

Summary: Difficulty: MODERATE, Distance: 14.4 miles, Ascent: 456m

Overview

From Chalfont St Giles you follow quiet country paths over fields and through woods, passing pretty villages. You then cross the busy Wye valley and M40 before returning to rural calm and passing through larger patches of woodland before ending at Marlow Bottom.

TERRAIN: Good field and woodland paths over rolling terrain. Some short steep sections. Several stiles.

START: Chalfont St Giles, High Street **FINISH:** Marlow Bottom, Valley Road

FOOD AND DRINK: Coleshill: Red Lion; Winchmore Hill: Plough; Sheepridge: Crooked Billet; Burroughs Grove: Three Horseshoes; Marlow Bottom: One Stop Community Stores

COMPLETING THIS STAGE: Start from High Wycombe: bus to Beaconsfield, change for Chalfont (infrequent) or train to Gerrards Cross, bus to Chalfont (hourly). Return by bus from Wycombe Road (1km from stage end, hourly).

Visit [Chiltern Way](#) for information and news. You can view a detailed map on [OS Maps](#) and follow this stage on the app. The next stage is [3 - Marlow Bottom to Stonor](#) – click to download.

For more detailed information on this stage and on the Chiltern Way we recommend the "Chiltern Way and Chiltern Way Extensions" book by Nick Moon due to be published later this year. If you would like us to inform you when the book is available please email: office@chilternsociety.org.uk.

Route Description

1: Chalfont St Giles

Coordinates: OSGB SU99059350 LatLon 51.6317,-.5702

With your back to the archway leading to the church, cross the road, turn right past the former Crown (now Costa) and cross Up Corner Road. Take the footpath left along Stratton Chase Drive - a broad tree lined track. Initially it is stony as you pass grand houses. After passing a gate the track becomes muddy. Soon after it swings to the left and you leave it on a footpath straight ahead. The footpath continues along the valley bottom across a field from the river Misbourne. You join a road briefly near Chalfont Mill, continuing straight on on the footpath when it bends left. 600m later you pass Misbourne Farm, which has wood fenced paddocks (and maybe exotic animals). Look out for a footpath left.

2: Waypoint 2

Coordinates: OSGB SU98489470 LatLon 51.6426,-.5781

Turn left on this footpath through a narrow belt of trees and through a gate onto a fenced grassy path. Follow a grown out hedge along the next field and join a broad hedge-lined path with houses on the left. The footpath joins a drive and where you come to a T-junction turn right and shortly after left on a stony drive. As you come to a farm gate follow the footpath right/left along the fence skirting the farmyard. Continue to a road.

3: Waypoint 3

Coordinates: OSGB SU97589394 LatLon 51.6359,-.5913

For the next 3km your path runs almost perfectly straight to Coleshill, heading a little north of west. As long as you keep looking ahead, it is hard to get lost. Do not join the road. Turn right on a stony track. When the track swings right, leave it on a footpath straight ahead. Continue in the same direction across several fields to a lane. Cross straight over the lane. You follow an ancient hedge-line to Brentford Grange, initially to the right of it, but after 140m the path passes through and continues on the left-side. The ancient hedge veers right as you near buildings, you continue ahead.

You cross the farm drive and pass through trees near a pond, then cross the drive to the Grange. Now take the footpath running to the right of a grand Oak lined hedge. This takes you to the A355 Amersham Road. Across the road, a little left, drop down steps and cross a plank bridge before once more continuing to the right of a hedge. When you reach a wood the path turns right along the edge of the wood, soon curving left and head west once more to the village. You reach a road by the Red Lion pub and church.

4: Coleshill

Coordinates: OSGB SU94779511 LatLon 51.6469,-.6316

Cross the road and take the path left of the church. Cross another road and continue ahead along the track signposted Lands Farm. Initially you follow a gravel drive past houses. Keep straight ahead as it turns to concrete then dirt, taking the left fork where the path divides. Now you are walking to the right of a hedge-line once more. When you pass through a gate, the hedge swings left. You continue ahead across the field aiming to the left of the copse ahead of you.

When you reach the trees, the path swings a little right across the field to a gap in the wood ahead. Take the broad track through the wood. Leave the track after you've climbed out of the trees, taking the footpath that runs to the right of the hedge ahead of you. This takes you to Winchmore Hill. Turn left when you join a street to reach the Common by the Plough pub.

5: Winchmore Hill

Coordinates: OSGB SU93299491 LatLon 51.6453,-.6530

From the corner of the Common by the interpretation board, you'll see a fingerpost showing the way you need to go. Across the common you'll see a fenced play area. Aim to the right of the last house left of the play area. Take the footpath through the hedge behind this house. Continue straight ahead on a fenced footpath.

Pass a pond, cross a road, pass through a gate then turn left on a footpath running down the middle of a strip of trees. Look out for painted 'CW' arrows on the trees. When you reach a tarmac drive, turn left along it. When the drive swings left continue straight ahead, the footpath leaving the road at the bend. A forest track joins the footpath from the left and shortly after you leave the wood.

Continue in the same direction, walking to the left of the hedge ahead of you. The path swings left, descending along a wood. At the bottom corner of the wood turn right and head for a gate to a road. Go through the gate across the road and follow the permissive footpath to the right round the corner of the field, exiting through the next gate to reach a road.

6: Penn Bottom

Coordinates: OSGB SU92199392 LatLon 51.6366,-.6693

Take the footpath over the road, heading up a hedge-lined farm track. The right-hand hedge soon disappears but your path continues along the left-hedge rising along the course of a shallow dry valley and swinging to the left as it goes. At a fork in the track, continue straight ahead through a hedge-gap, the path turning left just after the gap and continuing to the right of the hedge.

When you reach the edge of a wood, take the footpath left up into the wood. Once in the wood, the path swings back to the right, following a winding southerly course. When you leave the trees turn left on the track you were on earlier. Keep straight ahead through a gate at the corner of the field continuing to the right of the woods. As you climb towards a house the path bears right away from the wood. At a fork take the footpath right and you soon reach the B474 at the edge of Penn.

7: Penn

Coordinates: OSGB SU91339337 LatLon 51.6317,-.6818

Turn left along the pavement for 50m. Cross the road when you get to Wellbank and take the bridleway running to the right of the house. When you come to a fork, take the right bridleway and you soon come to a footpath to the left. Take this footpath which follows an undulating course along some grand gardens.

When you reach a drive turn sharp left and follow the footpath to the right of 'Whitecroft'. You soon emerge on a fenced path across an open field. After crossing a stile at the edge of an open field turn right along the edge of woodland. Shortly after the path has curved left cross the stile to the right into the wood. Then turn left, following the path just inside the left-hand edge of the wood.

After leaving the wood over a stile, continue along the right-hand side of a line of trees. Ignore a turning to the right and enter another strip of trees. When you come to a footpath fork in the trees, take the right fork. Cross a stile to leave the wood near Lude Farm which you will see across the field to your left.

8: Lude Farm

Coordinates: OSGB SU91259205 LatLon 51.6200,-.6832

Ignore the turning left for the Berkshire loop and keep straight on a footpath running to the right of a tree-lined hedge. Where the hedge swings left by a stile and farm gate, continue straight ahead downhill across a field to a stile you'll see in the trees in the valley bottom. Go straight across a crossing bridleway and climb through trees up the other side. You emerge from the trees at the edge of a golf course. The footpath skirts to the left along a fence around 2 greens. On the far side of the second green you join a golfers track. Ignore turnings to either side until you pass the tee to number 15.

Here follow the track downhill to the left of some scrub. At the next fork, take the right fork into scrub and then left at a bridleway junction to emerge on the edge of the course. Bear right on the track on follow it as it winds towards the club-house. Follow it round to the left before you get to the club-house.

When you join the main road to the club-house walk to the right of the low wooden fence on the right of the road. The bridleway becomes enclosed by hedges and becomes a road at Magpie Lodge. Continue down the pavement to the right until Robinson Road joins from the right. Cross the road and take the footpath half-right through trees. This soon takes you under the railway and down to a road. Turn left towards the main road and traffic lights.

9: Loudwater

Coordinates: OSGB SU89849117 LatLon 51.6123,-.7038

Cross the road right at the lights, then cross the river Wye before turning right on a surfaced path heading upstream beside the river. When the path swings left at the edge of playing fields, you can go diagonally across the field as indicated by the fingerpost, heading for a bridge you will see across the field (alternatively you can follow the surfaced path around the edge of the field).

Do not go over this bridge, turn right for 100m to the next bridge and turn left across the Back Stream. Cross the road and continue straight ahead up Bridge Bank Close. Pass the houses and continue into the right-hand edge of trees following a winding course up a dry valley. Take the tunnel under the motorway. At the top of the steps on the other side continue straight ahead on a footpath running west along the motorway. Turn left on a footpath when you get to the edge of the trees. Bear left, away from the field just before you get to a twin pole electricity pylon.

10: Flackwell Heath

Coordinates: OSGB SU88939081 LatLon 51.6092,-.7171

Our path skirts the western edge of Flackwell Heath. Pass to the right of a play area and garden fences. When the surfaced path swings left take the footpath half-right through a kissing gate into woods. The path follows a winding path through the woods a little away from the houses. Look out for painted marks on the trees and do not stray too far from the houses. The path finally passes down an enclosed track to a road.

Turn right on the road. Cross the road left just before Spring Lane and the Bucks College and continue a few metres further on the south side of Heath End Lane. Leave it to the left on an enclosed footpath just after 157 Long Platt. You soon emerge at the edge a field with extensive views across the Thames valley. Continue downhill to the left of a hedge-line. The footpath joins a sunken track before reaching Sheepridge Lane. Turn right on the road - you can walk along the verge on the right.

11: Sheepridge

Coordinates: OSGB SU88358947 LatLon 51.5972,-.7258

When you reach the Crooked Billet pub, turn right in front of it and take the steep track towards 'The Foresters House'. Where the track swings right towards the house keep straight on on a narrow hedged footpath. Continue until you cross a stile into an open field. Bear right to a hedge and then left up the hedge and into a wood. Your path heads west through the wood. Ignore the crossing forestry tracks. When you come to a footpath fork, take the left fork. After another 400m you cross another forestry track and shortly after the footpath joins a track. This soon starts to descend. When the main track turns right keep straight on, still on a track, now descending steeply to a road. Turn left on the road and, after 500m, look out for a footpath to the right, just before the house near Bloom Farm.

12: Bloom Farm

Coordinates: OSGB SU86628923 LatLon 51.5953,-.7509

Take the footpath right away from the road, initially climbing steeply along a broad track. Follow this forest track for 400m. Leave it just before it leaves the wood on a footpath half-left that continues through the trees. This brings you to a side road next to the busy A404 Marlow Bypass. Do not walk across the bypass. Turn left down the side road which passes under the bypass. Shortly after, turn right at a road junction.

After passing Wood Barn Farmhouse the road ends and you follow a grassy footpath heading uphill diagonally towards the bypass. As you near the bypass you reach a gas compound surrounded by a high metal fence. Turn left, skirting left round the fence. Pass through a kissing gate onto a fenced footpath which you follow for 250m to a road. Turn right on the road to the road junction by the Three Horseshoes pub.

13: Burroughs Grove

Coordinates: OSGB SU85548911 LatLon 51.5944,-.7665

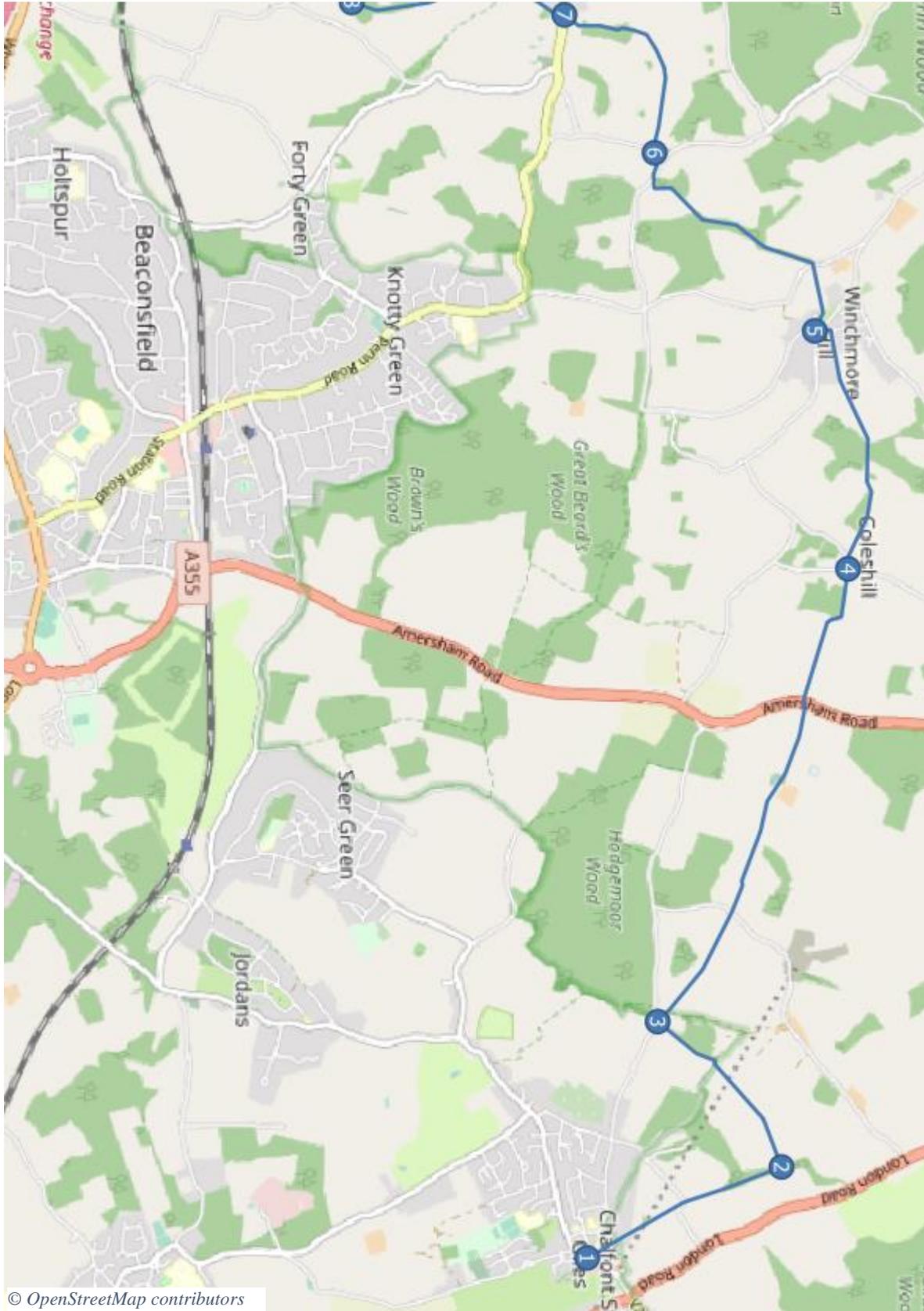
Go to the apex of the triangle of grass at the junction and cross the Wycombe Road. Take the footpath opposite heading left across an open field. Once across the field you drop down steps to a sunken bridleway. Turn left and almost immediately right on a bridleway which runs through a strip of scrub between fields. After passing a house this turns to a stony track.

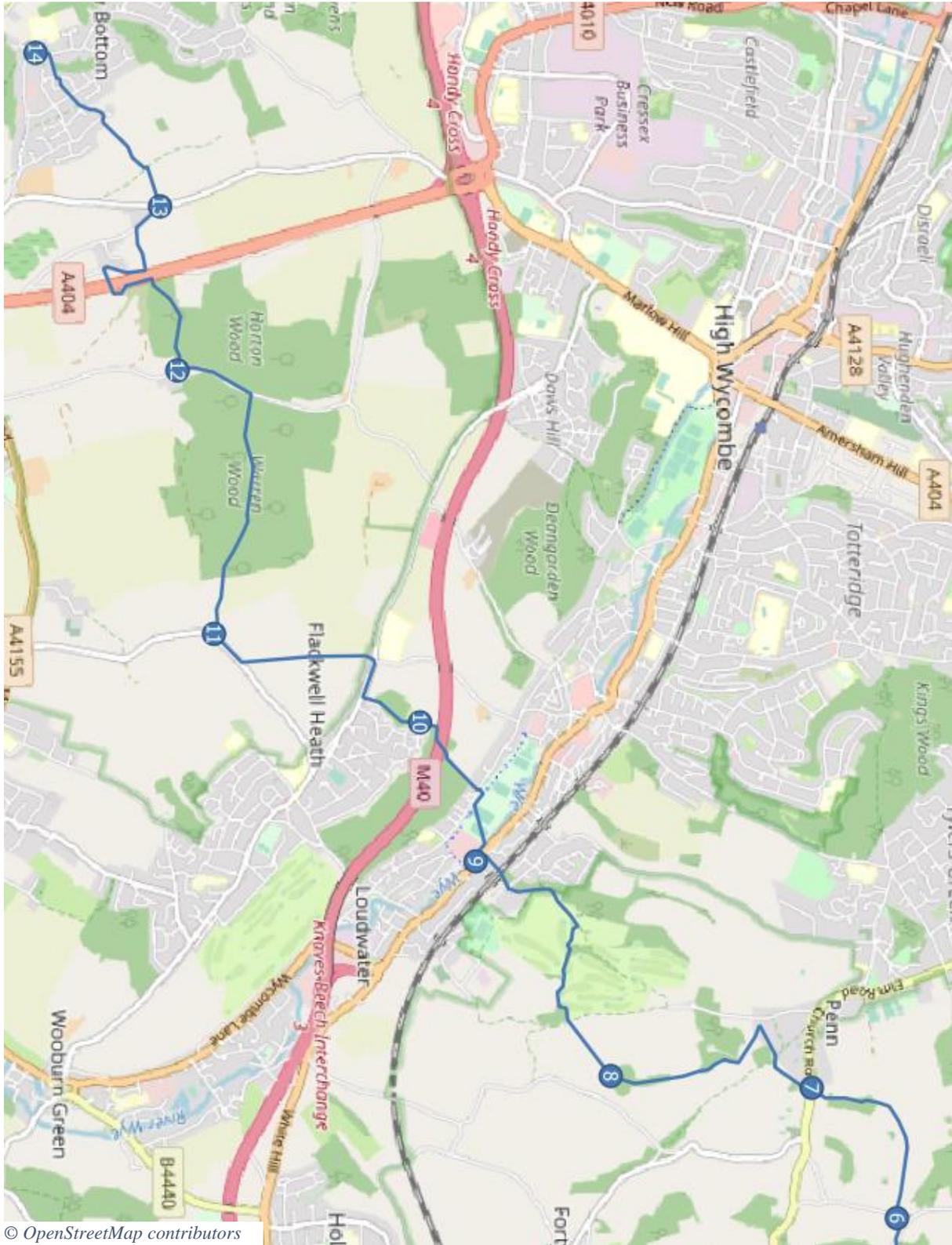
When you reach a street turn right and, after a few metres, left on an enclosed bridleway. When you come to a fork, take the footpath right between high fences. Keep straight on across two streets and at the third, turn left downhill and shortly after right onto a surfaced path. There is a steep descent down to the valley road. Turn left on the Valley Road and continue for 100m to the fingerpost between 103 and 105 where this stage ends and the next begins.

14: Finish - Marlow Bottom

Coordinates: OSGB SU84538830 LatLon 51.5873,-.7812

We hope you have had a good walk. We are committed to making the Chiltern Way as enjoyable as possible, so if you feel we could improve the directions or came across any path problems, please contact us directly by e-mail: office@chilternsociety.org.uk.





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