North Wessex Downs AONB

The North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) includes some of England’s finest and most ancient landscapes - from chalk downland and river valleys to arable farmland, ancient woodland and world-famous historic sites. The AONB is ideal for walkers, cyclists and riders to enjoy panoramic views along open chalk escarpments, as well as rights of way through woodland and alongside rivers and parts of the Kennet and Avon Canal. Visitors can follow routes that include the Ridgeway National Trail, the White Horse Trail and the Wayfarer’s Walk, taking in attractive rural towns and villages that offer opportunities to enjoy local produce and hospitality.

For further information about the North Wessex Downs AONB, please visit www.northwessexdowns.org.uk

Transport and amenities

There is a regular train service to Newbury Station.
Brightwalton is served by the following bus service:
No. 107 Newbury to Chaddleworth (Mon-Sat)
Ordnance Survey map: OS 174

There is parking available at the starting points of all walks.

Why not visit the Ibex Public House at Chaddleworth for refreshments?
Tel: 01488 638311

The Country Code

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
- Guard against all risk of fire
- Leave all gates as found
- Keep to public rights of way across farmland
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
- Take your litter home
- Help to keep all water clean
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees
- Take special care on country roads
- Make no unnecessary noise

For further information contact:

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TWO SCENIC WALKS AROUND BRIGHTWALTON

Distance between 2-4 miles/3-6.5 km
Easy to moderate walking (includes stiles).

Walk 1: from Brightwalton Holt
Walk 2: from Brightwalton Common

www.brightwalton.org.uk
Walk 1. Brightwalton and Chaddleworth

This walk is mostly open countryside, with some fine views, taking in the outskirts of the villages of Brightwalton and Chaddleworth.

Distance 4 miles, allow 1½ hours.
Easy walk, 7 stiles and 2 kissing gates.

1. BRIGHTWALTON HOLT (Grid Ref 440777)

Following the byway west from the B4494, turn right through a gate just after Cotswold Farm. Cross a short stretch of grass and turn right following the path over further stiles to the road.

2. OAK ASH FARM (Grid Ref 425774)

Cross the road up the drive of Oak Ash (this is a public footpath), where you can see snowdrops and daffodils in the spring. As the road bends left, follow the footpath sign straight ahead, crossing a small footbridge over a duckpond to another stile. Cross the field towards a white cottage, go through the gate and carry on down the road.

3. TYNEYS GREEN (Grid Ref 419772)

Turn right at the T-junction and down the hill into Chaddleworth. Left at the next T-junction brings you to the Ibex pub, about 35 minutes into the walk.

4. CHADDLEWORTH (Grid Ref 416773)

Take the right hand footpath opposite the Ibex, turn right onto the road and after 100 yards climb the steps on the right and follow the footpath across the field. Cross the road, through a metal kissing gate. You may meet the resident Highland Cattle in the field to your left. Follow the path through 2 gates and out into an open field. Go straight ahead, turning left at the road.

5. SPRAY WOOD (Grid Ref 419783)

After 100 yards, as the road bends right, take the path straight ahead. This skirts Spray Wood, carpeted with bluebells in spring. Take the footpath signposted on your right towards Brightwalton Green, admiring the beautiful views of Brightwalton and All Saints Church.

6. BRIGHTWALTON GREEN (Grid Ref 427785)

Cross the green, through a gate and across the next field. Over the stile, and another on your right after 40 yards. Go through the gate and round Folly Farm. Turn left and follow the road down the hill towards the B4494, where there are more panoramic views. Just before the main road, turn right at the footpath sign across the field, cross a stile and another field to a kissing gate. Turn left to arrive back at the Holt.
Walk 2.
Bright Walton Common

This walk includes views of the training gallops at Woolley Down and south to Inkpen Beacon. You will see daffodils and bluebells in the spring. Distance 4 miles, allow up to 2 hours. No stiles. Moderate walk.

1. BRIGHTWALTON COMMON (Grid Ref 427807)

By Field House head west from the common along a bridleway to Nine Acre Wood. Coming down the slope, take the footpath signposted to your right. Cross the road and go up the hill until you come to a crossroads. Turn left here.

2. COOMBE HILL (Grid Ref 418813)

The bridleway passes between hedgerows, then bends right and descends, giving lovely views over farmland. Follow the broad, grassy path straight up the hill. On your right is a row of majestic beech trees.

3. THE BEECHES (Grid Ref 413812)

Continue to the fence at the top of the hill, looking over the gallops at Woolley Down. Take the right hand path between two hedges and turn right again onto a road leading down to Famborough Down Farm (see wonderful daffodils in early spring). Carry on up the hill to arrive back at the crossroads. Turn left.

4. BLUEBELL WOODS (Grid Ref 422815)

Follow the byway through bluebell woods, bearing gently to the right until you reach a road. Turn left and directly across the road (B4494) there is a path leading up towards Farnborough. Here you can see all the way to Inkpen Beacon.

Dunmore Pond

Bluebell Woods

5. FARNBOROUGH (Grid Ref 432817)

Turn right at the T-junction and take the second footpath on your right across the field. Cross the road diagonally to your left and take the footpath towards two small copse of trees. At Lower Barn take the byway to your right, leading back up to Bright Walton Common. Turn right to arrive back at the starting point.