

Whitchurch Hill stile free circular walk (Walk 1)

This walk starts in the rural village of Whitchurch Hill which sits on the edge of the Chilterns, some 300 feet above the Thames valley. It is a varied walk with some lovely Chilterns scenery and a welcoming country pub to return to.

Distance: 2½ miles

Start: The Sun PH at Whitchurch Hill or by the Recreation Ground.

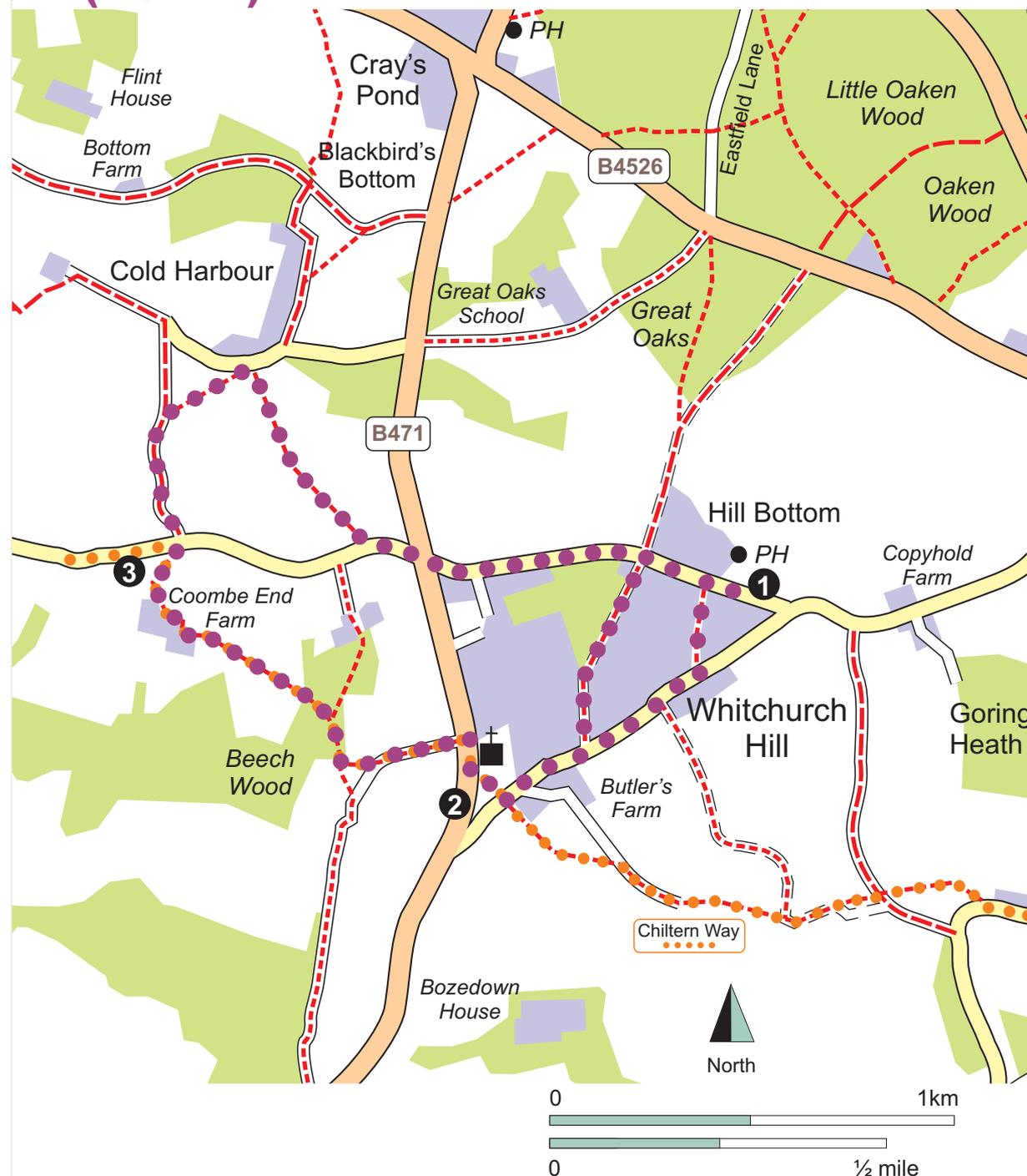
Access Information: A gentle walk over mixed farmland and woodland, following unsurfaced paths and quiet country lanes.

Route:

1 Park at the Sun PH Whitchurch Hill utilising the field at the back of the car park if possible. Do not park on the grass verges in front and adjacent to the pub. With your back to the pub, turn right up the road and after a few yards turn left down an alleyway and into Oakdown Close. At the end of the close turn right and walk past Butlers Farm to Whitchurch Hill recreation ground which could be an alternative starting point as there are quite a few parking spaces here.

2 Cross the recreation ground and turn right onto the B471 Crays Pond road. Walk past St. John the Baptist church on your right and almost immediately cross the road with care and turn left onto a concrete track marked as a footpath. This leads to Beech Farm but after about 200 yards turn right through a metal kissing gate, cross the meadow keeping to the hedge on the right to another kissing gate and follow the path through the woods. After a short distance the path splits, take the left hand fork and continue to the edge of the wood through a kissing gate, across two fields and through two green metal kissing gates. After passing through the last gate bear left through the next field passing the farm buildings of Coombe End farm.

3 At Coombe End farm go through another green metal kissing gate, turn right onto the farm track, pass through yet another gate and follow the track to the road. Go straight on passing a farmhouse on your right until you reach a kissing gate on your right. Go diagonally left across the field to another metal kissing gate. Do not pass through the gate but with your back to it take a path which goes diagonally left across the field to a kissing gate. Go through this and continue across the field in the same direction until you reach a road (Coombe End Lane). Turn left and walk along the road, cross the B471 and continue straight on to the Sun PH or, if going to the recreation ground, turn right onto Bridle Road after about a quarter of a mile and turn right when you reach Butlers Farm. The recreation ground is a few yards ahead on the right.



Whitchurch Hill stile free circular walk (Walk 2)

This walk starts in the rural village of Whitchurch Hill which sits on the edge of the Chilterns, some 300 feet above the Thames valley. It is a varied walk with some lovely Chilterns scenery and a welcoming country pub to return to.

Distance: 3½ miles **Start:** The Sun PH at Whitchurch Hill or by the Recreation Ground.

Access Information: A gentle walk over mixed farmland and woodland, following unsurfaced paths. Some undulating sections but no steep climbs.

Route:

1 Park at the Sun PH Whitchurch Hill utilising the field at the back of the car park if possible. Do not park on the grass verges in front and adjacent to the pub. With your back to the pub, turn right up the road and after a few yards turn left down an alleyway and into Oakdown Close. At the end of the close turn right and walk past Butlers Farm to Whitchurch Hill recreation ground which could be an alternative starting point as there are quite a few parking spaces here.

2 Cross the recreation ground and turn right onto the B471 Crays Pond road. Walk past St. John the Baptist church on your right and almost immediately cross the road with care and turn left onto a concrete track marked as a footpath. This leads to Beech Farm but after about 200 yards turn right through a metal kissing gate, cross the meadow keeping to the hedge on the right to another kissing gate and follow the path through the woods. After a short distance the path splits, take the left hand fork and continue to the edge of the wood, through a kissing gate, across two fields and through two green metal kissing gates. After passing through the second gate bear left through the next field passing the farm buildings of Coombe End farm.

3 At Coombe End farm go through another green metal kissing gate, turn right onto the farm track, pass through yet another gate and follow the track to the road. Go straight on passing a farmhouse on your right until you reach a kissing gate on your right. Go diagonally left across the field to another metal kissing gate, pass through this and turn right onto a road fairly shortly after turn left onto another road signposted as a bridleway. After about 250 yards turn right through a metal kissing gate, cross the field, pass through another kissing gate in the hedge and walk across another field down to a wooden kissing gate at Blackbird's Bottom.

4 Turn right here and follow the road to the B471 Crays Pond – Whitchurch road. Taking care to watch out for traffic turn left and after a few yards cross the road to a wooden kissing gate.

5 This gate leads to the Oratory preparatory school sports field. Go diagonally left across the Sports field to a gap in the north east corner which leads through to the B4526 Goring Road.



Turn right and fairly shortly afterwards take a footpath to your left which leads through the woods. Continue along this path until reaching a track. Turn right and then almost immediately left onto another path following the arrows until a T junction of paths is reached. Turn right and follow this path for about 250 yards until a four way junction of paths is reached. Turn right onto a bridleway, cross the B4526 again and continue straight on until Hill Bottom road is reached. (If you have parked at the recreation ground continue straight on along the bridleway (Bridle Road) until you reach Butlers Farm, turn right and the recreation ground is a few yards away in front of you)

Whitchurch Hill stile free circular walk (Walk 3)

This walk starts in the rural village of Whitchurch Hill which sits on the edge of the Chilterns, some 300 feet above the Thames valley. It is a varied walk with some lovely Chilterns scenery and a welcoming country pub to return to.

Distance: 4 miles

Start: The Sun PH at Whitchurch Hill or by the Recreation Ground.

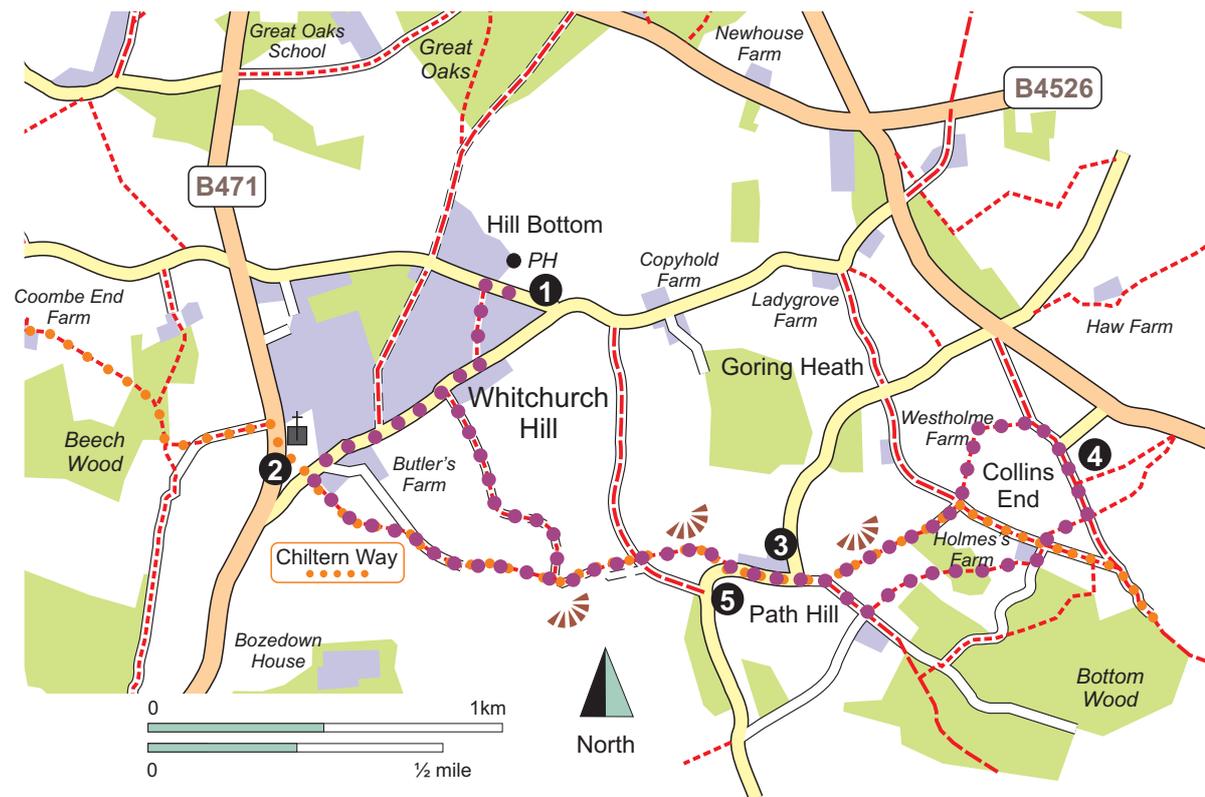
Access Information: A moderate walk over mixed farmland and woodland with good views at Path Hill and over the Thames valley. There are a couple of short steep sections between Path Hill and Collins End.

Route:

1 Park at the Sun PH Whitchurch Hill utilising the field at the back of the car park if possible. Do not park on the grass verges in front and adjacent to the pub. With your back to the pub, turn right up the road and after a few yards turn left down an alleyway and into Oakdown Close. At the end of the close turn right and walk past Butlers Farm to Whitchurch Hill recreation ground which could be an alternative starting point as there are quite a few parking spaces here.

2 After reaching the recreation ground take a footpath to the left, walk past some cottages to a kissing gate and cross the meadow to another kissing gate. Go through, turn right and continue straight on ignoring a footpath to the left. There are good views of the Thames Valley on this stretch of the path.  Continue straight ahead until you reach a byway, turn left here and then after a few yards turn right through a wooden kissing gate. Walk straight ahead across the field, with more good views to be seen to the right,  pass through another wooden kissing gate and walk past the cottages at Path Hill.

3 At Path Hill continue on the road past the cottages until a junction is reached where you turn right. Follow the bend of the road round to the left, ignoring the first path to the left, continue straight on for about 200 yards and opposite Path Hill farm take a footpath to the left via a five barred gate (unhook the chain to open) and cross the paddock to a metal gate. Walk straight down into the valley and near the bottom pass through a metal kissing gate on the right. Bearing slightly to your right go up the hill to another kissing gate, follow the path through the wood, pass through another gate and walk up to Holmes Oak Farm. After passing through another gate bear right and follow the path round the perimeter of a wooden building and arrive at a track Turn left and after a short distance turn right onto a wide track walk to a T junction at the end of the road arriving at the hamlet of Collins End



4 Turn left here and walk straight ahead until the road bears right and you follow the bridleway straight ahead. Continue along this for a short distance and then take the footpath to the left passing through a wooden gate and onto a footpath which runs between a hedge and barbed wire. At the end of the hedge bear half left with the path and follow the path diagonally across the field to a pair of cottages. Go straight ahead here following the Chiltern Way sign, through a five barred gate and across a meadow for a short distance until you come to a metal kissing gate. Pass through this and follow the path downhill to a wooden kissing gate, carry on down into the valley  and climb up the hill to another wooden kissing gate. Walk through a small copse until a road is reached, turn right then left at T junction and past the cottages at Path Hill.

5 Then take a path on the right leading past the end of the cottages, go through a wooden kissing gate and cross the meadow to a another kissing gate. Turn left onto a byway and after a few yards take a footpath to the right. Continue straight ahead following the perimeter of the field, then follow a fairly straight track straight ahead  until a path to the right is reached. Take this path, follow it along the field edge then through a gap in the hedge to the left and continue to follow it until you reach the road at Whitchurch Hill where you either turn left to the recreation ground or right and retrace your steps turning left into Oakdown Close and back to the Sun PH.

Whitchurch Hill stile free circular walk (Walk 4)

This walk starts in the rural village of Whitchurch Hill which sits on the edge of the Chilterns, some 300 feet above the Thames valley. It is a varied walk passing through Goring Heath, with some lovely Chilterns scenery and a welcoming country pub to return to.

Distance: 6 miles

Start: The Sun PH at Whitchurch Hill or by the Recreation Ground.

Access Information: A moderate walk over mixed farmland and woodland with good views at Path Hill and over the Thames valley. There is one short steep section approaching Path Hill.

Route:

1 Park at the Sun PH Whitchurch Hill utilising the field at the back of the car park if possible. Do not park on the grass verges in front and adjacent to the pub. With your back to the pub, turn right up the road and after a few yards turn left down an alleyway and into Oakdown Close. At the end of the close turn right and walk past Butlers Farm to Whitchurch Hill recreation ground which could be an alternative starting point as there are quite a few parking spaces here.

2 Cross the recreation ground and turn right onto the B471 Crays Pond road. Walk past St. John the Baptist church on your right and almost immediately cross the road with care and turn left onto a concrete track marked as a footpath. This leads to Beech Farm but after about 200 yards turn right through a metal kissing gate, cross the meadow keeping to the hedge on the right to another kissing gate and follow the path through the woods. After a short distance the path splits, take the left hand fork and continue to the edge of the wood through a kissing gate, across two fields and through two green metal kissing gates. After passing through the last gate bear left through the next field passing the farm buildings of Coombe End farm.

continued down



Whitchurch Hill stile free circular walk (Walk 4)

from previous page

3 At Coombe End farm go through another green metal kissing gate, turn right onto the farm track, pass through yet another gate and follow the track to the road. Go straight on passing a farmhouse on your right until you reach a kissing gate on your right. Go diagonally left across the field to another metal kissing gate, pass through this and turn right onto a road. Fairly shortly after turn left onto another road signposted as a bridleway. After about 250 yards turn right through a metal kissing gate, cross the field, pass through another kissing gate in the hedge and walk across another field down to a wooden kissing gate at Blackbird's Bottom.

4 Turn right here and follow the road to the B471 Crays Pond – Whitchurch road. Taking care to watch out for traffic turn left and after a few yards cross the road to a wooden kissing gate.

5 This gate leads to the Oratory preparatory school sports field. Go diagonally left across the sports field to a gap in the north east corner which leads through to the B4526 Goring Road. Turn right and fairly shortly afterwards take a footpath to your left which leads through the woods. Continue along this path until reaching a track. Turn right and then almost immediately left onto another path following the arrows until a T junction of paths is reached. Turn right and follow this path for about 250 yards until a four way junction of paths is reached. Turn left onto a bridleway and follow this for about a quarter of a mile until you reach a road where you turn right.

6 This road is called the Long Toll. Walk along the Long Toll for just under half a mile until the B4526 is reached again. At the junction, almost directly in front of you, there is a wooden gate. Go through this onto a path and walk directly ahead past Woodlands Cottage, across a track and on past the front of the Almshouses, ignoring a path to your left, until you reach the 'Old Goring Heath Post Office' and a four way junction of roads. The Almshouses were founded and endowed in 1724 by Henry Alnutt of the Middle Temple for 12 poor men.

7 Turn slightly to your right and walk past the front of the old Post office then take a bridleway to your left which runs past the side and behind the building and beside the Garden centre which you will see on the left hand side. After about 300 yards turn right through a wooden gate and onto a footpath which runs between a hedge and barbed wire. At the end of the hedge bear half left with the path and follow the path diagonally across the open field to a pair of cottages. Go straight ahead here following the Chiltern Way sign, through a five barred gate and across a meadow for a short distance until you come to a metal kissing gate. Pass through this and follow the path downhill to a wooden kissing gate, carry on down into the valley  and climb up the hill to another wooden kissing gate. Walk through a small copse until a road is reached, turn right then left at T junction and past the cottages at Path Hill.

8 Then take a path on the right leading past the end of the cottages, go through a wooden kissing gate and cross the meadow  to a another kissing gate. Turn left onto a byway and after a few yards take a footpath to the right. Continue straight ahead  ignoring a path to the right until a metal kissing gate is reached on your left. Go through this, cross the meadow and walk past cottages to reach the recreation ground at Whitchurch Hill. If going back to the Sun PH retrace your steps past Butlers Farm and along Oakdown Close to the alleyway.

 fine view