



# Walk Alton

Walk Alton is a community group that was originally set up to gain 'Walkers are Welcome' accreditation for Alton. Working in close liaison with Alton Town Council, Walk Alton successfully achieved accreditation in 2019.

We embrace the role of promoting walking in Alton and the surrounding area, and have set up a Walk Alton Annual Forum, so that a range of local organisations can review our work, advise upon specific issues and bring new ideas and perspectives.

We are currently working on many initiatives. In particular we support the Alton Walking Festival via involvement in planning, providing leader briefing and promotion of walk locations. The event, held each May, is one of the largest and longest walking festivals in the country and has the potential for wider promotion and greater recognition in future years – and we are excited to be part of that ongoing process.

Want to keep up-to-date with our activities and discover new walks in your area? Subscribe to our newsletter at: [tinyurl.com/7kdsdyvf](http://tinyurl.com/7kdsdyvf)

## Maps and Apps

We would recommend that you use a 1:25,000 Ordnance Survey Explorer map (orange cover), and these are the maps for which we have provided references.

The OS 1: 50,000 Landranger series of maps (red and grey cover) is also very useful, although the maps obviously lack the detail of the Explorer series.

Explorer 144 Basingstoke, Alton and Whitchurch covers a lot of the area of this brochure, but does not extend to Four Marks, Ropley and Alresford in the west and most of Shortheath and Binswood in the south east. Explorer 132 Winchester, New Alresford and East Meon is ideal for the Winchester to Alton and Alresford to Alton walks.

You can order a Customised Ordnance Survey map, centred upon your home, but an Alton-centred Explorer sheet won't include Odiham or Alresford

A very convenient alternative is the OS Map App, which provides access to OS mapping for the whole country and can also be used for walk planning

There are a number of other mapping and walk planning Apps, including Viewranger, Komoot and Map My Walk: explore a few and see which suits your particular needs!

# Ticket to Stride

Take advantage of our local bus routes to discover a wealth of walks **IN AND AROUND ALTON**, and reduce your environmental impact by leaving your car at home!



[www.walkalton.org.uk](http://www.walkalton.org.uk)

 **Stagecoach**  
[www.stagecoachbus.com](http://www.stagecoachbus.com)

# Ticket to Stride

Alton is fast developing a reputation as a walker-friendly town, offering great walking opportunities in lovely countryside. Walk Alton is delighted to collaborate with Stagecoach South who have kindly agreed to produce this leaflet showcasing some great walks to be enjoyed by using local bus services.

We are limiting the maximum length of suggested walks to about 10/11 miles, but longer options, such as Winchester to Alton (20 miles), are also possible. Using the bus makes a great start to your walk, and allows you to explore further!

Please do check the online timetables for bus times and pick up points on the day of your walk, in case of alterations.



## West to Four Marks, Alresford and Winchester

There is a bus every half an hour, from early morning until late afternoon, with hourly buses continuing until late evening (please be sure to check the latest timetable in advance). You can catch the 64 at Alton station, in the town centre and at stops on its route out of town (via the Sports Centre).

Using the 64 to get to the start of walks gives a great range of options and here are just a few (OS Explorer sheet 132):

From **1** Four Marks, walk back to Alton via St Swithun's Way, Woodside and Chawton or via Chawton Park Woods and Sports Centre, **4/5 miles**.

From **2** Ropley Dean, walk back to Alton via St Swithun's Way, **7 miles**.

From **3** Alresford, walk back to Alton via Old Alresford, Ox Drove Way, Hattingley and Medstead, **10 miles**.

As well as linear walks, you have the option of doing shorter circular walks, then hopping on a bus back to Alton. For example, from Four Marks Telegraph Lane it's a short walk to the west end of Chawton Park Wood, where you can enjoy a pleasant woodland stroll. Or, stay on the bus to Alresford, alight at the Co-op and take the popular circular walk via The Dean to the river, returning via the Fulling Mill and Broad Street: the ducks on the river are always a winner with children!



## North to South Warnborough, Odiham and Basingstoke

The 13 has an hourly service from early morning until early evening, so it is still a useful resource for walkers. You can catch the 13 in the High Street, but please do check the online timetable, not only for times but also for other points where you can board the bus in Alton.

Using the 13 gives you access to some interesting walk options, including (OS Explorer sheet 144):

From **4** South Warnborough, walk back to Alton via Humbly Grove, Lasham Corner and Shalden, **6 miles**.

There are also nice circuits from the village east to Long Sutton, Well and Horsedown Common, ranging from 3 to 10 miles. If you do one of these circuits, and have to wait for a bus back to Alton from South Warnborough, there is a nice coffee shop in the Village Stores, and The Poacher pub at the north end of the village provides classic pub fare. Please check their website in advance.

From **5** Odiham (alight at the west end of the village) you could walk back to Alton via Long Sutton, Lord Wandsworth College, Lower Froyle, Upper Froyle and Holybourne, **8 miles**.

There are also some interesting short walks around the town and along the Basingstoke Canal.

If you alight from the bus at **6** North Warnborough you could walk along the Basingstoke Canal to King John's Castle and the entrance to Greywell Tunnel with the option to continue on for a short walk around Greywell Moors, **2-3 miles**.



## East to Bentley, Farnham and Guildford

A useful service to walkers who want to walk the eastern portion of the St Swithun's Way. However, although operating hourly through most of the day, buses don't always depart at the same minutes past the hour, so reference to the latest copy of the timetable is important! (OS Explorer sheet 144).

From **7** Bentley, walk back to Alton via St Swithun's Way, 5 miles, or go south across the fields to Bentley station and walk back via Binsted, Wyck and Neatham, **7 miles**.

From **8** Farnham walk to Alton via St Swithun's Way, **9 miles**.



## South to Petersfield

A much less frequent service than other routes from Alton; only five buses a day, so you'll need to check the timetable carefully, especially if you are hoping do a circular walk and return by bus! The route goes through Selborne and also serves Liss (OS Explorer sheet 133).

From **9** Selborne you can walk back to Alton via the Hangers Way, 6 miles, or via Bush Down, Upper Farringdon and Chawton, **5.5 miles**.

There are also many lovely local circuits, including the Short and Long Lythe and Priory Farm, 2 miles, up the Zig Zag and around Selborne Common, 2-3 miles, and via Homestead Farm to Noar Hill and return via the Common, **5.5 miles**.

If you opt for one of these circuits and have a while to wait for a bus back, there's the Selborne Arms, La Luna coffee shop or the Gilbert White Centre café to while away the time over refreshments!



## East to East Worldham, Kingsley, Bordon and Liphook or Haslemere

With a frequency of hourly until early evening, catching an eastbound 13/23 service gives two convenient walk options (OS Explorer sheets 133 or 144):

From **10** East Worldham walk back to Alton on the Hangers Way, 2.5 miles or take a more meandering return route via Hartley Park, Hartley Mauditt, West Worldham and Water Lane, **4 miles**.

From **11** Kingsley, alight at Baker's Farm and walk down to Shortheath Common, cross the Common to Oakhanger and walk back to Alton via Binswood and the Hangers Way, **5.5 miles**.

Also from Kingsley, you could enjoy a nice circular walk on Kingsley Common, 1-2 miles, or combine this with a circuit of Shortheath Common, **4+ miles**.



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Eel House on the Arle, Alresford



Gilbert White's House, Selborne



King John's Castle, Odiham



Basingstoke Canal, Odiham



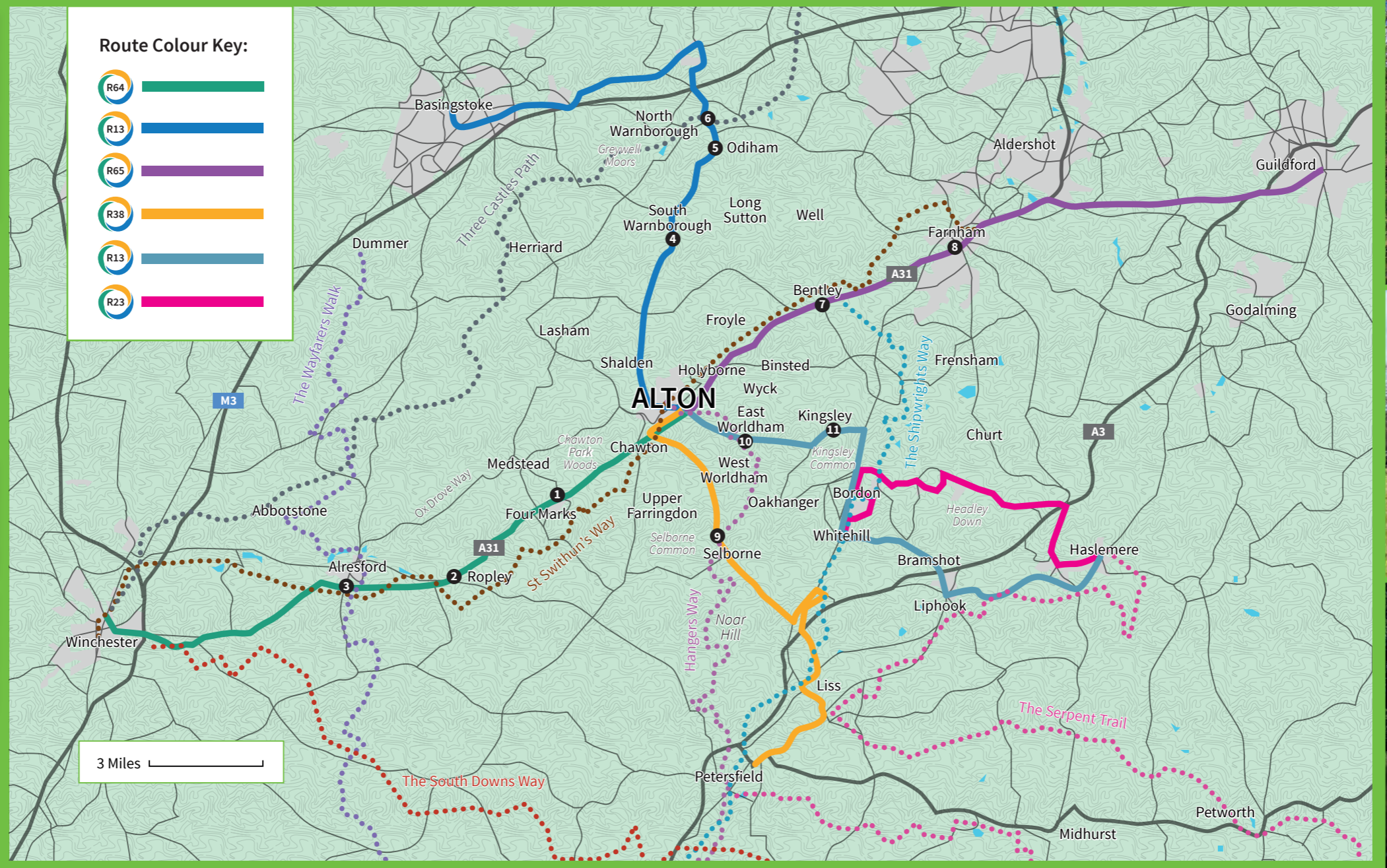
South Warnborough Village Shop



Over the Fields to Shalden



The Watercress Line, Ropley



Kingsley Common



Shortheath Pond, Oakhanger



Traditional hop pole storage, East Worldham



King Alfred Statue, Winchester



Near King John's Hill, East Worldham



The Selborne Arms, Selborne



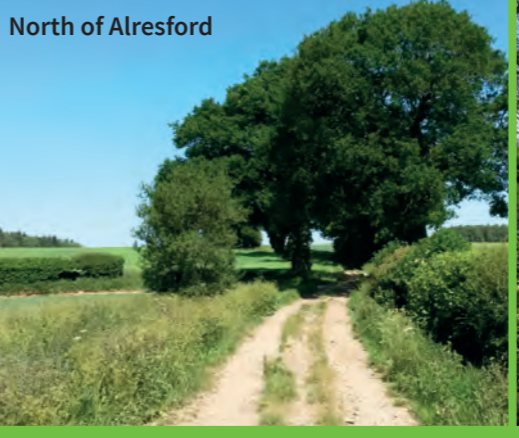
Binswood



Chawton Park Wood, Four Marks



Jane Austen's House, Chawton



North of Alresford



Water Lane, between Alton and East Worldham