

OurWalks.com Circular Walk ① - Postling to Brabourne and return

Approx mileage : 11.5 miles

Terrain : Very hilly on the outward journey but mostly flat on the return

Paths : Outward journey using the **North Downs Way**. Return journey footpaths and country lanes

Parking : Plenty of kerbside parking in Postling

Pub : Five Bells, Brabourne

- 1 Leave **Postling** at the north end of the village by taking the left exit of a "Y" junction, keeping the church on your left. Walk along the lane for approx 100 yards and find a stile on the right hand side; this is where you join the North Downs Way. This path is very well marked so follow the marker posts up the hill until you reach the B2068, better known as Stone Street, looking at the **spectacular views** across the Channel on the way.
- 2 Cross the Stone Street into the pasture field opposite and walk around the top of the field known as Farthing Common. Here there are some **further fantastic views** across Hythe and Romney Marsh to the south and Ashford and surrounding districts to the west.
- 3 Continue along to top edge of the field, keeping Stone Street on your right, to a lane (noticing on the way a stile in the middle of nowhere). Continue on the NDW, crossing over the lane into the next field - you may be able to walk straight into it or if not use the stile in the hedge some 10 -15 yards down the road.
- 4 Continue on the footpath, following the northern boundary of this arable field, which swings round to the left and pass through a gap between two hedges into

another arable field and continue down the right hand boundary to a pasture field with two stiles. **More spectacular views** here.

- 5 Descend the steep hill, cross a lane and continue down to another lane. Turn right into this lane and stay on the lane into Stowing (look out for the trout hatchery on the right hand side). Continue past the Tiger Inn past where the North Downs Way joins the Pilgrim's Way.
- 6 Continue past a property called Scotland and some stables on the left hand side. Just past the stables some 75 - 100 yards you will find a bridle path on the right. Climb this, crossing over Brabourne Lane and walk for 200 - 300 yards until you reach a stile on the left hand side.
- 7 Follow the path down the hill, cross over a small lane into an orchard immediately opposite. Follow the footpath signs through the orchard, down to a road opposite the Five Bells Public House at **Brabourne**.

The Five Bells is a cosy, rural pub serving good pub food and has a good selection of real ales on hand pump - usually 3 and sometimes 4 - and some splendid wines to choose from.

- 8 When leaving the pub (always assuming you have stopped for refreshments) turn eastwards along the road towards the church. Pass through the churchyard and turn left round the back of the church. The footpath then follows an easterly direction passing under pylon cables to another field and then onto Fiddling lane.
- 9 Turn right along the lane for approx 50 yards and turn left into another lane. Travel along this lane until it takes a sharp left hand bend and on the bend in the corner there is a stile into a pasture field. Follow the footpath directions up a gentle hill with a wood on your right hand side.
- 10 This will lead to another lane called Church Lane, cross this and climb another stile on the opposite side of the road. The footpath splits into two here so take the left-hand path past Monks Horton Manor going south-easterly to a road called Blindhouse Lane. Cross this

and continue on a footpath directly opposite, which eventually end up at Stone Street.

- 11 Cross over Stone Street to a footpath opposite and this will lead to a bridle way (this can be very muddy at certain times of the year). Continue along the bridleway ignoring 3 footpaths on the left hand side along the way but take the fourth exit on the left into a pasture field, leading to Cuckoo Lane; the main road through **Postling**.



HAPPY WALKING

From the Ourwalks.com team

