

7

ALTON STATION, WEST WORLDHAM AND CHAWTON

A circuit of about 6 miles.

Follow the Hangers Way sign when you leave the station; go south east along Wilsom Road and turn left onto the path after passing Omega Park Industrial area. Cross the A31 with great care and follow the path along the slopes of Neatham Down and across a huge field, At Clay's Farm go ahead and continue around the back of buildings, then cross another large field. Cross a lane and continue ahead, then turn right on a path into the churchyard.

Walk past the church and down the lane to the B3004, then turn right. Cross the road, turn right, and take a path on the left hand side. Follow the path over three stiles until it emerges onto a farm lane. Turn right and walk past the buildings; bear left and head south across fields to reach West Worldham. Turn right and follow the lane to a junction; turn left and soon take a track on the right. Continue ahead and slightly downhill to reach the golf course, walking parallel to 'watery lane' on the left.

Cross Truncheaunts Lane and go ahead up a track which leads to a crossing of the A31. Cross with great care and continue ahead. The track meets Windmill Hill; continue ahead and then turn right down Crowley Drive, returning to the station via the south side of Kings Pond.

8

BENTLEY STATION TO ALTON STATION

A pleasant walk of about 7 miles. One ascent through Redcap Copse.

Leaving Bentley station on the path across the fields, cross Blacknest Road and continue uphill through Redcap Copse, emerging onto the Binsted Plateau. Take the path across the plateau to Binsted village, then follow a short path to Holy Cross Church, go through the churchyard and continue across a field and a small valley. Follow a path past ponds, then climb the hanger and continue along the top to reach Wyck. Walk through the quiet hamlet of Wyck and take a path heading northwest alongside Clays Lane; continue across the fields to reach Neatham.

Turn left and follow lane; walk under A31 using an underpass. On far side, take path on the left; turn left at a lane and keep ahead to join a riverside path. At the end, turn right, cross Mill Lane and keep ahead, then turn left towards Alton station.

9

BENTLEY STATION TO ALTON STATION (SOUTHERN ROUTE)

A lovely walk of just over 15 miles.

Leaving Bentley station on the path across the fields, cross Blacknest Road and continue uphill through Redcap Copse, emerging onto the Binsted Plateau. Take the path across the plateau to Binsted village, then follow a short path to Holy Cross Church, go through the churchyard and across a field and a small valley.

Walk Alton



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

We embrace the role of promoting walking in Alton and the surrounding area, and have set up a Walk Alton Annual Forum to encourage new ideas and perspectives.

We also support the annual May Walking Festival through involvement in planning, providing leader briefing and promotion of walk locations. The event is one of the biggest 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

Maps and Apps

We 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!

Cover photo by Jonathan Taylor on Unsplash



weyvalleycrp.co.uk

Rail to Trail

Access a wealth of walks
in and around Alton
via our local
train routes...



www.walkalton.org.uk



Rail to Trail



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 Wey Valley Community Rail Partnership who have kindly agreed to produce this leaflet showcasing some great walks to be enjoyed by using local train services.

We are limiting the maximum length of suggested walks to about 15 miles, but longer options are also possible. Using the train makes a great start to your walk, and allows you to explore further. Please do check the online timetables for train times on the day of your walk, in case of alterations. For more information and to book tickets visit www.southwesternrailway.com.

1 ALTON AND FOUR MARKS VIA CHAWTON PARK WOOD

This linear walk of about 5 miles takes walkers to Four Marks, from where the half hourly 64 bus can be used to return to Alton station.

Leave the station and walk out to Normandy Street; turn left and keep ahead at the small roundabout; walk on to another small roundabout at the top of Crown Hill, then turn right. Turn left down Vicarage Road and walk past the library; keep ahead through the car park and leave it at the far right hand corner. Walk up to Market Square and head into the car park beyond Pizza Express. Walk on to enter the public gardens and leave them from a gate on the far side. Turn left and keep ahead, crossing two roads. At Whitedown, turn left up Albert Road and then right to cross The Butts.

By the railway bridge, bear right down Winchester Road. At the far end, turn right

up Mounters Lane to reach Jubilee Fields. Walk alongside the playing fields and past the cricket pavilion. Cross the road and take the bridleway on the left. This climbs steadily in woodland and passes a motorsports area on the left, then Brick Kiln Farm. Eventually the track meets Boyneswood Road, where you should turn left and walk ahead, crossing a railway bridge, to reach the main A31 road in Four Marks where there is a bus stop.

2 ALTON STATION, WEST WORLDHAM AND CHAWTON

A circuit of about 6.5 miles.

Follow the Hangers Way sign when you leave the station; go south east along Wilsom Road and continue under the A31; turn right immediately after the bridge and walk along the lane, turn left over the bridge and take path alongside the golf course. Continue ahead, climbing gently, and emerge at West Worldham near Manor Farm. Cross the lane and take

a path around the field, then bear right on another path which crosses the lane and goes across a large field. In the far corner go right and follow a path to Truncheants, emerging onto a narrow lane.

Turn left and take a path on the right. Keep ahead and bear left past industrial premises. Cross the B3006 road and keep ahead, then turn right to cross fields and eventually reach Eastfield Farm. Keep ahead and pass Mingledown Wood to reach the centre of Chawton. Turn right, go under the A31 and keep ahead along Winchester Road, under the railway bridge and past The Butts to return to Alton.

3 ALTON STATION AND WINDMILL HILL

A walk of about 2.5 miles, using a number of urban paths, to and from a popular Alton viewpoint.

Leaving the station, turn left and go under the railway bridge. Turn right and right again to join a short path to Kings Pond. Walk along the side of the pond and then cross the road and climb a steep set of steps on a path opposite. At the end of the path turn right and then walk along The Ridgeway, turning left at Salisbury Close. Take the path on the right to the open space of Windmill Hill. You can walk around the hill on mown paths and enjoy wide views across to Selborne.

Returning, head for the west side of the open space and take a headland path which

leads to Borovere Lane; turn right and soon look for a narrow path on the right. Emerge in Lingfield Close, walk down to cross The Ridgeway and take the first left. Take a path on the right and continue ahead where the path leaves the housing. Turn left down Mount Pleasant and then take a path on the right into Maltings Close.

Cross the road and continue downhill, then turn right, soon taking a path on the left just before the railway bridge. This leads back to the station.

4 ROUTE FROM ALTON STATION TO SHALDEN AND RETURN

An enjoyable loop of around 6.5 miles.

Leaving the station, turn left and go under the railway bridge. Turn left and follow footpath by the river, then continue ahead. Turn left past the fast food stall and go under the railway; walk up to Normandy Street and cross it into Anstey Park. Go across the playing fields, heading for the far right hand corner, and follow the path which heads north and climbs out of the Park.

Pass Row Wood and soon turn left onto a wide track; turn right at the road, then soon left onto a track past the Golf Course; follow this to the crossing of the B3049 road and keep ahead on Stanscombe Lane, emerging in Shalden. Go right and then left; walk toward the church but turn left on a narrow path leading to an open field. Continue uphill to meet and cross the lane and follow path past Pancake Copse

and down to cross the B3049 road at Greenmount Farm.

Go ahead on a path which climbs through woodland and soon ends in Greenfields Estate. Go down to cross Greenfields Avenue and keep ahead to reach Flood Meadows. Walk to the far left hand corner and follow Tanhouse Lane to reach Alton Library; turn up Vicarage Hill, bear right at the top and then left to return to Alton Station.

5 BENTLEY STATION TO ALTON STATION (NORTHERN ROUTE)

An interesting linear walk of 14.5 miles.

From Bentley station, take the path north across the river and continue to cross the A31 on a footbridge and enter Bentley. Continue north and west to pass Jenkyn Place and then follow St Swithun's Way to Pax Hill, then head west to reach Hussey's Lane, a long track. After a mile, turn left onto a long wooded path. After passing Sheephouse Copse turn right on a path which leads to Lord Wandsworth College; turn left and right, following lane to Long Sutton. Walk through the village and take a path on the left which runs parallel to the lane; go left onto a track which emerges at South Warnborough.

Walk south through the village (there is a coffee shop on the right) and continue along the edge of a field to join Westers Lane, a rough track which heads south west and, via Closedown Wood and Weston Common, brings you to Avenue Nurseries Garden Centre.

Follow the path south via Gason Wood to reach Shalden; turn left and continue along the lane, then take a path on the left which descends to Greenmount Farm. Cross the B3349 and continue ahead on a path which reaches housing at Amery Farm; keep ahead and go left at Flood Meadows, following paths and roads to reach Alton Station.

6 ALTON STATION AND HOLYBOURNE

A circuit of 3 miles with plenty of interest.

Leaving the station, turn left and go under the railway bridge. Turn left and follow footpath by the river, then continue ahead. Bear right past the old watermill and cross Mill Lane. Go ahead, cross the river and turn left on a path alongside the river. Where the path ends, follow the road around, cross the river again and take path on the right. Follow this until it joins a track, then walk up a metalled lane to Holybourne.

Cross the road, turn left and then turn right on a path. Turn left where it joins another path and follow this to reach Holybourne Church. Walk west along the lane and take the path (St Swithuns Way) on the right. Follow this to Anstey Park and head towards the far side of the playing fields, past the car park. Leave by a gap in the hedge and go ahead on a path which links with another path. When the path ends, turn left and head down to cross Normandy Street and return to the station.

Walk 9 continued...

Follow a path past ponds, then climb the hanger and continue along the top to reach Wyck.

Turn sharp left and descend on a sunken track; continue across a field and take Green Lane (a woodland track) south east to meet and cross the B3004. Go ahead on a narrow lane and then turn right into Binswood; follow the bridleway on the left along the edge of the wood and continue beyond to reach Rookery Farm. Cross the road and enter Shortheath Common. Take a path on the right and walk through the heathland, emerging at Oakhanger village green. Walk south through the village and take a path on the right across fields beside the Oakhanger Stream to reach Priory Farm. Turn left at the farm road and soon bear right to follow a winding woodland track which meets Hockers Lane, Selborne. Take a path on the right which climbs Church Meadow and brings you to Selborne churchyard

Cross the road and walk down Gracious Street. This winding lane soon climbs steeply; go ahead and soon half left onto a path up Bush Down. Follow the track along Bush Down and then drop down to Farringdon on a path across a large field. Walk north through the village; turn left and then right after the church. Follow track round in front of Manor Farm and soon turn left to climb steeply out of the village.

Keep ahead on the track and cross a stile into a large field; go into Chawton Park and continue through the village and under the A31 underpass. Walk under Butts Bridge and on to Alton Station either by the main road or by paths on its north side.

10 BENTLEY STATION AND ISINGTON

A pleasant meander of about 5 miles through lovely countryside.

Leaving Bentley station on the path across the fields, cross Blacknest Road and continue uphill through Redcap Copse, emerging onto the edge of the Binsted Plateau. Go ahead along the hanger edge and drop down on a path across a large field. Turn left and follow path along the edge of Bottom Copse, then turn right on path running northwest to meet the lane. Go left and walk uphill then turn right onto a path which heads north to cross the railway on a grade crossing; continue ahead, descending a large field, and turn right onto a narrow lane.

Follow lane into Isington and keep ahead. Walk east along the lane, ignoring the first path on the right and take the next path right. Go under the railway and walk south east across a large meadow. Keep ahead and reach Blacknest Road. Go right and soon left on a path; turn left and follow woodland path leading to Bentley Station Meadow. Turn left to return to the start.

11 BENTLEY, FROYLE MILL AND BINSTED CIRCUIT

An interesting circuit of 6.5 miles.

From Bentley station, take the path north across the river and continue to cross the A31 on a footbridge and enter Bentley. Continue north and west to pass Jenkyn Place and then follow St Swithun's Way past Pax Hill and on to Coldrey. Turn left and follow roads, go under the A31 and take a path south across fields; turn right, then left and follow a track and another path to reach Froyle Mill.

Turn left, cross the river and go ahead on a path across a field and across the railway on a grade crossing; keep ahead through fields and soon meet Isington Road. Turn right and walk south, taking a path on the right after dwellings. Cross a lane and pass West Court, heading south on a path, then turn sharp left, cross a small valley and a field to reach Holy Cross Church. On the far side of the churchyard, take path

leading to Binsted village.

Turn right and walk along The Street, soon turning right to Hay Place. Bear left onto path (wide farm lane). After passing an old stone barn on the right, take path on the left and follow it to meet Wheatley Lane. Turn left, then right, on a path to Riverhill Farm; cross the road and ascend steps to take path along Home Hanger. At the top of Home Hanger, go right and descend to Broadview Farm, then go right and left to join path leading back to Bentley station via Bentley Station Meadow.

Follow lane into Isington and keep ahead. Walk east along the lane, ignoring the first path on the right and take the next path right. Go under the railway and walk south east across a large meadow. Keep ahead and reach Blacknest Road. Go right and soon left on a path; turn left and follow woodland path leading to Bentley Station Meadow. Turn left to return to the start.

12 BENTLEY STATION AND THE ARBORETUM

A pleasant circuit of under 3 miles which takes in riverside meadows, Lodge Inclosure and the Arboretum.

Start at Bentley station entrance, walk down to the road and turn right. When the road ends, take the footpath ahead, through a field alongside the railway. Soon bear left across the fields and you will soon arrive at Green Bridge. Cross the river here and then bear right (on a slight causeway across the field) to reach White Bridge and re-cross the river. Follow a narrow path to Gravel Hill Road, then turn right and head uphill (watch for traffic on this twisting stretch) At the top of the hill keep following the road until you reach a waymark at a track on your right. Follow the track past a small parking area and you'll reach the entrance to the Arboretum in about a quarter of a mile. At the junction of paths by Lodge Pond, turn right and walk downhill on the tarmac path to Bentley station.



A 21 mile walk to Overton Station can be undertaken in this direction.

A 14 mile walk to Petersfield Station can be undertaken via the Hanger's Way.

A 10 mile walk to Liss Station can be undertaken in this direction.

A 10 mile walk to Liphook Station can be undertaken in this direction.

