Historic Steyning, nestling against the inspiring landscape of the South Downs, is well known as one of the most picturesque towns in Sussex.

The town of Saint Cuthman (c750AD), Steyning is rich in history, with scores of timber-framed buildings in and around the ancient High Street, and its excellent museum. It was once a port on the then navigable estuary of the River Adur and was prized by the Normans; their legacy today includes the magnificent parish church and the ruins of the castle in nearby Bramber.

Steyning offers the visitor a fantastic selection of interesting shops (including the award winning Cobblestone Walk), a monthly farmers market and ample parking. There are also restaurants, pubs and tea rooms offering delicious food and drink, plus a wide selection of great accommodation for the weary traveller.

Rightfully known as a great destination for walkers, Steyning and District provides easy access to beautiful countryside, the South Downs Way and to other long distance paths. There are also excellent local routes to the mysterious Chanctonbury Ring, the Iron Age hill fort at Cissbury Ring, and delightfully gentle walks through the Adur Valley.

Come and experience Steyning for yourself; the warmest welcome awaits you.

There is always plenty going on in and around Steyning, with events and activities for all tastes. Below is a just a small sample of the many things going on throughout the year:

- **Steyning Country Fair** - May
- **Steyning Festival** - May/June
- **Three Forts Challenge** - May
- **Steyning & District Food & Drink festival** - September
- **Christmas Late Night Shopping** - December

There is also the monthly Steyning Farmers Market held on the first Saturday of every month.

For further details and lots more events please see our website at:

www.steyningsouthdowns.co.uk

About us:

The Steyning & District Community Partnership is a voluntary organisation set up as part of a nationwide programme by West Sussex County Council, Horsham District Council and Action in Rural Sussex, to enhance and develop the local community for both residents and visitors.

The information in this leaflet is published in good faith and whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information, Steyning & District Community Partnership cannot be held responsible for any loss, damage or inconvenience caused by errors, omissions or subsequent changes.

Walk 1 - Three Ancient Churches Walk
4 miles taking approximately 2 hours.
An easy circular walk exploring three of the ancient village churches of the Adur Valley.

Walk 2 - River & Countryside Walk
6.5 miles taking approximately 3 hours.
An easy circular walk along the banks of the River Adur, returning to Steyning via the Downslink path.

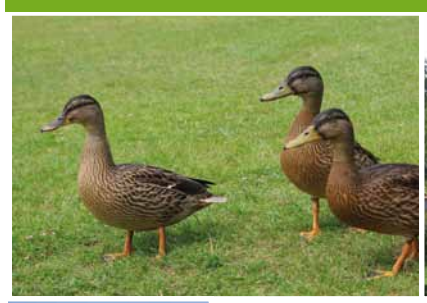
Walk 3 - Chanctonbury & Washington Walk
7 miles taking approximately 3-4 hours.
Moderately difficult circular walk with a steep ascent up to the South Downs Way and Chanctonbury Ring, returning via Washington.

Cartography by www.mappingideas.co.uk © People's Map 2009

Other Walks in this Series

Events

How to get here



A lovely circular country walk that starts at the Fountain Inn in Ashurst, a 16th century building, with a garden and large pond. Lord Laurence Olivier used to visit, and Sir Paul McCartney produced a video for the song, "A Wonderful Christmastime" here. This is a good spot for refreshment.

The route then takes you through a series of paddocks and past the ancient church of St James. This small church, with two aisles and a chancel, has been registered since 1658, although it was a chapel from around 1200.

It then leads through meadows, copses and farms to Wiston where a short diversion takes you to All Saints church. There are extensive views from here to Chanctonbury Ring and the imposing line of the South Downs.

From Wiston you follow a country lane for a short stretch before turning back via woodland and bridleways towards Ashurst. The route passes through working farms, pastures, meadows, cattle and wildlife within this scenic part of the Sussex countryside.

Country Code

- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under control and on the lead through farms
- Consider other people
- Wear sensible clothing and sturdy footwear

By Car

Steyning lies between the A24 and A23, just north of the A27. The A283 runs past the town. Car parking is available at several of the towns car parks.
For route planning information please visit **www.google.co.uk/maps**

By Train

The nearest station is approximately 5 miles away at Shoreham-by-Sea on the South Coast line between Brighton and Portsmouth.
For further information please see **www.nationalrail.co.uk**

By Bus

Buses run from Horsham and Brighton via Shoreham-by-Sea and via Upper Beeding and Bramber to Steyning.
Visit **www.traveline.info** for more information.

By Foot or By Bike

You can reach Steyning easily from either the South Downs Way or the Downslink from Guildford.
Visit **www.nationaltrail.co.uk/South-downs-way** for more information.

Further Information:

Visit **www.steyningsouthdowns.co.uk** for more information

Visitor information is also available at:
Steyning Post Office - High Street BN44 3NA Tel: 01903 879033
Steyning Library - Church Street BN44 3TB Tel: 01903 812751
Steyning Centre - Fletchers Croft, BN44 3XZ Tel: 01903 812042
Steyning Museum - Church Street BN44 3YB Tel: 01903 813333

For further information on the wider area visit:

www.southdowns.gov.uk
www.horshamvisitor.co.uk
www.visitsussex.org
www.west-sussex-weekends.com

Supported By:

Steyning & District Community Partnership

Wilson MEMORIAL TRUST

These walks were produced by the Steyning & District Community Partnership, and were funded by a grant from the Wilson Memorial Trust.

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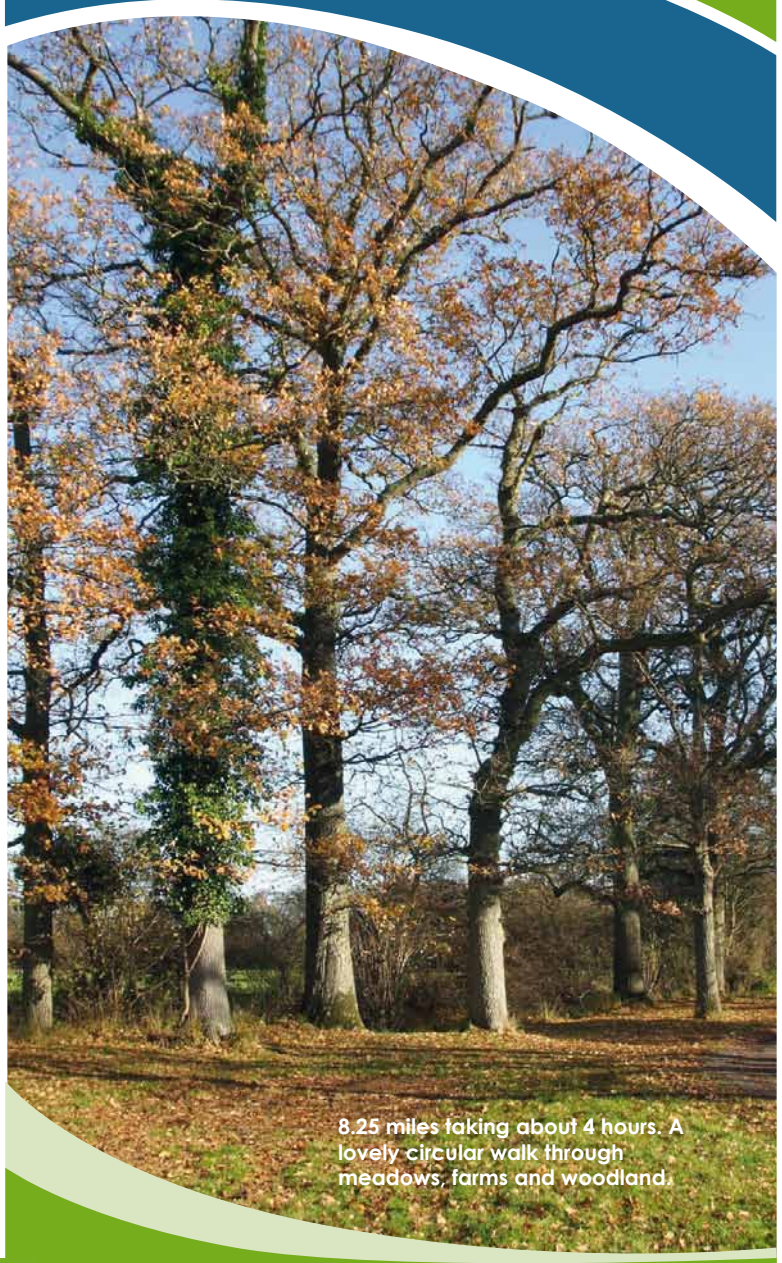
Welcome to Steyning and District

Steyning and District Walks

Walk 4

Rural Retreat



8.25 miles taking about 4 hours. A lovely circular walk through meadows, farms and woodland.

www.steyningsouthdowns.co.uk

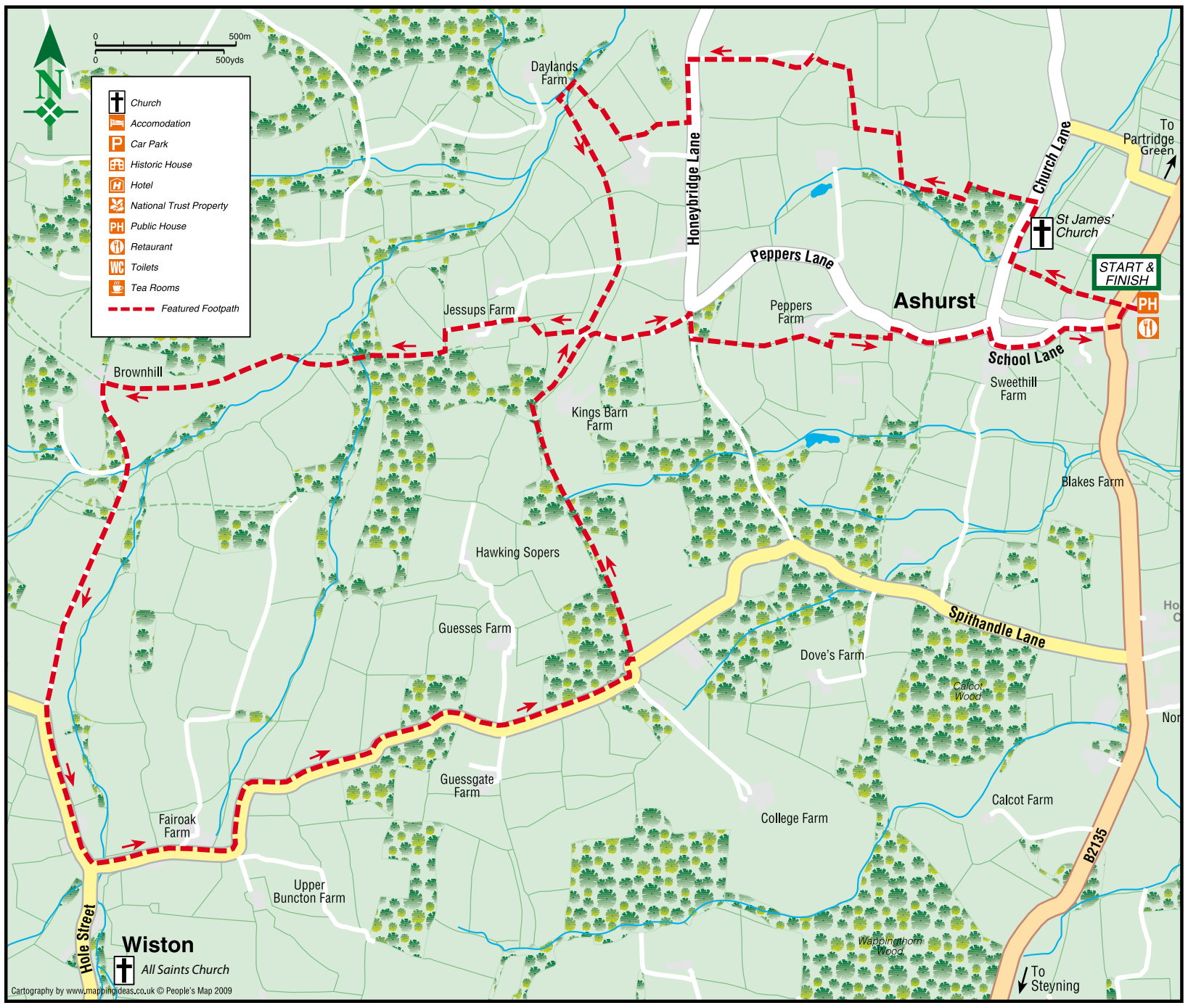
Steyning and District Walks

Walk 4

The walk is about 8.25 miles, taking around 4 hours at a leisurely pace. The route is flat with a number of stiles. It can be muddy in places and boots are advisable. A small part of the route is on country roads so extra care should be taken. There are several places to picnic along the route.

Start

Cross the road in front of the Fountain Inn and follow footpath through a paddock and path to a lane. Turn right, pass St James' Church on the right and continue to the edge of woods and take public footpath over a stile on the left, follow around the edge of two fields (via 3 footpath signs) until you reach left turn footpath sign.



Walk beside a fenced paddock, bear right; at 3-way footpath sign, take right path towards small copse, cross a footbridge to open field, keep to left until you reach Brookwood Farm and go through the left hand side of a kissing gate, follow the drive. Turn left and walk about 200 yards to a hidden public footpath on the right (before driveway to Honeybridge House) cross a plank bridge and go ahead to a gate, through gate turn left through second gate, pass Honeybridge House on the left.

At the end of the path turn right past a concrete trough to a 3-way footpath sign, turn left. Follow this and then soon left again at another 3-way sign. Keep left through 2 open fields, zig zag via two metal field gates side by side, passing into small copse at the end. Cross track and through gate towards Kings Barn Farm. At the 4-way footpath sign turn right (you pass this point on your return and can turn left for a much shorter walk). After turning right, go through a field gate, and stay ahead. At the end of the field , under low pylons , turn right through a gate (this is a new path and does not go through the farm as it used to). Bearing left pass the farm entrance on left and stay ahead following track.

At the end of the track turn left, after approx. 100 yards zig zag right/left and turn right following footpath signs into wide woodland path, stay ahead to a kissing gate after wooden bridge. The sign points to the exit from this pretty but low lying land and it can be very wet, so cross to higher ground, skirting this, look for wooden footbridge to exit, cross stream via another bridge.

Follow path ahead through this wood until a stile is reached; ahead through open fields is Brownhills. Keeping fence on right and reach a concrete track leading to Wiston. Turn left and walk down to the road (about ¾ mile). Turn left, and walk along the road to Spithandle Lane, on the left.

A diversion can be made to The Wiston Meeting Place and All Saints Church a few hundred yards ahead from the junction. Turn into Spithandle Lane (there is a Victorian water fountain on your right), and walk along the road for about 1¼ miles, passing a turning and public footpath into Guesses Farm, until around a sharp left hand bend, take bridleway ahead on left.

This is a well kept path, meandering through woods, ignore side paths, continue through two gateways and stay ahead to the 4-way footpath sign at Kings Barn Farm (you were here earlier). Take the right hand path and walk ahead to a road, turning left to a junction.

Take the right hand track, to footpath on the left, take this path, exit via gate to a drive way, keep left and continue up the drive ahead, through gate and continue, passing Peppers Farm. Half left through gate and stay ahead to stile into paddock, cross paddock to a stile in the corner, turn right onto Peppers Lane. At junction turn right and follow the road back to the Fountain Inn.