

Great Chalfield Round

Distance: Approximately 4 miles

Time: Approximately 1.5 hours

Please note this walk has some gates which are difficult to open.

Starting Point

Proceed along the Broughton Gifford Road from Atworth and turn down the signposted drive to Great Chalfield (map reference ST 567645). Continue along this drive until you see a small pond on the right. Park on the grass verge where it is safe to do so, just past the pond.

Walk in the same direction until you find a footpath sign on the right. Cross a bridge and go through a gate into a field called Six Acre Conigre. Turn left and then right, keeping the hedge on your left, and proceed to the bottom left hand corner. Pass through the gate on your left and then go downhill towards the red-tiled barn (Lenton Conigre). At the farmyard of Lenton Farm pass through a gate, turn right through a second gate towards a barn (Lenton Cowleaze). Follow the track downhill keeping the farmhouse and buildings on your left. Pass through a gate in front of you and over a brook into the adjoining meadow (Pricket Mead) and turning half-left walk 30 yards to another gate which will lead you into a further meadow (Coarse Mead).

Once in this field walk diagonally to the right across the field below the overhead power lines toward two gates in the distance. Beside these gates is a stile, cross this and immediately turn left over the brook through a gap in the hedge into the next field (Longmoor Field).

Turn immediately right and keeping the hedge on your right, walk to the corner. Turn left and there is a stile about half way between the corner of the field and an oak tree. Cross the stile into the next field which is part of Little Chalfield.

Turn left and with the hedge of your left, walk to the corner with the houses and Manor of Little Chalfield slightly to the right in front of you. At a track turn left across Westfield towards Great Chalfield. Continue along this track for about a third of a mile until you reach some barns on the left. Turn right here off the track alongside a small plantation of trees. At the corner of this field cross a bridge to the left which goes over a remarkable Saxon Mill Leat. This unusual structure feeds the moat at Great Chalfield Manor. You now enter

West Mead, which can be a very wet field!

Turn half left downhill and head for a gate with a bridge and another gate on the other side leading into Little Sleight.

Turn left and go uphill across this field and through a kissing gate on the left hand side. Walk along a short track down to the tarmac road. Turn right and proceed uphill to a sharp right-hand bend and a footpath sign. Turn left here and walk along the track to Copse Farm keeping close to the left hand hedge. Do not follow the direction of the footpath sign. Walk about 150 yards and turn sharp left through a kissing gate into the field called Bonus or Bunhouse.

Walk downhill along the right hand side of this field keeping close to Ladies Wood until you reach the corner where there is a gate and bridge over Chalfield Brook which takes you into the next field called Pen Close.

Cross this field uphill diagonally to the left, aiming for a gateway onto the lane. You will see Great Chalfield Mill Cottages to your left. Go through a kissing gate and then turn immediately right over a stile (or through a gap in the hedge) into Timber Field.

Follow the hedge on the right-hand side to the corner. You will see Great Chalfield Manor and All Saints' Church to your left. At the corner there is a bridge and a stile over Lenton Brook. Cross these to enter the next field (Watgrove).

Turn left and walk alongside the stream until you reach an avenue of oak trees on your right. Some of these trees are probably about 150 years old. Turn right and walk through the avenue to a stile and gate at the far end. This takes you back to the tarmac drive. Walk uphill back to your car.