

Circular Walk - Southern loop

OS Explorer Map 155 - Bristol & Bath

Grid Ref: ST 781 737

Distance: 4.5 miles (7 km)

Duration: 2.5 hours

Difficulty: Moderate (one steep climb)

Start: Marshfield War Memorial

SN14 8LP

Walk from the War Memorial (1) west along the High Street passing many of the town's Georgian houses. Towards the end of the High Street you will see on your right the 17th century Almshouses.

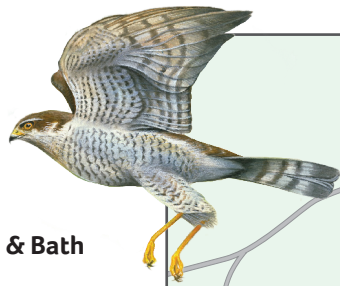


Just before an old toll house ahead (2) turn left down Green Lane which soon becomes a stony track with a short steep descent into a small valley.

At the bottom bear right and climb gently between hedges for 800m to Beek's Lane (3).

Turn left along the road for 70m, then turn right (4) onto another green lane, with occasional views to Cold Ashton, St. Catherine's Valley and Charmy Down. Where the track bears left don't go through the 'Bristol' gate on your right. As you leave the high hedges pause by the gate on the right for an even better view.

Press on across a tarmac farm track (cattle grid on the right) until you reach Ayford Lane (5). This is your halfway point.



Turn right downhill and in 120m leave the road, bearing left along another track between hedges. Along here you may spot Marshfield Church tower on the horizon on your left. After 700m you'll reach a wide gate onto the road (6).



The route home goes left here, but it's worth turning right for 100m (7) to enjoy a wonderful view to Claverton Down (University of Bath), Limpley Stoke Valley and the distant Mendips. Turn back along the road for 400m to West Lodge (8) a gate house to Ashwicke Hall.

The road turns left but you go straight ahead through the kissing gate into the field. From here it is straight ahead to Marsh field across open fields (there may be cattle) through a variety of gates.

Approaching the crest of the hill keep to the right of the ragged hedge and your destination comes into sight. The path looks like a straightforward down and up, but there is a hidden switchback ahead. Grit your teeth and head on upwards to the church. Approaching the modern houses go through the farmyard (9) and turn left uphill on a narrow road.



At the top, take a small zigzag to the back gate of the churchyard, then go past the church and out of the main gate to the Market Place.

Cotswold Gateways

Cotswolds National Landscape has worked with local communities to create ten new Cotswold Gateways locations, from which people can follow walking and cycling routes to explore the surrounding countryside of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

It is part funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development



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