Coombé Hill Walk

**Distance:** 7 miles, allow 3 to 4 hours.

**Difficulty:** Uphill for about 2 miles.

**Access Information:** There are no stiles on this route, but 3 kissing gates, 3 kissing gates and narrow paths. It also involves a steady uphill climb.

**Description of route:**
- Leave Wendover railway station by the road and turn up to the main road. Turn right and then cross the road and over the bridge. Just after the end of the bridge take the footpath on the left. Over two stiles and then follow the path across the field to another stile.
- Turn right uphill along the lane. After about 80 metres turn left following the bridleway between gardens and across the field. Do not go over the stile but turn right through the metal gate. Follow this path uphill for about 1km.
- At the top of the hill turn right onto a well-surfaced bridleway. When you reach the driveway with cattle grid veer to the left slightly for a few metres and then turn left following the bridleway path. Follow this path ignoring any smaller paths. You will eventually come out onto a country lane. Follow this road to the right, which will bring you to Coombé Hill car park.
- Near the entrance to the car park on the left is a wooden gate. Go through the gate and take the middle path. When you reach the second open area, find a gap in the gorse bushes on your left and walk through for a view over Chequers. Turn right and walk along the hilltop to the Monument.
- From the Monument continue along the hilltop to the right, following The Ridgeway National Trail signs (which are waymarked with an acorn symbol) past the lake and church and along the road. At the crossroads go straight across, up Hogtrough Lane.
- Continue to follow The Ridgeway, which takes the left path after Boswell’s Farm into woodland. Follow this forest trail for over 1 mile gently uphill. You will eventually cross Hale Road and enter Wendover Woods.
- Leave The Ridgeway by turning left, downhill and after 30 metres follow a footpath to the right and then join a marked horse trail. Turn right and follow this track which takes you through the Woods to the main car park.
- Follow the tarmac road to the left, then turn left and follow the wide track for 3 miles, which passes picnic areas with barbecues to a final parking area. Keep straight on following the Boddington Bank Walk. After 300 metres there is a piece of fitness equipment (part of the fitness trail). Do not turn left here – go straight on and follow the track downhill. You will eventually meet another track, turn right and join this track, continuing downhill. Then carry straight on until you reach the road at the bottom.
- Turn right and follow the road back to Wendover (please take care if walking on the road). At the junction turn right and after 50m take the path between houses on your left. This brings you back to the park at the start of the walk. Follow the stream and then on to the Heron Path to come out on the High Street by the Clock Tower. Turn left and walk back up the High Street to the rail station.

Wendover Woods Walk

**Distance:** 7 miles, allow 3 to 4 hours.

**Difficulty:** Uphill for about 2 miles.

**Access Information:** This walk has 3 stiles, 3 kissing gates and narrow paths. It also involves a steady uphill climb.

**Description of route:**
- Leave Wendover railway station and walk up to the main road. Turn right and then cross the road and over the bridge. Just after the end of the bridge take the footpath on the left. Over two stiles and then follow the path across the field to another stile.
- Turn right uphill along the lane. After about 80 metres turn left following the bridleway between gardens and across the field. Do not go over the stile but turn right through the metal gate. Follow this path uphill for about 1km.
- At the top of the hill turn right onto a well-surfaced bridleway. When you reach the driveway with cattle grid veer to the left slightly for a few metres and then turn left following the bridleway path. Follow this path ignoring any smaller paths. You will eventually come out onto a country lane. Follow this road to the right, which will bring you to Coombé Hill car park.
- Near the entrance to the car park on the left is a wooden gate. Go through the gate and take the middle path. When you reach the second open area, find a gap in the gorse bushes on your left and walk through for a view over Chequers. Turn right and walk along the hilltop to the Monument.
- From the Monument continue along the hilltop to the right, following The Ridgeway National Trail signs (which are waymarked with an acorn symbol) past the lake and church and along the road. At the crossroads go straight across, up Hogtrough Lane.
- Continue to follow The Ridgeway, which takes the left path after Boswell’s Farm into woodland. Follow this forest trail for over 1 mile gently uphill. You will eventually cross Hale Road and enter Wendover Woods.
- Leave The Ridgeway by turning left, downhill and after 30 metres follow a footpath to the right and then join a marked horse trail. Turn right and follow this track which takes you through the Woods to the main car park.
- Follow the tarmac road to the left, then turn left and follow the wide track for 3 miles, which passes picnic areas with barbecues to a final parking area. Keep straight on following the Boddington Bank Walk. After 300 metres there is a piece of fitness equipment (part of the fitness trail). Do not turn left here – go straight on and follow the track downhill. You will eventually meet another track, turn right and join this track, continuing downhill. Then carry straight on until you reach the road at the bottom.
- Turn right and follow the road back to Wendover (please take care if walking on the road). At the junction turn right and after 50m take the path between houses on your left. This brings you back to the park at the start of the walk. Follow the stream and then on to the Heron Path to come out on the High Street by the Clock Tower. Turn left and walk back up the High Street to the rail station.
Visitors can reach Wendover by rail from London Marylebone (45min). Trains also call at Tring, Saunderton and Aylesbury. For train times and fares call National Rail Enquiries on 08457 484950.

Wendover Woods Walk: 7 miles, allow 3 to 4 hours

Start and Finish: Wendover

About the Walk

Chilterns Country

Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It mainly follows rights of way most of which are waymarked as follows:

Path waymarking
- yellow arrow Footpaths (walkers only)
- blue arrow Bridleways (horseriders, cyclists and walkers)
- red arrow Byways (open to all traffic)

Please be considerate in the countryside - keep to public rights of way, and leave farm gates as you find them.

If you, or a member of your community would like this leaflet produced in another language or format (large print or audio cassette), please contact the Chilterns Society.

Features of interest

- Coombe Hill Monument: A heritage site with a monument to the soldiers of Buckinghamshire who fell in the Boer War.
- Chequers House and Estate: The residence of the Prime Minister it was presented to the nation by Lord Lee of Fareham in 1917. The house is open to the public.
- Boddington Hillfort: Was occupied during 1st century BC, but probably earlier.
- Red Lion Pub: A coach left here each day in Victorian times for the 'Old Etonians' to visit their Grammar School. It was renamed the Red Lion in the 16th century.
- The Hale Quiet Lane: There are several farm roads in the area where drivers are being encouraged to share the road considerately with cyclists, horse-riders and walkers.

Visitor Information

Wendover is a small historic market town at the foot of the Chiltern Hills. The town has a range of shops, pubs, restaurants and accommodation to suit most tastes and budgets. There is an information centre (01296 696759, e-mail wendovertourism@btconnect.com) or visit www.visitbuckinghamshire.org

Public toilets are located in the High Street car park.

There are no toilets or refreshments on the Coombe Hill walk, though there is often an ice-cream van in Coombe Hill car park on busy weekends or during the summer. On the Wendover Woods Walk there are public toilets and usually an ice-cream vendor in Wendover Woods main car park.

How to get to the start

Wendover is located off the A413, five miles south of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

By train: Wendover is easily reached by rail and the walk starts from the station. Chiltern Railways run direct services from London Marylebone (45min). Trains also call at Harrow-on-the-Hill (connections with London Underground Metropolitan Line), Rickmansworth, Chorleywood, Chalfont St Giles and Tring. For train times and fares call National Rail Enquiries on 08457 484950.

By bus: Service 54 links Wendover (Clock Tower) with Aylesbury, Monday to Saturday, every 30 minutes (not evenings). Bus service 161 runs on Sundays and Bank Holidays only, linking Aylesbury, Wendover, Aston Clinton, Tring and Marsworth. For bus times call Traveline 0870 6082606.

By cycle: There is cycle parking at Wendover rail station and in the High Street.

Parking: On Sundays use the car park off Wendover High Street. On other days this is 2 hour parking only. There is a £3 charge if you wish to use the railway station car park (if you buy a rail ticket to a nearby station). It is also possible to follow these walks from the car parks at Coombe Hill (free) and Wendover Woods (£2).

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:

Path waymarking
- yellow arrow Footpaths (walkers only)
- blue arrow Bridleways (horseriders, cyclists and walkers)
- red arrow Byways (open to all traffic)

Please be considerate in the countryside - keep to public rights of way, and leave farm gates as you find them. Please keep dogs under close control.

If you have enjoyed this walk there are many other wonderful walks in the Chilterns area including Chilterns Country walks from Tring rail station, Saunderton rail station and Henley rail station - call 01844 271300; The Ridgeway National Trail www.nationaltrails.gov.uk; walks in the Chilterns www.chilternmaonb.org; walks in Buckinghamshire www.buckscc.gov.uk Or buy Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 181 and make your own walk www.ordsvy.gov.uk

The Chilterns were designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in 1965. It is in recognition that the Chilterns countryside is amongst the finest in England and Wales. The Chilterns Conservation Board is the body charged with protecting the AONB. Call 01844 271300 or www.chilternmaonb.org

The Chilterns Society is a charity working to promote the Chilterns. To join or for details of guided walks call 01494 771250 or www.chilternsociety.org.uk

If you, or a member of your community would like this leaflet produced in another language or format (large print or audio cassette), please contact the Chilterns Conservation Board.