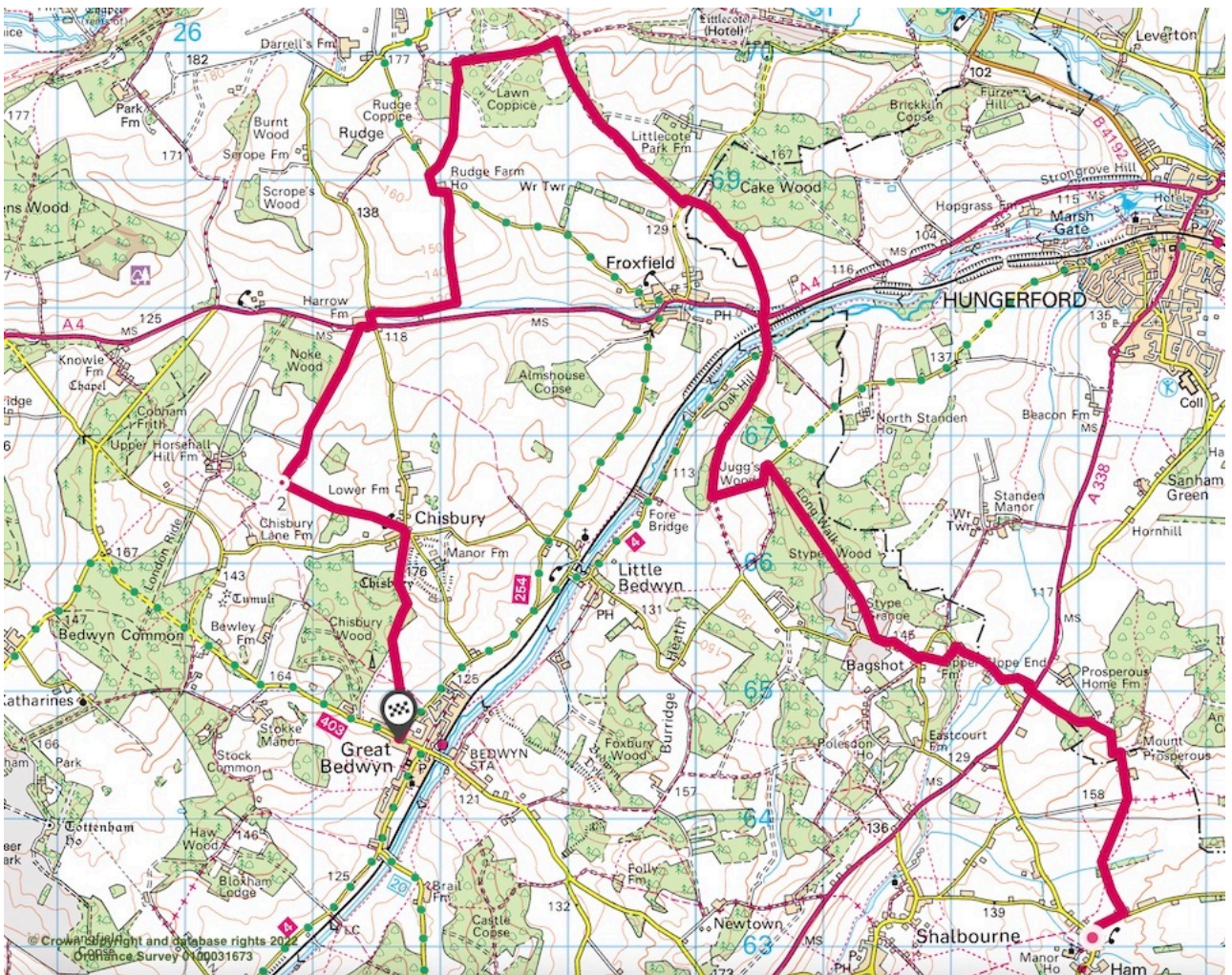
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View from Oxenwood across the valley



Stage 1	Ham to Great Bedwyn	11.5 miles 18.5 kms	Packed lunch or at pub
Arrive at start point by 10am			
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Ham to Froxfield		5 miles / 8 kms	2 hours
Lunch at the Pelican Inn			1.5 hours
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Froxfield to Great Bedwyn		6.5 miles / 10.5 kms	3 hours
End of Stage 1 - meet your pick up at the agreed location or stay at local accommodation			
<b>Places of Interest</b> <b>On the route:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ham Village</li> <li>• Wansdyke</li> <li>• All Saints' Church in Ham</li> <li>• Chisbury - St Martin's Chapel &amp; Chisbury Camp</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Bedwyn - <u>St Mary's Church</u> and the tomb of the Seymour Family</li> </ul> <b>Further afield:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wilton Windmill</li> <li>• Crofton Beam Engines</li> <li>• Littlecote Roman villa &amp; mosaic</li> </ul>	





## Ham to Froxfield

Maps: OS Explorer 158, OS Landranger 174

Distance: 5 miles, 8 kms

Facing the Crown and Anchor pub, turn left, then immediately bear right along the road signposted to Inkpen and Newbury. Turn left onto a track to Field House, and when this very soon turns right to the house, continue ahead through a squeeze stile into a field. Walk through this and the next field, then just beyond a line of trees go diagonally right across the next one. Follow the clear path uphill to a road.

Enter the driveway to Mount Prosperous and walk towards the house (the footpath is to the left of the drive until you near the house). Follow the drive round to the left, then turn right into an open area. As you approach a wood to your left keep a look out for a low marker post. Fork left off the tarmac drive at the post and follow a clear path through the wood to a road (the A338).

Turn right along the pavement for 50m, then cross over carefully to take a short footbridge and stile into a field. Aim for some wooden fencing slightly to the left. Go through a squeeze stile and straight across a small field to a stile onto a road. Turn right. Just past a large, square, brick house turn left onto a footpath. Follow this round the house's garden, then up into an open area to reach a junction of the continuation of the road you have just left.

Take the road ahead through Bagshot then turn right off it down a green track. When this turns right at a pair of cottages, continue ahead through a kissing gate to the Long Walk (which is well named!). This passes through woodland and is mostly level.



Ham Village Green



The Crown & Anchor, Ham



Great Bedwyn



At a junction of tracks, turn left onto a byway, then soon right onto a bridleway. At a crossroads of paths, turn right onto another byway. When this reaches a road, continue ahead along it. Cross the Kennet and Avon canal followed by the railway to arrive at the A4, just to the west of the Pelican Inn in Froxfield.

Wiltshire Connect on-demand bus stops: Crown & Anchor Ham & Froxfield Church Road

**Froxfield to Great Bedwyn**  
**Maps: OS Explorer 158 & 157, OS Landranger 174**  
**Distance: 7.2 miles, 11.7 kms**

With your back to the Pelican Inn in Froxfield, turn right along the A4. Cross the A4 with great care, using the traffic calming islands, turn right along the pavement and climb steps on your left to a stile. This can be bypassed by going through a demolished fence to its right. Take the path which goes right and wanders through a small copse to a stile. Cross this and continue up the left-hand side of the field you have entered. When the hedge veers away to the left proceed across open ground towards a wood. Turn left at the wood and walk up a gravel path beside it to a road, joining a track which comes in from the right in the process. There are some lovely views along this section. At the road, kink left then right and walk up the side of two large fields with a wood to your right. Continue downhill on a dirt track to arrive at a Ramsbury Estate information board.

Turn left here along a track with trees now to your left. The surface soon changes to degraded tarmac. At a crossroads of tracks, where there is another Ramsbury Estate information board, turn left on a concrete track. When this arrives at a junction of tracks, turn left for a few metres, then right onto a wide, grassy track through a wood (Rudge Coppice). Follow the track round to the left, then go immediately right into a field. Walk down its left-hand side to a road. Turn left, and just after passing Rudge Farm to your left, turn right onto an enclosed bridleway. This descends gradually to a fence. Turn right (the path is next to the fence) and walk parallel to the A4 to a road. Turn left up to the A4.

Turn right along it on the pavement provided. When this runs out, cross the A4 and walk up a signed bridleway (Monk's Lane), with a red brick garden wall on your left, towards Noke Wood. The route ahead is just inside the wood on your right, however this can get very overgrown and walkers have made their own path (which is not a right of way) along the edge of the adjoining field.



At the end of the wood, continue ahead on a path which follows the line of telegraph poles. At a fence, turn left for a few metres, then right at a field corner. A gentle rise takes you to another field corner, where you turn left towards Chisbury. Dip down, then up, with a pond to the right. At the corner of the field, go through a gap in the hedge. Walk along the right-hand edge of the field until arriving at a stile. Cross this and walk between fences to another stile. Follow the enclosed path past the back gardens of houses, keeping left at an open area, to a road junction in Chisbury.

Take the road up the side of the grass triangle signposted to Great Bedwyn, then after 50m, take a signed path on the right over a sturdy stile. Head for a field gate opposite, then go half right across the next field towards the corner of Park Copse/Chisbury Wood. Go over the stile and walk with the wood on the right for 250m. Ignore what appears to be a stepless stile chewed by horses into the wood after 200m or so. Go over a stile into the wood and follow the winding path. When it emerges into a field, turn right and go through a gap into the next field.



Signpost north of Ramsbury



Take the path diagonally left through the field. (If this has impenetrable crops in it, continue on the path uphill with the wood to your right, then turn left at the telecoms mast along the field boundary). Cross a path which goes towards the telecoms mast, go down wooden steps into another field and continue in the same direction to a short, enclosed pathway to a road.

Turn right along this to the main road through Great Bedwyn, with the Three Tuns pub to your right. Turn left downhill to the village square, where this stage ends.

Wiltshire Connect on-demand bus stops: Froxfield Church Road & Great Bedwyn The Square



Littlecote Roman Villa

Chisbury Chapel





<b>Stage 2</b>	<b>Great Bedwyn to Wootton Rivers</b>	<b>7 miles / 11.3 kms - way marked route 9.5 miles / 15.3 kms - via Savernake Forest</b>	<b>Buy packed lunch at the Post Office in Great Bedwyn or lunch at The Royal Oak in Wootton Rivers</b>
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There are two routes that you can take for Stage 2. The longer route takes you into Savernake Forest - this part of the Pewsey Vale Circular Way is not way marked in the forest. This ancient forest is steeped in history and is also a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

**Itinerary for waymarked route:**

Arrive at start point by 10am		
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Great Bedwyn to Wootton Rivers	7 miles / 11.3 kms	3.5 hours
Lunch at The Royal Oak in Wootton Rivers		1.5 hours
End of Stage 2 - meet your pick up at the agreed location or stay at local accommodation		

**Itinerary for non-waymarked route into Savernake Forest:**

This assumes an anti-clockwise direction - just reverse the information for the clockwise direction.

Arrive at Start Point by 10am		
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Great Bedwyn to St Katharine's (SU 252 649) Take the diversion from St Katharine's into Savernake Forest and onwards to rejoin the way marked route at Durley (SU 237 641)	6.2 miles / 10 kms	3 hours
Stop for packed lunch - perhaps in Savernake Forest		1 hour
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Durley to Wootton Rivers	3.3 miles / 5.3 kms	2 hours
End of Stage 2 - meet your pick up at the agreed location or stay at local accommodation		

**Places of Interest**

**On the route:**

- Great Bedwyn - [St Mary's Church](#) and the tomb of the Seymour Family
- [Savernake Forest](#)
- [Kennet & Avon Canal](#)
- [Burbage Wharf](#)

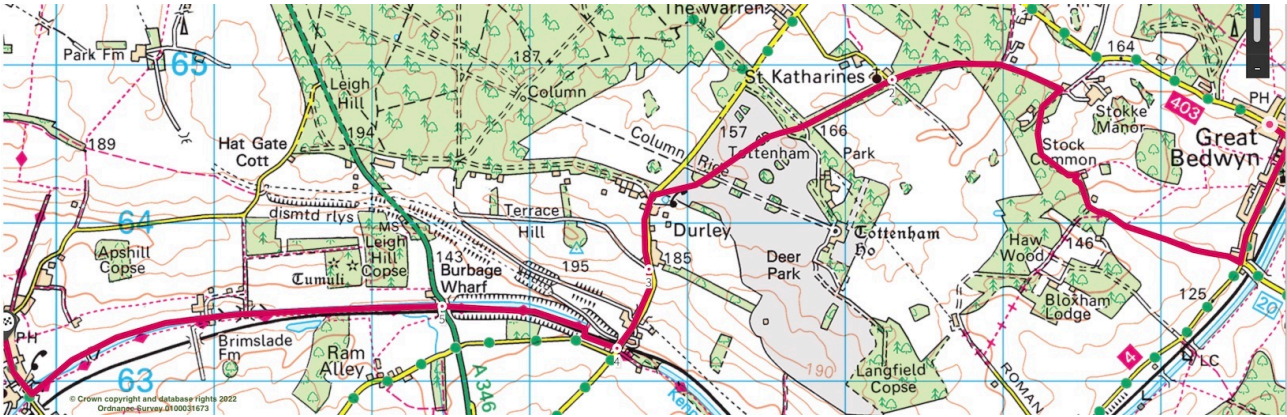
- Wootton Rivers - [St Andrew's Church](#) with the crooked steeple and Jack Spratt's clock

**Further afield:**

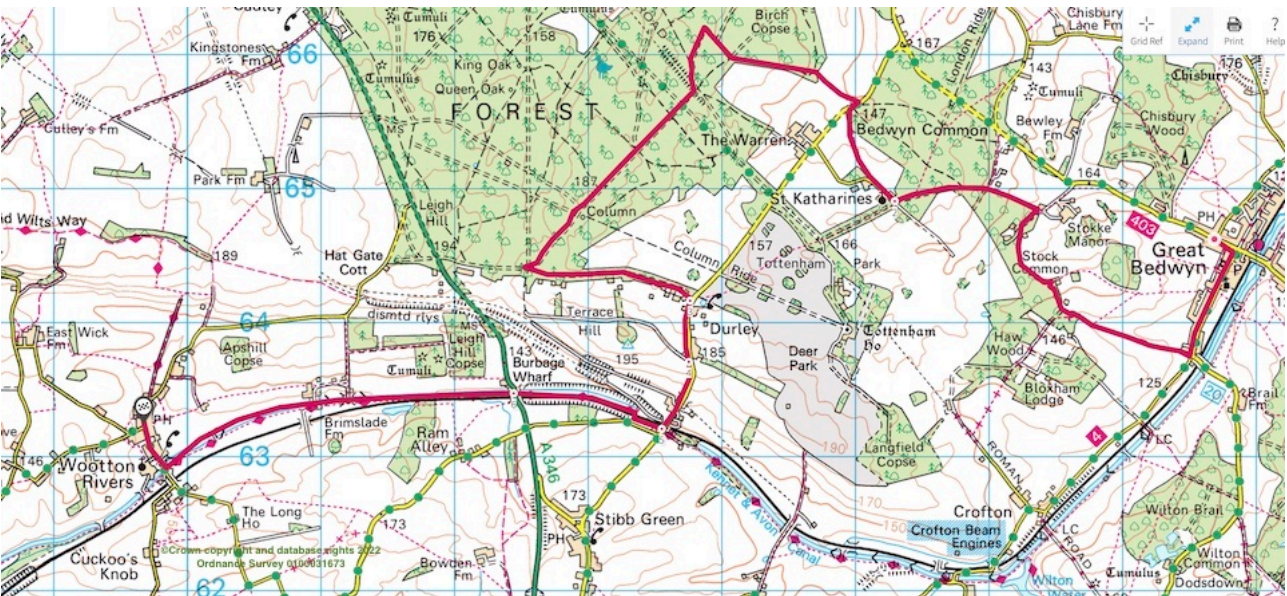
- [Wilton Windmill](#)
- [Crofton Beam Engines](#)



## Stage 2 - Great Bedwyn to Wootton Rivers - waymarked route



## Stage 2 - Great Bedwyn to Wootton Rivers with diversion into Savernake Forest



### Great Bedwyn to Wootton Rivers (waymarked route)

Maps: OS Explorer 157, OS Landranger 174 & 173

Distance: 7 miles, 11.3 kms

Head away from Great Bedwyn's village square along Church Street. When the road bends sharp left over a bridge, turn right along Hatchet Lane. At a junction of paths, bear slightly right (ahead). At another junction, with a house (and footpath) to right, turn left along a straight track, which gradually bends to the right, with woods to the left and Stock Common to the right.



There is a T junction in front of a couple of houses. Turn left here, soon passing a London bus stop on the left!

Follow the track through more woodland and past the imposing St Katherine's church on the right. Eventually reach a wooden kissing gate. Go through this and across the access road to Tottenham House. The route now opens out and crosses fields, also passing through a copse. Cross another access road to Tottenham House, at which point look right to spot the Ailesbury Column a considerable way down Savernake Forest's Grand Avenue.

Soon after, arrive at a road, turn left and walk through Durley. Cross a bridge over a dismantled railway at the bottom of a slope. Continue across another bridge over the current Pewsey to London railway, then immediately turn right along a path, with an extensive property on the left (which used to be a hotel). Soon descend steps to go through a low tunnel under the railway. You join the Kennet & Avon canal here at the end of the Bruce Tunnel. Pass under the A346 at Burbage Wharf. Continue on the towpath past four bridges over the canal, each accompanied by a lock. At the fourth bridge, number 108, leave the towpath and turn right across the bridge to join Wootton River's main street. Walk along this for 250m past the village hall on your left to arrive at the Royal Oak pub on your right where you reach the end of this stage.

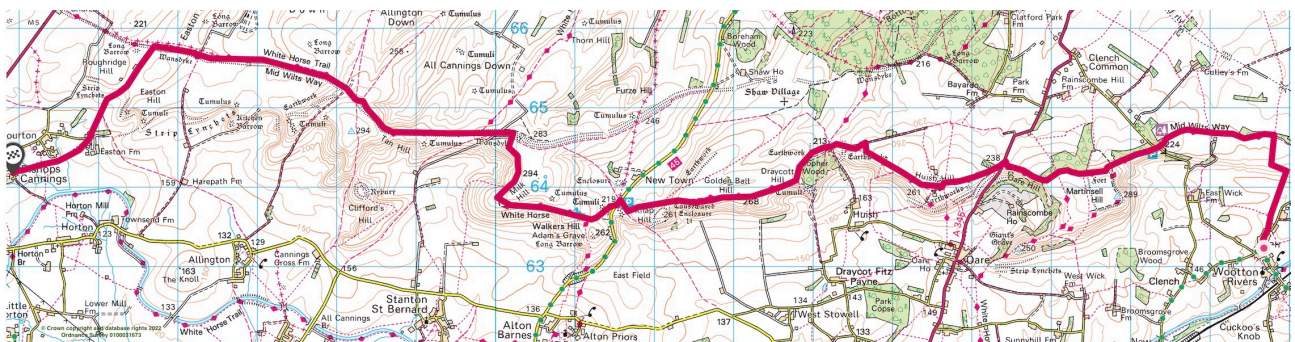
Wiltshire Connect on-demand bus stops: Great Bedwyn The Square & Wootton Rivers Lock



Lock Keeper's Cottage at Wootton Rivers



Stage 3	Wootton Rivers to Bishops Cannings	13 miles 21 kms	Packed lunch or lunch at Honeystreet Mill Cafe
Arrive at Start Point by 10am			
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Wootton Rivers to Knap Hill Car Park		7 miles / 11.3 kms	3.5 hours
Stop for packed lunch or allow more time to walk down to Honeystreet to the Honeystreet Mill Cafe		Honeystreet Mill Cafe is 1.5 miles / 2.4 kms from the Pewsey Vale Circular Way, diverting off at Walkers Hill.	Lunch plus walking of 3 miles / 4.8 kms - approximately 2.5 hours in total
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Knap Hill Car Park to Bishops Cannings		6 miles / 9.7 kms	3 hours
End of Stage 3 - meet your pick up at the agreed location or stay at local accommodation			
<p><b>Places of Interest</b>  <b>On the route:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Wootton Rivers - St Andrew's Church</u> with the crooked steeple and Jack Spratt's clock</li> <li>• <u>Martinsell Hill</u></li> <li>• <u>Adam's Grave</u> on Walkers Hill</li> <li>• <u>Pewsey Downs National Nature Reserve</u></li> <li>• <u>Alton White Horse</u></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>The Wansdyke</u></li> <li>• <u>Bishops Cannings - Church of St Mary the Virgin</u></li> </ul> <p><b>Further afield:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honeystreet - <u>Crop Circle Exhibition</u></li> <li>• Honeystreet - <u>Honeystreet Mill Cafe</u></li> <li>• Woodborough - <u>Woodborough Yard</u></li> </ul>	





**Wootton Rivers to Knap Hill Car Park**  
**Maps: OS Explorer 157, OS Landranger 173**  
**Distance: 7 miles, 11.3 kms**

Mud Lane (see below) is well-named and can be very unpleasant at its worst, which tends to be in the winter. As an alternative to slipping and sliding along it, it is possible to reach the small car park mentioned below by taking quiet country roads, which also provide good views of Martinsell Hill. To do so, go up the metalled road opposite the Royal Oak pub, and after 50 metres or so turn right (signposted Clench Common and East Wick). Follow this road for 0.8 miles (1.3 km), passing East Wick Farm to right on the way, to arrive at a junction to left (signposted New Mill and Milton Lilbourne). Follow the road round to right here (signposted Martinsell Hill and Marlborough) and after 0.6 miles (1 km) arrive at the small car park to left, with Mud Lane to your right.

If you wish to stick to the official route, with your back to the Royal Oak pub, turn right up the metalled road. After 150m, fork left by a house named Martinsell up a green bridleway. Follow this until it enters a field, where you turn left along its edge, then right at the field corner to reach the well-named Mud Lane at the top. Here it is worth making a small detour: if you turn right along Mud Lane for perhaps 15m you will see, carved onto the end of a tree stump at head height to your left, the lugubrious face of the Green Man. Now turn round and go west along Mud Lane, counting off three vast fields to your left, with a barn between the second and third, to reach a metalled road, on the other side of which is a small car park.

The Way now goes through access land so you can make your own way through it, but the recommended route is that taken by the Mid Wilts Way. Go through the gate beyond the car park and walk to where the woods on your right end. Continue ahead, climbing to the top of the hill, with more woods on your left. Turn right, with fence to left, and follow the path through another gate and onwards into woodland. At a signposted crossroads of paths, go straight on, in the direction of Oare Hill, still in woodland. Emerge onto a clear track, at which point you join the White Horse Trail, and turn right down it to arrive at the A345.

Cross carefully and turn left along the bridleway, which is also the driveway of Huish Hill House. Veer left after the entrance to Huish Down Farm (to right) and then right to arrive at the point where the drive sweeps to the left, and there is a track which goes straight on. You are faced with the choice of taking the right of way, which departs from the drive to the right after 30m or so, or taking the track straight on. The right of way can get so overgrown as to be impassable, but the track can get extremely muddy in wet weather.



The Green Man in Mud Lane

Pass through a bridle or field gate at the end, depending on your choice, into a field. Cross it, veering slightly right towards another gate (you rejoin the White Horse Trail at this point). The superb views of the Pewsey Downs enjoyed on the last section of the Circular Way are repeated here. Go through the gate, with a fence to the left, and walk along the edge of the large field beyond. Follow the fence round to the right, go through a gate and immediately turn left through another one. Walk gently downhill on a sunken track between earthworks until you reach a crossroads of paths beyond a gate, just to the north of Gopher Wood. (Here you leave the White Horse Trail again).

Pass through a wooden gate beyond the crossroads and continue slightly uphill to a stile. Here go left then right round two sides of the field next to Gopher Wood to cross the stile at the top. Go half left here, aiming for the signpost in front of the left-hand tree in the distance, then right on reaching it to go along a ridge of hills through several more fields, with the route being clearly waymarked. More fabulous views of the Pewsey Vale open up to the left along this ridge. As you start to go downhill, arrive at a gate into the last field before the Knap Hill car park, with Knap Hill itself prominent to your left. Follow the path through the centre of the field to a gate in the far fence, and turn right after this into the car park and the end of this stage.



**Knap Hill Car Park to Bishops Cannings**  
**Maps: OS Explorer 157, OS Landranger 173**  
**Distance: 6 miles, 9.7 kms**

The route continues to follow the Mid Wilts Way. Crossing the Alton Barnes to Lockeridge road from the Knap Hill car park. Go through a metal bridle gate, then a metal kissing gate immediately to the left. Follow the well beaten track through two more metal kissing gates. Turn half right, with Adams Grave and Walkers Hill to your left, to join an obvious path beside, or on top of, a low earthwork. The White Horse Trail comes in from the left just beyond Walkers Hill. Continue on this path along the contour line for 700m to arrive at the top of the Alton Barnes White Horse.

Continue through the gate beyond and follow the contour of the hillside. There are tremendous views of the Pewsey Vale to the left on this section, and to the right is Milk Hill, the highest point in Wiltshire at 295m (968ft). Go right in a tight semi-circle round the stunted trees and bushes on the shoulder of Milk Hill to pass through a gate beyond. Follow the ridge in a broad semi-circle to the left, passing through a second gate, then turn right through a third one. Shortly after this, arrive at a wide track, where the Wansdyke Path comes in from the right but the Pewsey Downs Nature Reserve is left behind.



**Sunrise at Knap Hill**  
*Courtesy of David White*



Cross the track and go over a stile onto the iron-age fortification known as the Wansdyke. Turn left along it to a cross track. (This section gets badly overgrown in the summer, in which case turn left down the track). After a few metres downhill on the cross track, rejoin the Wansdyke via a small wooden gate to the right. It will be your companion for several miles.

After approximately 1¼ mile (2 km) walking along the Wansdyke, enjoying the superb views on both sides, and passing through two gates in the process, arrive at a third gate on the right in the corner of a field. Go through this. The official route continues immediately to your left beside the Wansdyke, but is often too overgrown to follow. If this is the case, go down the track beyond the gate for 20m and through a field gate to join a stony track parallel to the Wansdyke. Go left down this to arrive at a T junction after 100m or so. Turn left towards a gate leading to Manor Farm, then almost immediately right through another gate to return to the top of the Wansdyke.

Descend and continue, to arrive at two barns after just under 1 mile (1.6 km), going through two gates and a stile in the process. As you pass the first barn, go over a stile, then turn right over the track leading to it, then left past the second barn to rejoin the Wansdyke after yet another gate. Cross a track where the equestrian route goes left and continue ahead. On arriving at another track, turn left along it and slowly descend to meet a road opposite the entrance to Easton Farm house. Go right along the road for 25m then left through a kissing gate.

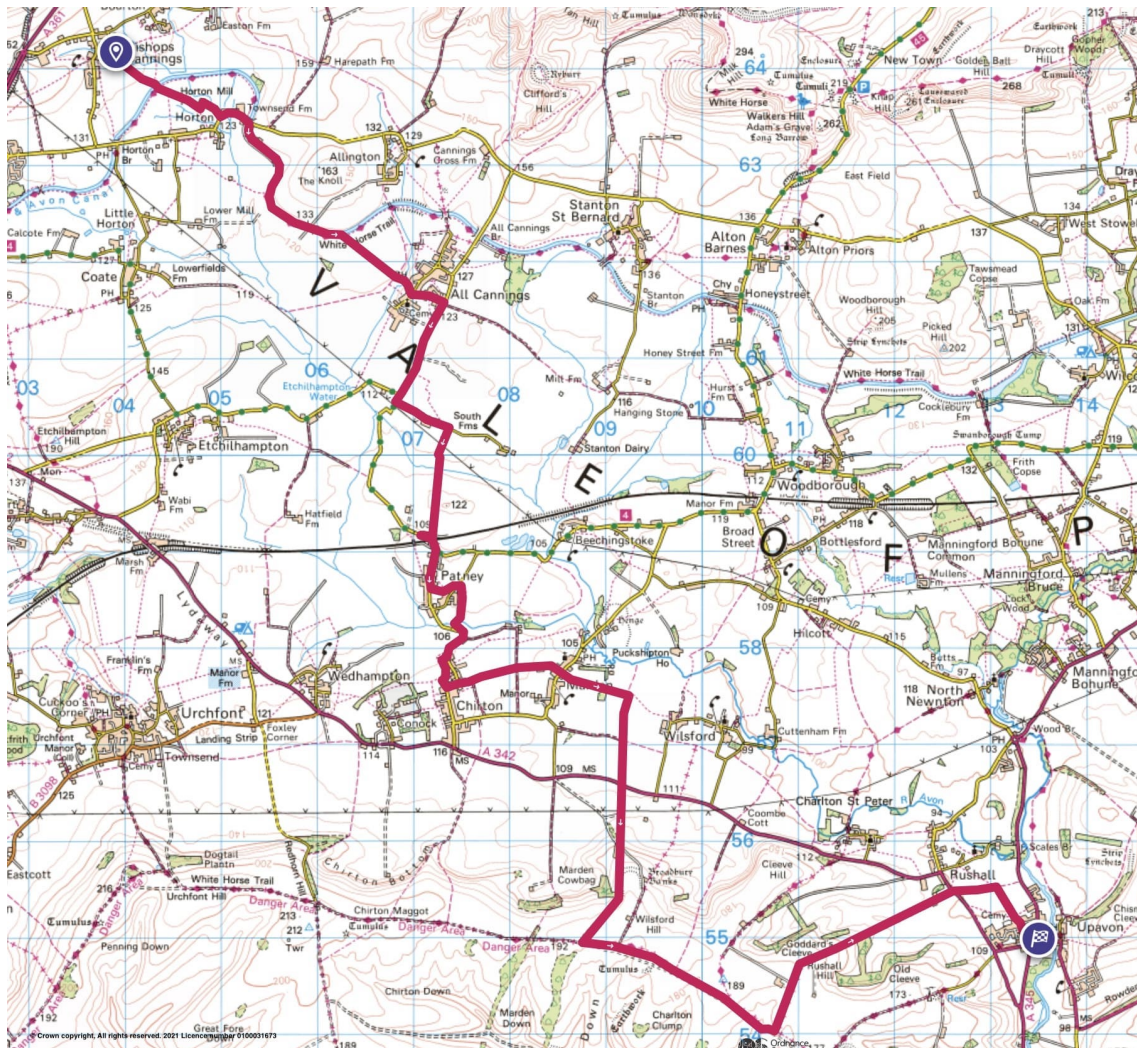
Follow this footpath through several pedestrian and kissing gates. After crossing two footbridges in quick succession, turn right and walk along the right-hand edge of a field, ignoring a pedestrian gate to the right. Soon reach a wooden gate and signpost, where you turn left towards Horton. Cross another footbridge and continue across the field to come out on a road in Bishops Cannings. Turn left for a few metres to another road (The Street), where this stage ends.

If in need of refreshment, continue down Church Walk and through the graveyard, with the church to the right, to arrive at the Crown Inn.

Wiltshire Connect bus stops: Wootton Rivers Lock & scheduled services 9 or 49 at Bishops Cannings



Stage 4	Bishops Cannings to Upavon	13 miles 21 kms	Packed lunch or at pub
Arrive at Start Point by 10am.			
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Bishops Cannings to Marden		7 miles / 11.3 kms	3.5 hours
Lunch at The Millstream in Marden or allow more time and have lunch at The Seven Stars in Bottlesford		Depends on lunch venue	From 1.5 to 3 hours
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Marden to Upavon		6 miles / 9.7 kms	3 hours
End of Stage 4 - meet your pick up at the agreed location or stay at local accommodation			
<b>Places of Interest</b> <b>On the route:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Bishops Cannings - Church of St Mary the Virgin</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Kennet &amp; Avon Canal</a></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Marden Henge</a></li> </ul> <b>Further afield:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Woodborough - Woodborough Yard</a></li> </ul>	





**Bishops Cannings to Marden**  
**Maps: OS Explorer 157 & 130 (north sheet), OS Landranger 173**  
**Distance: 7 miles, 11.3 kms**

Starting from the Crown Inn, walk through the churchyard and down the lane beyond to arrive at The Street. Turn right along the road, and when it turns right continue ahead on a concrete track to the Kennet & Avon Canal. Cross it via the swing bridge. Continue on the other side along an enclosed path. Cross a concrete track and maintain direction across the field. At the hedge corner to the left, go through a gate, turn right and follow the path round the paddock edge. Exit via another gate and turn right down the drive to Hopton Mill Farm.

At the road, turn left, pass Townsend Farm on the right and proceed uphill towards the bridge over the K & A Canal. Rather than crossing it, bear right onto the canal tow path. Accompany the canal for just over a mile (1.6 kms), passing a swing bridge and going under the Allington bridge. 350m after the bridge, look for a footpath going off at 2 o'clock towards All Cannings church. Cross a large field on this path and enter All Cannings on an enclosed path which then veers slightly left through a paddock. After a wooden fence, turn right along a short path, then bear left along a road which leads to the main road through the village.

Cross over and walk past the village green containing a children's play area, then the primary school, both to the right. At the T junction of roads by the cemetery, turn right. Pass the drive to Manor Farm to the right, then a gated drive on the left. Continue straight ahead, passing the turning signposted to Etchilhampton to your right. Shortly after this turning, there is a field with a double gate on your left and a turning to South Farm. Go down this lane and continue past South Farm for about 50m and then turn sharp right across the field.

Continue ahead at the internal field corner, with the field boundary to the right. Enter another large field and walk along the divider on the right, climbing a little, to a stile with stone steps in the far corner, beneath the road which approaches Patney railway bridge. To cross the railway, it is necessary to turn right down the track beyond to then turn sharp left onto the road over the bridge.



Continue through the village. Keep a look out for a (often very muddy) bridleway to the left, and follow this to a road. Turn left for a short distance then turn right into a field. The path passes the back of a substantial house. At the end of a small copse, turn right through a gate and head half left to a wooden bridge across the stream. Turn half left again to arrive at a right-hand bend in the road you left earlier.

Turn right along the road. Just after the first houses of Chirton on the left, turn right and walk round the back of the houses into a field. Follow the path round the left-hand side of the field past the church to a gate giving access to the churchyard. Walk through this to a road. Turn left along this, but when it turns sharp left by Corner House, continue ahead along a bridleway with a concrete surface. Cross a track and enter a field through a gate with stone supports. Cross a stile in the field corner onto a wide unsurfaced lane which is initially partially blocked by vehicles, but eventually brings you out onto the main road through the village of Marden. The Millstream pub is approx. 200m to the left. This is the end of this stage.

Wiltshire Connect bus stops: Scheduled services 9 or 49 at Bishops Cannings & Marden, Devizes

**Marden to Upavon**  
**Maps: OS Explorer 130 (north sheet), OS Landranger 173**  
**Distance: 5.9 miles, 9.5 kms**

The start is approximately 200m south of the Millstream pub. Go down a path between two walls opposite the road running down the side of Marden Grange. Pass through a metal kissing gate and two fields with a kissing gate between them to a third kissing gate. Go through this, across a small field, over a footbridge, across a second field and over another footbridge. At a cross tracks soon after, turn right onto a slightly elevated path and follow this to the A342.

Cross this with care and take the bridleway on the other side. This soon begins to climb steadily, veers to the right after some 400m and at the top emerges into an open area. Veer to the right again and follow the path to meet the military road which runs along the edge of the Salisbury Plain Training Area. Strictly speaking the byway you need to turn left onto runs through a yard containing a walled silage storage facility and continues through a gap in its corner, but it is more practical and less malodorous to walk to the military road and turn left when you reach it. You can then veer across the grass on the left to walk on the byway some 40m away if desired.



Follow this undulating terrain past three byways which disappear off to the left. Turn left on to the fourth one, which is near the top of a slope and a flag post. Pass a group of barns to the left (which are clearly visible from the byway and military road), after which the track becomes a metalled road. Pass the turn off for the Chalk wedding venue on the right and continue to meet the A342 just south of Rushall. Cross it and go straight ahead along the edge of a large green field. Two thirds of the way along it, turn right on to a path which takes you to the edge of Upavon. Continue ahead along a narrow road between houses. At a junction with a wider road, turn right along Chapel Lane. At the T junction with the main road, turn left past The Antelope pub to the centre of Upavon, where this stage ends opposite The Ship Inn

Wiltshire Connect bus stops: Marden, Devizes & Upavon The Ship Inn



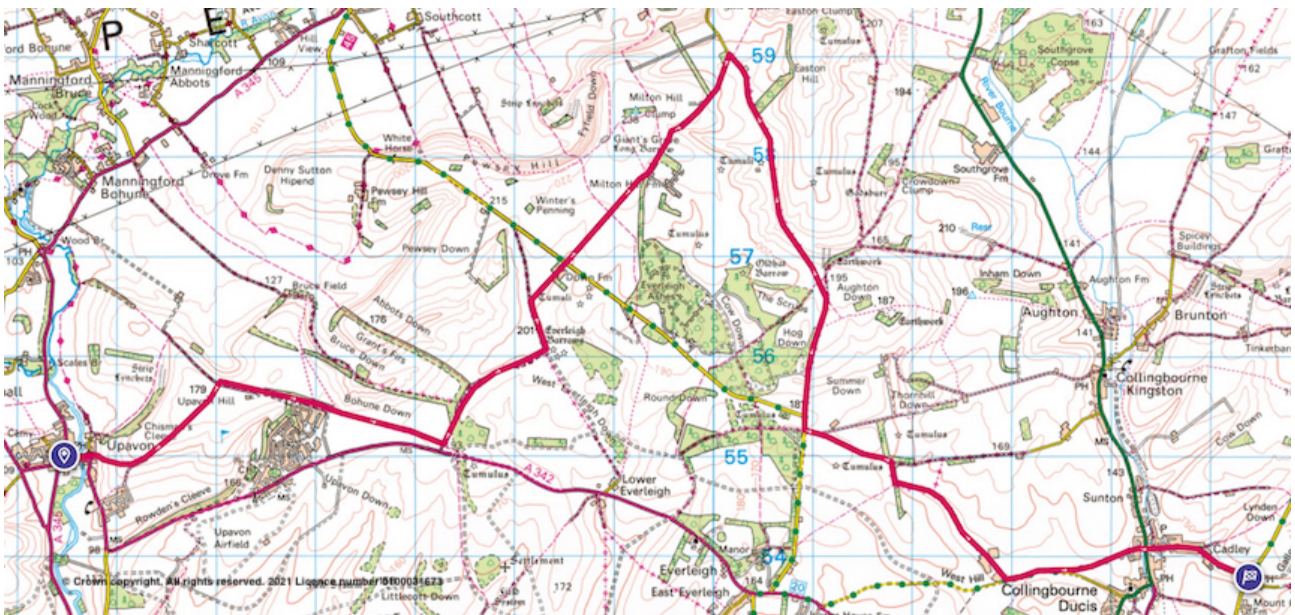
The Wansdyke towards  
Bishops Cannings

Pewsey Vale from Knap Hill  
*Courtesy of David White*





Stage 5	Upavon to Collingbourne Ducis	11.5 miles 18.5 kms	Packed lunch required
Arrive at Start Point by 10am.			
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Upavon to Milton Hill		5.9 miles / 9.5 kms	3 hours
Stop for packed lunch			1 hour
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Milton Hill to Collingbourne Ducis		5.6 miles / 9 kms	2.5 hours
End of Stage 5 - meet your pick up at the agreed location or stay at local accommodation			
<b>Places of Interest</b> <b>On the route:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Giant's Grave Long Barrow Milton Hill</u></li> </ul>		<b>Further afield:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pewsey - <u>Pewsey White Horse</u></li> </ul>	





### **Upavon to Milton Hill**

**Maps: OS Explorer 130 (north sheet) & 131 (north sheet), OS Landranger 173**

**Distance: 5.9 miles, 9.5 kms**

You will need to arrange your own transport to get to and from the end of this stage at Milton Hill; this is accessed via a surfaced road from Milton Lilbourne.

This is a glorious downland walk with extensive views! From Upavon's village shop, go past the Ship Inn and turn left along the road pavement, signposted Everleigh. Cross a bridge over the Avon, and where the A342 turns sharp right, with a minor road going off to the left, go continue ahead on a footpath between houses. There follows a long, steady ascent up Upavon Hill. Continue past a golf course (to the right) and at a T junction of paths turn right on a track, keeping the golf course to your right. Go past an army barracks and continue through open land, slowly converging with the A342.

When you are only a short distance from the road, turn sharp left and follow the track through a wood called Grant's Firs, then in a wide arc to the right, on a rutted track, with the ruts getting ever deeper. At another T junction of tracks, follow the ruts round to the left, with pig huts visible in the distance. Just before you reach the pig huts, turn right, whereupon more pig huts appear on the left. Pass Down Farm and arrive at a surfaced road (between Pewsey and Everleigh).

Cross the road and walk on a solid track towards Milton Hill Farm. Keep ahead when the track turns right towards the farm yard. Finally, some 1¼ miles after leaving the surfaced road, arrive at a three way junction after a steady descent, where there are a dozen or so beehives in the corner of the field on the right. This is the end of this stage.

Wiltshire Connect bus stops: Upavon The Ship Inn & Milton Lilbourne Village Hall



Pewsey Vale from Milton Hill



**Milton Hill to Collingbourne Ducis**  
**Maps: OS Explorer 131 (north sheet), OS Landranger 173**  
**Distance: 5.1 miles, 8.2 kms**

If continuing straight on from the last stage, turn sharp right at the three way junction. If arriving from Milton Lilbourne, continue straight on. In both cases, the beehives will be on your right, and after a few yards some barns will be on your left. The lengthy diversion to the north the PVCW has taken is necessary to avoid going through a MoD danger area, and we are now travelling broadly southwards.

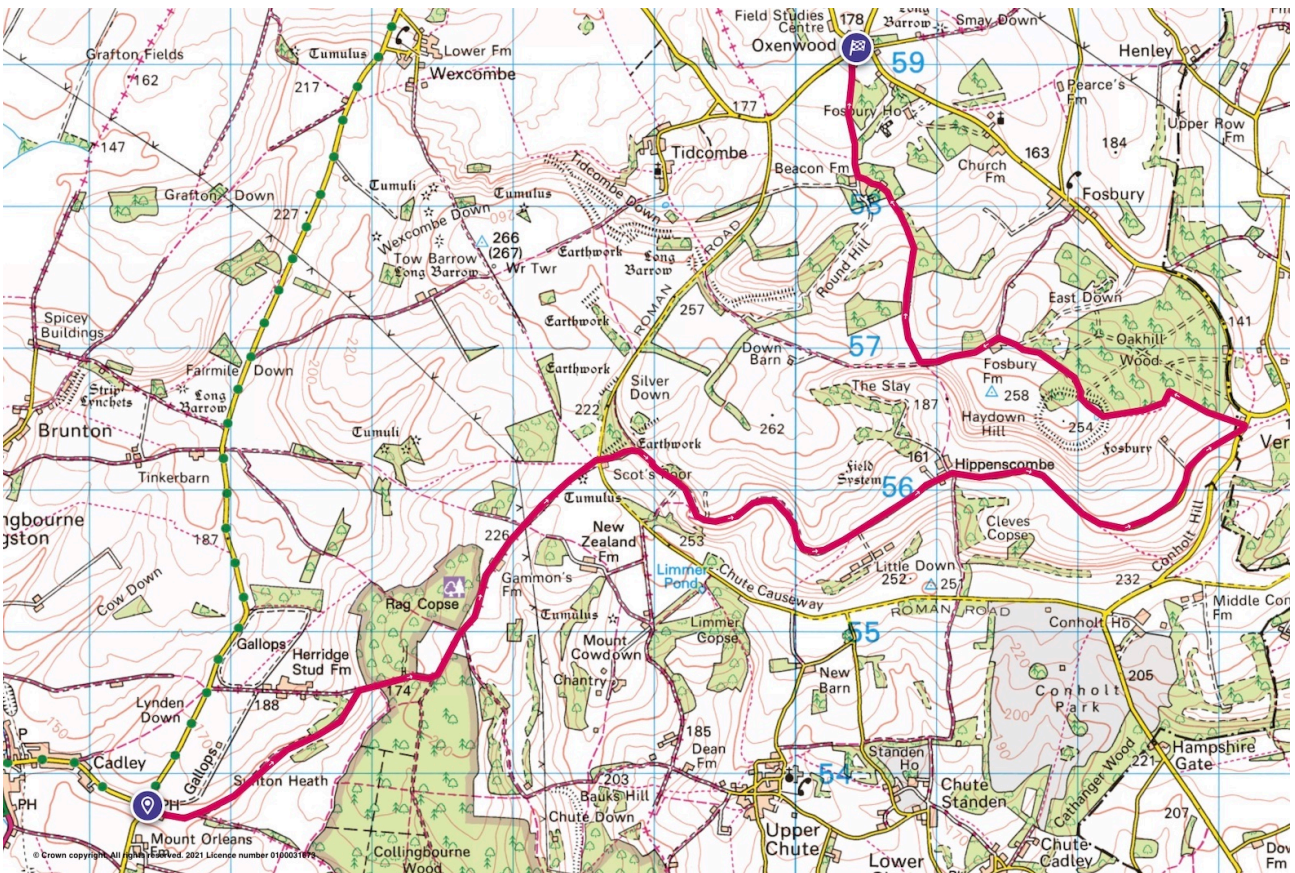
Walk on a deeply rutted byway which is enclosed on both sides for almost all its length. You finally emerge into the open at the corner of another MoD danger area. After a long, steady climb, bear right onto a well made track and follow this to a 90 degree bend on the surfaced road (between Pewsey and Everleigh) which you crossed on the previous stage. Walk alongside the road for 75m, then turn left onto the surfaced road to Summer Down Farm, which is also a tank track. When the road bears left to the farm, keep ahead on an earthy track, which is a byway.

On arriving at the strip of trees ahead, turn right, then left roughly half way along them. Go through two field gates, and after the second one the path again becomes deeply rutted. Walk between the extensive buildings of the Oldlands Piggery/West Hill Farm to reach a surfaced road. This is Chick's Lane; turn left along it, ignore another road which bears off at a narrow angle to the right, then walk past the village hall and primary school of Collingbourne Ducis. Use the pedestrian crossing to cross the A338 and turn right and immediately left (effectively straight ahead from Chick's Lane), into Cadley Road. Continue along here for just over half a mile, past the Gastro Nicks on your right, arriving at The Shears Inn to finish this stage.

Wiltshire Connect bus stops: Milton Lilbourne Village Hall & Collingbourne Ducis Cadley Road



Stage 6	Collingbourne Ducis to Oxenwood	9.6 miles 15.4 kms	Packed lunch required
Arrive at Start Point by 10am.			
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Collingbourne Ducis to Hipplescombe Farm		4.8 miles / 7.7 kms	2 hours
Stop for packed lunch			1 hour
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Hipplescombe Farm to Oxenwood		4.8 miles / 7.7 kms	2 hours
End of Stage 6 - meet your pick up at the agreed location or stay at local accommodation			
<b>Places of Interest</b> <b>On the route:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Roman Chute Causeway</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Iron Age Hill Fort Fosbury Camp</a></li> </ul>			





**Collingbourne Ducis to Hippenscombe Farm**  
**Maps: OS Explorer 131 (north sheet), OS Landranger 173**  
**Distance: 5.35 miles, 8.6 kms**

Starting at The Shears Inn, go down the lane to the right of the pub. When the route divides, take the left-hand fork, at which point the surfaced track becomes unsurfaced. Walk along a broad bridleway with low hills on both sides. At a T junction of tracks, turn right onto a byway, and begin a long, steady ascent through woodland. Pass Gammon's Farm and continue down its driveway to a minor road.

Cross to the house opposite (Scot's Poor) and take a path down its left-hand side. A gentle descent brings you to the floor of Hippenscombe, a long, sinuous valley overlooked by verdant hills. Turn right. The enclosed path soon opens up, affording fine views of the rural idyll around you. Eventually arrive at Hippenscombe farm, where this stage officially ends. However if you are using your own transport to get to and from the start/finish points, it is advisable to park in the small layby at Goudyses Gate, which is an extra 1½ miles (see next stage).

**Hippenscombe Farm to Oxenwood**  
**Maps: OS Explorer 131 (north sheet), OS Landranger 173**  
**Distance: 4.85 miles, 7.8 kms**

Continue along the floor of Hippenscombe for another 1½ miles, to come out on a minor road at Goudyses Gate. Turn left for only a few metres past the house and take the path going up its right-hand side. Ascend steadily along the field edge, which ever-improving views of Hippenscombe Bottom to your left, and Oakhill Wood to your right. At the top of the field turn left, keeping the wood to your right, and turn right through it at the field corner. Cross a stile and maintain direction through a smaller field. Pass through the woods again but keep them close to your right as go through another field. Cross another stile onto a track.

The track descends steadily through more woodland but then bursts into the open, yielding fine views to the right (north-east). Arrive at Fosbury farm after a further descent and continue ahead (do not go down its drive). At the bottom of a slope, where there is a crossing of tracks, turn right onto a bridleway. This takes you all the way to Beacon Farm, where you continue on its drive to the road at Oxenwood. Turn right to a staggered crossroads for the end of this stage.

Wiltshire Connect bus stops: Collingbourne Ducis Cadley Road & Oxenwood



Stage 7	Oxenwood to Ham	11.8 miles 19 kms	Packed lunch required
Arrive at Start Point by 10am.			
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Oxenwood to Sheepless Hill		5.35 miles / 8.6 kms	3 hours
Stop for packed lunch			1 hour
Walk the Pewsey Vale Circular Way - Sheepless Hill to Ham		6.45 miles / 10.4 kms	3 hours
End of Stage 7 - meet your pick up at the agreed location or stay at local accommodation			

<p><b>Places of Interest</b>  <b>On the route:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Combe Gibbet</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">St Swithun's Church in Combe</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Iron Age Hill Fort Walbury Camp</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Ham Hill Nature Reserve</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Ham Village</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">All Saints' Church in Ham</a></li> </ul>
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### **Oxenwood to Sheepless Hill**

**Maps: OS Explorer 131 (north sheet), OS Landranger 173**

**Distance: 4.5 miles, 7.2 kms**

Take the road out of Oxenwood which is signposted to Fosbury and Vernham Dean. Pass a row of cottages on your left. Not far past the gated entrance to the imposing Fosbury House, on your right, cross a stile on the other side of the road into a field containing Oxenwood's war memorial. Bear half right and pass to the left of a single enclosed young tree, and well to the left of the memorial, then keep close to the woods on your left. Oxenwood's large church is ahead and to the right. Cross a stile and keep ahead, passing several grand old oak trees. Go through a gate in the corner of the field onto a wide, enclosed track, which goes gently downhill.

Emerge into a field at the bottom and bear left, then right through a gap in the hedge. Do NOT follow the vehicle track to the right but instead turn left for a few paces, then right into a field, with a hedge/fence to your right (the right of way has been moved from the other side of the fence/hedge). Walk up the field and through a gap in its corner to reach a road. Take a few steps to the right and continue on a bridleway which goes along the divider between two fields and directly under a pylon to a bridle gate. Walk along the right-hand field edge, go through a field gate and walk down to Henley Farm.

Turn right onto the farm's metalled drive and proceed up a gentle hill to a T junction with another road. Go a few paces to the left and continue on an often muddy/waterlogged track, which is an "other road with public access". After  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile arrive at a crossroads at the corner of a metalled road and turn right on a continuation of the "other road with public access". At a crossing of tracks after a gentle descent turn left towards Winterside Farm. Dogleg right and left past the farm and drop down into the charming hamlet of Little Down. Fork left where the route divides and walk uphill between houses to a T junction with a road. Turn left for 20m, then turn right onto the road signposted to Linkenholt. The road descends then bears left uphill. Ignore a track forking off to the left to be presented with a view of Linkenholt's majestic Manor House to the left. Turn left onto a track just before Manor House comes into view, which passes to its left, following the waymarked Test Way, but very soon leave the track to go down the right-hand side of a field.



In the bottom corner, go through a narrow gap in the vegetation and cross a half-hidden stile. Proceed downhill through scattered trees and turn left onto a track at the bottom by an isolated cottage. Follow this bridleway along the valley floor (which is like a more open version of Hippenscombe Bottom), sometimes going through open land but more often through woods. Ignore a signed byway which goes off to the north-east as you pass through Combe Wood, and not far after this emerge from the woods through a small gap to come out where five rights of way converge. This is the end of this stage.

**Sheepless Hill to Ham**  
**Maps: OS Explorer 131 (north sheet) & 158, OS Landranger 173**  
**Distance: 7.5 miles, 12 kms**

This is a fitting finale to the whole walk!

Turn right and climb steeply up Sheepless Hill. When you are more or less at the top, look for and go through a gap in the hedge on the right, leaving the Test Way as you do. After a few metres, turn left onto a wide bridleway. When this veers right soon after, fork left through a gate into a field. Follow the obvious track through it, forking right (straight on) when it splits twice, then go through another gate and across a track to pass through a third gate. Follow this enclosed path downhill in two stages, passing to the left of the walled Combe church at the bottom, onto a sharp corner on a surfaced road.

Fork left along the road (Church Lane) and descend gently into the village of Combe. When the road goes left, turn right along a surfaced lane, and pass two houses on the right, the second of which is Lowe Farm. The lane loses its metalled surface beyond the second one, and soon veers right. Here bear left through a gate, and begin a relentless climb, probably the longest of the whole route, on an enclosed path. At the first signpost you come to, bear left (bridleway), as you do at the second one too (footpath). On reaching open fields, bear left past a field gate and follow the path as it bears right, then left, still climbing. Reach your objective soon after, which is a kissing gate onto the byway across the top of the downs.

Turn left, rejoining the Test Way in the process but going in the opposite direction this time, and walk along this byway for almost 2¼ miles.



Combe Gibbet

On the way, pass through Walbury Camp, an Iron Age Hill Fort, join a road for a short distance, continue past the Combe Gibbet on Gallows Down (on the right), then the Test Way coming in from the left. Finally, after a gentle descent, go through a bridle gate on your right. Follow the obvious path half left quite steeply downhill (care needed), through a second bridle gate and then through a third one in an "empty" fence into the next field. Maintain direction downhill to a gate on the edge of a line of trees.

Go through the trees onto a field and turn left along its edge. At the corner, go right for a few metres, then left through the gap in the hedge. (This is not the official right of way as the landowner has diverted it to the west, presumably to avoid having to leave a gap for it through crops in the field you have just left). Turn right across the (second) field (the landowner leaves a broad path to follow through any crops) to arrive at a wooden post next to an information board about the Ham Estate.

Turn left onto a wide, stony track to arrive at a metalled road after half a mile (0.8 km), at the end of the second field. Turn right here and follow the road into the village of Ham, where the Pewsey Vale Circular Way ends outside The Crown & Anchor pub.

Wiltshire Connect bus stops: Oxenwood & Crown and Anchor Ham



Alton Barnes White Horse

We hope you enjoyed this walk.

Please send any feedback or comments to [info@visitpewseyvale.co.uk](mailto:info@visitpewseyvale.co.uk).

We have more long distance itineraries on our website at [www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/discover-pewsey-vale](http://www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/discover-pewsey-vale) or for shorter walking routes go to [www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/walkers-are-welcome](http://www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/walkers-are-welcome) .

We look forward to welcoming you to the Vale of Pewsey again soon!



E&OE - The Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership takes no responsibility for your safety whilst following this trail