



Arundel Circular walk

A walk in the low hills around the River Arun, returning through an attractive old town with a castle and cathedral.



Length	<p>Main Walk: 21 km (13.0 miles). Four hours 55 minutes walking time. For the whole excursion including trains, sights and meals, allow at least 11 hours.</p> <p>Alternative Walk, finishing at Amberley: 16½ km (10.3 miles). Three hours 45 minutes walking time.</p> <p>Short Circular Walk, omitting Houghton Bridge: 14¾ km (9.2 miles). Three hours 25 minutes walking time.</p>
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OS Map	Explorer OL10 (previously 121). Arundel, map reference TQ024063, is in West Sussex, 5 km N of Littlehampton.
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Toughness	4 out of 10 (3 for the shorter walks).
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Features	<p>There are many attractive walking routes where the River Arun cuts through the South Downs from Amberley to Arundel and much of this walk will be familiar to those who know the classic Arundel to Amberley walk (1-32). The walk starts along the eastern bank of the river and then goes over some low hills into the small village of Burpham (pronounced <i>Burfem</i>). It then returns to the river for a long clockwise loop via South Stoke to the lunchtime stop at Houghton Bridge, near Amberley station. After an undemanding stroll down the river valley via North Stoke and Offham, the walk enters Arundel Park.</p> <p><i>Arundel Park is closed to the public on March 24th each year, but the directions follow rights of way through the park and these should remain open.</i></p> <p>A stretch alongside Swanbourne Lake and a gentle climb to the top of the landscaped parkland is followed by a descent through the attractive hilltop</p>
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town of **Arundel**, its skyline dominated by the massive castle and ornate Roman Catholic cathedral. The principal seat of the Dukes of Norfolk, **Arundel Castle** is open to the public from April to October; admission is from £14 to £27 (2023). On the walk route Burpham, South Stoke and North Stoke all contain interesting old churches, and in Arundel itself the parish church of **St Nicholas** and the **Cathedral Church of Our Lady and St Philip Howard** are both well worth a visit.

Arundel and Amberley have contrasting museums which you could visit. In a new building near the town bridge, **Arundel Museum** is a small museum of local history, open daily (except around Christmas); admission is £4.50 (2023). The much larger **Amberley Museum and Heritage Centre** exhibits the industrial heritage of south-east England on the site of an old chalk quarry next to Amberley station. It is open most of the year on Wed-Sun & BH Mon; admission is £15.50 (2023).

The walk route also passes the **Arundel Wetland Centre**, managed by the Wildlife and Wetland Trust and open all year (except Christmas Day); admission for non-WWT members is about £14 (2023) but there might be a 2-for-1 offer on the train companies' Days Out Guide.

If the River Arun overflows its banks the stretches of this walk through the surrounding water meadows will be problematic, to say the least.

Walk Options

For a shorter afternoon leg you could return from Amberley station, next to the main lunch stop at Houghton Bridge. The full **Alternative Walk** reverses the ending of Walk 1-32 with a loop across the water meadows to the picturesque village of **Amberley**, but you could replace this with a visit to the open-air **Amberley Museum** or simply head straight to the station. The other method of shortening the walk cuts out the entire loop between South Stoke and Houghton Bridge. For variety this **Short Circular Walk** takes a different route back down the Arun valley, rejoining the Main Walk for the final stretch through Arundel Park into the town. In both cases you could take a **shorter ending** along Mill Road into Arundel, cutting out the climb through Arundel Park.

Additional Notes

This walk used to contain some linked walks starting from Amberley. A rather artificial Long Walk option has been dropped, but the Circular Walk from that station has been revised and transferred to a new Amberley Circular via Arundel Park walk (#361).

Transport

There is a half-hourly service from Victoria to Arundel along the Arun Valley line (hourly on Sundays), taking around 1 hour 25 minutes. For the Alternative Walks, the service to Amberley is always hourly. Buy a **return to Arundel**.

There is no public transport to the hamlets between Arundel and Amberley, so you would need to persuade a taxi to venture down one of the narrow country lanes if you wanted to abandon the walk and were too far away from one of the stations.

If driving, the station car park at Arundel costs £5.30 Mon-Fri, £5.20 Sat, £2.50 Sun & BH (2023).

Suggested Train Take the train nearest to **09:30** from **Victoria** to **Arundel**.

Lunch If you make the recommended early start on the **Main Walk** or **Alternative Walk** the suggested lunch pub is the **Bridge Inn** (01798-831619; closed Mon & Tue) at **Houghton Bridge**, after 11¼ km. This attractive country pub has a beer garden and serves good home-cooked food to 2.30pm (4pm Sun).

On the **Short Circular Walk** the suggested lunch pub is the **Black Rabbit** (01903-882638), reached after 9¼ km. This popular Hall & Woodhouse pub with its enviable riverside setting could also be a very late lunch stop on the Main Walk.




On all the walk options late starters could make an early stop (after 4¾ km) at **The George at Burpham** (01903-883131), an up-market establishment familiar from Walk 1-32. Formerly the George & Dragon, this 17thC inn was refurbished in 2013 after being taken over by a local consortium.

Tea There is a wide range of refreshment places in **Arundel**, where every other establishment in the town centre seems to be a hotel, pub, tearoom or café of some description. An old stand-by (the Tudor Rose) is now the **Motte & Bailey Café** (01903-883813; open to 4.30pm Mon-Sat, 4pm Sun); some others in the High Street are **Cockburn's Tea Rooms** (01903-884438; open to 4pm Mon-Fri, 4.30pm Sat-Sun), **Ye Olde Tea Rooms** (01903-882136) and the good-value **Moathouse Café** (01903-883297; open to at least 5.30pm); with **Belinda's Tea Rooms** (01903-882977; open to 5pm) a short distance along Tarrant Street. On the ten-minute walk to the station you also pass the **White Hart** pub (01903-884422).

The **Black Rabbit** pub and the café at **Swanbourne Lodge** are both well-placed for a mid-afternoon break on the Main Walk, and there is also a café serving visitors to the **Wetland Centre**.

If you have had an early lunch on the **Alternative Walk** you could stop for tea at the **Amberley Village Tea Room** (01798-839196; open to 5.10pm but closed Wed) or the **Black Horse** pub (01798-831183), which incorporates a seasonal **Garden Room Café** serving afternoon tea. Closer to Amberley station, refreshments are available on the terrace gardens at **Riverside South Downs** (01798-831066; Apr-Sep open daily to 5pm; Oct-Mar to 4pm Tue-Fri, 5pm Sat-Sun, closed Mon) as well as the **Bridge Inn** (see Lunch above).

River Levels River Arun (North of Arundel) : **normal**
River Arun (South of Amberley) : **normal**

Help Us! After the walk, please leave a comment, it really helps. Thanks!
You can also upload photos to the   SWC Group on Flickr (upload your photos) and videos to  Youtube. This walk's tags are:

By Car **Start** BN18 9PH

Help

National Rail: 03457 48 49 50 • Traveline (bus times): 0871 200 22 33 (12p/min) • TFL (London) : 0343 222 1234

Version

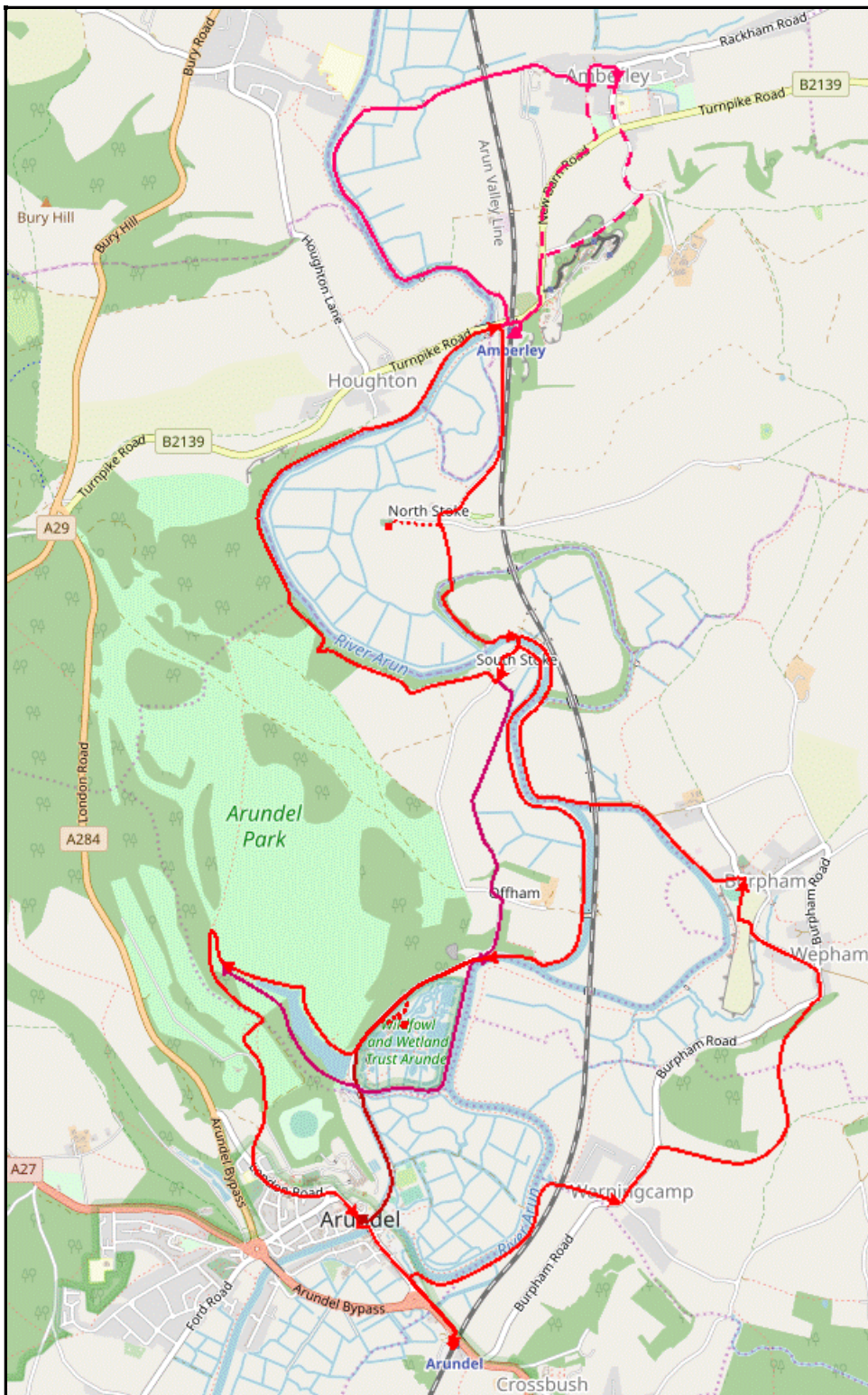
Aug-23 [Sean](#)

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Walk Directions

Walk Map



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Walk Options (Main | Alt. | Short)

M. Main Walk (21 km)

- i. Main Walk, with shorter ending (18¾ km)
- a. Alternative Walk, finishing at Amberley (16½ km)
- ai. Alternative Walk, omitting Amberley village (11½ km)
- b. Short Circular Walk, omitting Houghton Bridge (14¾ km)
- bi. Short Circular Walk, with shorter ending (12¼ km)

Walk Directions

A. Arundel Station to Warningcamp (2 km)

1. Arriving from London, cross the footbridge to exit through the main station building and **immediately turn right** onto the signposted pedestrian and cycle route to the Town Centre. This takes you under the A27 and joins this busy main road further along, opposite the station approach road.
2. Keep right at the roundabout, heading towards the town centre. Where the pavement ends after 100m, however, **turn right** onto a signposted footpath. This soon comes to the **River Arun**¹ where you **turn right** again onto the riverside path, joining the **Monarch's Way**² (MW).
3. Go through a metal kissing gate and follow the riverside path for 1 km, gradually curving round to the left with a fine view back to the town's skyline. Eventually the path veers right, away from the river and towards the railway line.
4. Go through a wooden swing gate and keep ahead towards a large white house on the other side of the railway. Cross the tracks carefully at the level crossing and continue along a tarmac lane for 300m to a road junction in the hamlet of **Warningcamp**.

B. Warningcamp to Burpham (2¾ km)

5. **Turn left** at the road junction, towards Wepham and Burpham. In 400m **turn right** onto a signposted bridleway into the **Angmering Park Estate**³, going past a double wooden fieldgate onto a wide track through partly-cleared woodland. In 600m go through another fieldgate and continue on a grassy path along a dry valley, curving gently round to the left alongside a line of small trees.
6. At the end of the trees keep ahead where another bridleway merges from the right. In a further 40m, at another three-way signpost, **fork left** across the bottom of the valley, leaving the MW. Go through a wooden side gate to the right of a metal fieldgate and continue uphill on a narrow path in a belt of trees, heading **N**.
7. Towards the top of **Warningcamp Hill** this enclosed path becomes more awkward and it appears that some walkers prefer to walk along the field edge to the right of the trees. Either way, you eventually emerge into an open field with fine views of the Arun valley. Keep ahead across the brow of the hill on a faint grassy path.
8. At the end of the field go through a wooden gate onto a path descending gradually through more partly-cleared woodland, coming out onto the lane you were on earlier. Follow it into the village of **Wepham**, passing some attractive thatched cottages. Shortly after passing a concrete track on the right signposted as a bridleway, **turn left** at a road junction.
9. Follow the lane all the way down through the village. At the bottom of the hill there is a raised walkway which you can use to get across a stream at a ford (by the aptly-named Splash Farm). The lane then swings right and you **bear left** at this bend onto a signposted footpath, up a flight of earth steps cut into the steep bank⁴.
10. At the top go over a stile and keep ahead across the grass as indicated, aiming to the left of a children's playground. Go over another stile and turn right onto a grassy path heading towards a cricket pavilion, passing the pitch on the left. Go past the left-hand side of the pavilion and down to the early lunch stop on your right, **The George at Burpham**.

C. Burpham to South Stoke Farm (2¾ km)

This section follows the Walk 1-32 route (in reverse).

11. Unless you want to detour to the church of **St Mary the Virgin**⁵ (along the Marjorie Hay Path across the lane from the pub) **turn left** onto the lane, heading **W**. Where it turns sharply right **keep ahead** on a short cul-de-sac and its continuation, a grassy path going downhill between high wooden fences.
12. At the bottom of the slope **fork right** onto a narrow footpath through a copse. Go through a metal gate into a long narrow water meadow, with the original course of the River Arun behind the tree boundary on your left. At the far end go past a metal fieldgate and through a small patch of scrubland to meet a farm track.
13. Fork left onto the track and keep left at a three-way footpath signpost to go along the river embankment. In 200m cross the railway tracks carefully and continue along the embankment, now alongside the main course of the river. After it bends right you are heading directly towards the distinctive spire of South Stoke church, 600m away.
14. Before reaching the bridge at South Stoke the river makes a loop out to the right; a short stretch along the embankment here is overgrown but you might be able to divert onto a parallel farm track. On reaching **South Stoke Bridge** go over a stile and **turn left** to cross the river.
15. Follow the farm track gently uphill, soon with a churchyard behind the trees on your left. The entrance to **St Leonard's** church⁶ (which is worth a quick visit) is half-hidden in these trees, just after a left-hand bend. Continue along the lane (now surfaced) past cottages and round a right-hand bend to the entrance to South Stoke Farm, with its unusual **Chapel Barn**⁷ ahead on your right.

If you are doing the Short Circular Walk, go to §H.

D. South Stoke Farm to Houghton Bridge • Amberley Station (3¾ • 4 km)

16. Just past the farm entrance **turn right** onto a signposted bridleway, staying on the Walk 1-32 route. Go along a broad grassy strip between walls, past the back of the barn. At the end of the wall on the left **turn left** onto a raised grassy track, passing some farm buildings on the right. Continue in this direction for 450m, going through a couple of new metal fieldgates along the way and with glimpses of the river behind the trees.
17. At the end of the track go through an old wooden fieldgate and turn right as indicated to go around the edge of a large farm field, climbing steadily to the top right-hand corner. Go through a side gate and follow an undulating track through woodland, never far from the river on your right.
18. In 250m the path veers briefly away from the river and as it turns back there is a solid flint wall up to your left, the boundary of **Arundel Park**. In 400m ignore a high metal kissing gate into the estate, finally leaving the Walk 1-32 route. Follow the path down a short slope and along a potentially overgrown narrow strip between the boundary wall and the river.
19. The riverside path continues round a long bend to the right, below the wooded chalk cliff of an old quarry. In 750m ignore a footpath up a long flight of steps to stay on the bridleway, a potentially boggy stretch if the river has overflowed. In a further 450m the bridleway bears left and comes to a three-way signpost.

20. **Turn right** at this signpost and follow the footpath across a small open area into undergrowth near the riverbank. For the next 250m the riverside path can be muddy or even partly flooded, but there should be wooden planks over the worst stretches. After going over a wooden footbridge continue along field edges and then the riverside embankment for a further 500m, with a stile and a couple of metal gates to negotiate along the way.
21. At the end go through a wooden kissing gate and turn right onto the B2139. **Take great care** as you cross **Houghton Bridge**⁸ on this busy road, using the refuges to dodge the traffic. The suggested lunch place is the **Bridge Inn** on the right-hand side of the road, entered via its car park in Stoke Road. The alternative is the café at **Riverside South Downs**, ahead on your left.

If you are doing the Alternative Walk (finishing at Amberley), go to §M unless you want to complete a short walk with the directions below.

22. Finishing at Amberley Station (+¼ km)

To complete a short Alternative Walk, return to the B2139 from either of the refreshment places and head **E**, away from the river. Go under the railway bridge and turn right up the approach road for the **Amberley Museum and Heritage Centre**²⁵, with the station on the right. Cross the footbridge to Platform 1 for trains to London.

E. Houghton Bridge to South Stoke Bridge (2 km)

23. From the Bridge Inn, turn left onto Stoke Road to head **S**, away from the B2139. Follow this quiet lane all the way to North Stoke, parallel to the railway for the first 600m and then curving away to the right.
24. Eventually the lane goes up a slope and round a left-hand bend to come to a T-junction by an old red telephone box (the 'North Stoke Information Point'). If you are not making the detour below to see an unusual old church, take the signposted footpath just to the left of the telephone box.

25. Detour to North Stoke Church (+500m)

- Turn right** at the T-junction, signposted to St Mary's Church. The church of **St Mary the Virgin**⁹ is at the far end, to the left of North Stoke Farmhouse.
- Return the same way and turn right onto the footpath just beyond the telephone box.

26. Follow the enclosed footpath up a bank and out through a kissing gate into the top of a large field. Keep ahead on a grassy path down through this field to another kissing gate. Go through this onto a path through the undergrowth, crossing a patch of boggy ground on the **Gurkha Bridge**¹⁰.
27. On the other side the path turns right to follow the course of an old meander of the river, eventually going through a wooden kissing gate and back onto the riverbank. Turn left and go up to the farm bridge across the river at **South Stoke**. Go through a kissing gate and **turn right** onto the bridge, briefly repeating a short stretch of your outward route.

F. South Stoke Bridge to the Black Rabbit (2½ km)

28. On the other side of the bridge **go over a stile on the left** onto the riverside path; you will be following it all the way to the Black Rabbit pub. At first the river makes a long curve round to the right, then turns half-left. After another left and right bend it heads **S** alongside a man-made channel¹¹, which straightened out the original loop of the river to Burpham (whose church is visible 1 km away).

29. After crossing a track by Offham Farm's bridge the waterway curves right and rejoins the original river (with views of Arundel Castle 1½ km ahead). The path then veers slightly away from the river and goes through a copse. Continue through a long car park to reach the **Black Rabbit** pub in its enviable riverside location.

If you are doing the shorter ending, go to §K.

G. The Black Rabbit to Swanbourne Valley via Swanbourne Lodge (2 km)

30. From the top of the pub's short approach road head **SW** on Mill Road, with the steeply wooded hillside of **Offham Hanger** on your right. The grounds of the **Arundel Wetland Centre**¹² are soon on your left and in 450m you come to the vehicle exit from its car park.
- If you want to visit the site (or just take a closer look at the Visitor Centre) you can detour through its car park and rejoin Mill Road at the far end.
31. After passing a long roadside parking area you come to a corner of **Swanbourne Lake**¹³ on the right. Go through a gate into the waterside picnic area by **Swanbourne Lodge Café**, entering the grounds of **Arundel Park**.
32. Follow the perimeter path all the way along the northern side of the lake. At the far end go through a wooden kissing gate to continue on a grassy track along the valley floor, curving gently round to the right. In 200m keep ahead at a footpath signpost, merging with a footpath from the other side of the lake.

Continue the directions at §J.

H. South Stoke Farm to the Black Rabbit (1¾ km)

33. **Turn left** onto the bridleway opposite the entrance to South Stoke Farm, a track between hedges going gently downhill. At the bottom it turns right and comes close to the riverside embankment before gradually moving away from it. The bridleway continues on a broad grassy strip below a wooded hillside for 300m, passing an old chalk quarry near the end.
34. Make your way past a ditch and keep to the left-hand side across a meadow. On the far side go through a fieldgate (or over the adjacent stile) onto a potentially muddy path through scrubland alongside water meadows. The path eventually swings right to skirt around an isolated cottage called **Foxes Oven**¹⁴ and goes up to a lane in the hamlet of **Offham**.
35. Turn left onto the lane, then in 60m **turn right** to go gently downhill on a sunken lane (Mill Road). At the bottom it merges with the short approach road to the **Black Rabbit** pub, on the left in its enviable riverside location.
- Even if you are not stopping at the pub you might like to pop down to its riverside terrace for the view across the wetlands towards Arundel.

If you are doing the shorter ending, go to §K.

I. The Black Rabbit to Swanbourne Valley via Swanbourne Bridge (2¼ km)

36. From the pub return along its short approach road and **veer left** through its small car park onto the long straight riverside path, heading **S**. From this potentially muddy raised path there are soon glimpses of the **Arundel Wetland Centre**¹² over its rear boundary fence. In 700m **turn right** onto a signposted footpath, immediately before a sluice gate over a mill-stream.
37. The footpath goes alongside the tree-lined mill-stream for 500m and comes to **Swanbourne Bridge**. Ignore the footbridge in front of it and follow the footpath round to the right across a side channel, then up a few steps onto Mill Road.

38. Cross the road and take the signposted footpath opposite across a small patch of grass, passing some estate outbuildings off to the left on the site of the old mill. Continue into the grounds of **Arundel Park** on a broad path between wooden fences, crossing the outflow from **Swanbourne Lake**¹³.
39. Follow the perimeter path all the way along the southern side of the lake, with the steeply wooded **Mill Hanger** on your left. At the far end go over a stile and keep ahead on a faint grassy path along the valley floor.
40. The path curves gently round to the right and gradually approaches a slightly raised track, the continuation of a footpath from the other side of the lake. In 200m the two paths merge at a footpath signpost.

J. Swanbourne Valley to Arundel High Street (2¼ km)

41. Continue past the footpath signpost for a further 150m along the valley floor. At a major path junction **turn sharp left** (almost doubling back) onto a chalky track climbing steadily up the side of the valley.
The remainder of the walk is essentially the same as the start of Walk 1-32 (in reverse).
42. There is a wood on your right and (for the most part) fine views back down the valley to Swanbourne Lake. In 500m go over a stile to the left of a wooden fieldgate and immediately **turn right** as indicated. Go up a short flight of steps cut into the chalky slope in a belt of trees. At the top cross over a dirt track used for exercising horses and keep ahead across the grass towards **Hiorne Tower**¹⁵.
43. The right of way continues past the left-hand side of the tower to a footpath signpost where it turns left onto an estate road, but some well-used grassy paths cut off this corner and make a pleasant alternative. All routes converge on the estate road and in 500m you go through the right-hand of two gates to leave Arundel Park at Park Lodge.
44. In 200m you cross a driveway leading to the Norfolk Estate Office. Continue across a small patch of grass alongside a stone wall and turn left onto London Road. The ornate **Roman Catholic Cathedral**¹⁶ soon comes into view, behind **St Mary's Gate Inn**. A little further along, on the left-hand side of the road, the unusual parish church of **St Nicholas**¹⁷ is also worth visiting.
45. At the end of London Road keep left at a T-junction by one of the imposing **Arundel Castle**¹⁸ gatehouses. Go down the town's steep **High Street**¹⁹ into the main square, with its prominent hotels and inns as well as several smaller refreshment places.
46. The **Motte & Bailey Café** and **Cockburn's Tea Rooms** are on the right-hand side of the square, with **Belinda's Tea Rooms** a short distance along one of the side streets off to the right, Tarrant Street. The left-hand arm of the High Street goes past **Ye Olde Tea Rooms** and the **Moathouse Café** on its way to the **Town Bridge**.
Complete the directions at §L.

K. The Black Rabbit to Arundel High Street direct (2 km)

47. From the top of the pub's short approach road head **SW** on Mill Road, with the steeply wooded hillside of **Offham Hanger** on your right. The grounds of the **Arundel Wetland Centre**¹² are soon on your left and in 450m you come to the vehicle exit from its car park.
 - If you want to visit the site (or just take a closer look at the Visitor Centre) you can detour through its car park and rejoin Mill Road at the far end.

48. After passing a long roadside parking area, and just before reaching Swanbourne Lake, **turn left** onto a permissive path into the trees. This swings right to go between the south-western corner of the Wetland Centre and the lane. In 200m you come to a T-junction in front of a tree-lined mill-stream and zig-zag right and left to cross it on **Swanbourne Footbridge**.
- If the permissive path is closed, simply walk along the lane past the end of the lake and cross the mill-stream on the footbridge to the left of the road bridge.
49. Continue along either of the tree-lined footways beside Mill Road, soon with the imposing walls of **Arundel Castle**¹⁸ visible up to your right. After the road curves round you pass its main visitor entrance, with **Arundel Museum**²⁰ and the ruined walls of **Blackfriars**²¹. Mill Road ends at a mini-roundabout by the **Town Bridge**, with the High Street on the right.
50. The **Moathouse Café** and **Ye Olde Tea Rooms** are at the bottom of the High Street, and further along there are more cafés, tearooms, pubs and hotels dotted around the main square. Other places such as **Belinda's Tea Rooms** can be found along Tarrant Street, which leads off the High Street by the **Motte & Bailey Café**.

L. Arundel High Street to Arundel Station (1 km)

51. To complete the walk, make your way to the road bridge over the River Arun. Cross the river and continue along Queen Street, passing the **White Hart** pub. Stay on the left-hand side where the road (now The Causeway) joins the A27 at a large roundabout.
52. For the best route to the station do not cross the busy main road at the pedestrian lights but take the signposted pedestrian and cycle route, a little further ahead on the left-hand side of the road. This tarmac path goes up to the railway line and swings round under the A27 to the station entrance. Trains to London leave from Platform 1 on the near side.



M. Houghton Bridge to Amberley village (3¼ km)

The route to Amberley village is the ending of Walk 1-32 (in reverse).

53. Return to the B2139 and head towards the railway bridge. Just before reaching it **turn left** onto a signposted footpath, a gravel track which leads to a grassy path past a cluster of park homes. At the end climb onto a low embankment and continue alongside the river.
54. Follow the riverside path for 1½ km, keeping the river on your left and passing the substantial footbridge carrying the **South Downs Way**²². Opposite Bury church on the other side of the river, **turn right** at a footpath waymarker post to head **E** across the water meadows (you might have to detour around some boggy areas).
55. The path crosses several stiles and ditches, turning half-left after the second stile. A third stile takes you onto a grassy path between hedges which leads to the railway line. Cross the tracks carefully and continue on the path, soon going below the walls of **Amberley Castle**²³ and then up a short slope past **St Michael's church**²⁴.
56. Continue through the pretty village of Amberley on Church Street, heading **E** and soon passing a 'No Through Road' on the left. In a further 75m you come to a junction with a side street on the left and a signposted footpath ("To The Playpark") on the right; this is one of the return routes to Amberley station.

57. For the full extension **turn left** into the side street (Hog Lane). Follow it for 250m, uphill and round to the right past some picturesque cottages. At the road junction in front of the **Black Horse** pub, **turn right**. The return route starts down this street, with the **Amberley Village Tea Room** on the left-hand side just past the junction with Church Street.

N. Amberley village to Amberley Station (2 • 1¾ km)

There is a choice of routes out of the village: staying on the Walk 1–32 route with a climb onto the edge of the downs (with fine views across the Arun valley), or a shorter and easier route along the B2139 in [59].

58. Downs route (2 km)

- Keep ahead** at the junction with Church Street to head **S** on School Road for 250m. Cross the B2139 carefully to continue on Mill Lane opposite. After climbing steadily for 400m **turn sharp right** at a road junction, finally leaving the Walk 1–32 route.
- As you descend on this lane (High Titten) there are glimpses of the Amberley Museum buildings in the chalk quarry down to your left. At the bottom cross the B2139 carefully and turn left onto its pavement.

59. Road route (1¾ km)

- Turn right** at the junction with Church Street to head **W**, back through the village. In 150m **turn left** onto the footpath opposite Hog Lane: at first between high walls, then past some new housing and a recreation ground, the Playpark.
- At the end turn right onto the pavement of the B2139 (New Barn Road). In 750m the Downs route joins from High Titten on the left.

60. Follow the B2139 for 400m, round a bend to the right. Just before reaching the railway bridge, turn left up the approach road for the **Amberley Museum and Heritage Centre**²⁵, with the station on the right. Cross the footbridge to Platform 1 for trains to London.

Walk Notes

- The **River Arun** is one of the fastest-flowing rivers in England and is tidal on this stretch. It was first embanked in the 16thC and a canal linking it to the River Wey briefly provided a trading link between London and the South Coast in the 19thC before being superseded by the railway.
- The **Monarch's Way** is supposedly the escape route taken by the future King Charles II after his defeat by Parliamentary troops at the Battle of Worcester in 1651. It is the longest inland trail in England, running for 990 km from the battlefield to Shoreham-by-Sea.
- The **Angmering Park Estate** is a large private estate managed for forestry, farming and shooting, with a Stud and Racing Stables at its centre. It was the eastern half of the original Norfolk Estate.
- The steep **bank** surrounding Burpham's recreation field was built in Saxon times to protect the village against Viking raids up the River Arun. Burpham was a port in medieval times but the river has since been diverted onto the other side of the railway line.
- St Mary the Virgin, Burpham** dates from Saxon times. It has a restored 12thC Norman arch into its south transept and a 13thC vaulted chancel. The author Mervyn Peake (*Gormenghast*) lived in the village and is buried in the churchyard.
- St Leonard, South Stoke** dates from the 11thC. The unusual spire was added in a 19thC restoration.
- The Gothic-style **Chapel Barn** at South Stoke Farm dates from 1860. An attached water tower supplied the village before its connection to the mains in 1960.
- Although it looks medieval, **Houghton Bridge** was actually constructed in 1875.

9. **St Mary the Virgin, North Stoke** dates from the 11thC. It is no longer used for regular services, but is maintained by the Churches Conservation Trust. Knowledge of its original dedication to St Mary was lost for centuries and only rediscovered in 2007.
10. The **Gurkha Bridge** over the meander at North Stoke was repaired and restored by the Queen's Gurkha Engineers in 2009.
11. The **man-made channel** at Offham Farm was cut by the London, Brighton & South Coast Railway in 1863. By enabling river traffic to bypass Burpham it removed the need to build two expensive swing bridges on the Arun Valley line.
12. The **Arundel Wetland Centre** is one of nine reserves in the UK set up by the **Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust**, founded by Sir Peter Scott in 1946. Each WWT site has several pens containing a worldwide collection of ducks, geese and swans, together with hides for viewing native species on lakes and other wildfowl habitats.
13. **Swanbourne Lake** was enlarged and landscaped in the 1780s from an existing mill pond. In 1844 the mill was demolished to make way for a pump house and dairy, which supplied water and farm produce to the castle until the mid-20thC.
14. **Foxes Oven** was the home of the prime suspect in the notorious '1948 Arundel Park murder'. The police investigation was flawed and the victim's relatives had to make a private application for his arrest and prosecution, but the evidence was circumstantial and the case was discharged.
15. The triangular **Hiorne Tower** is an 18thC folly built by the architect Francis Hiorne, who was trying to persuade the Duke of Norfolk that he had the skills to renovate Arundel Castle.
16. **Arundel Cathedral** was built in 1873 as a Roman Catholic church in French Gothic style (a tall spire had to be abandoned when engineers realised that the ground would not support its weight). It was raised to the status of a cathedral in 1965 when the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton was created.
17. **St Nicholas, Arundel** dates from 1380. In the Reformation the chancel was seized by the Duke of Arundel and an iron grille still separates the Roman Catholic Fitzalan Chapel (determined in 1879 to be part of Arundel Castle) from the Protestant parish church. Since 1977 it has occasionally been opened for joint acts of worship.
18. **Arundel Castle** was founded in the 11thC but most of the original Norman castle was left in ruins after being besieged twice in the English Civil War. The restored building was presumably one of the inspirations for the imposing castle at the centre of Mervyn Peake's Gothic trilogy *Gormenghast*.
19. **Arundel High Street** used to extend further up the hill to the parish church, but in the 1850s the Duke of Norfolk had all the shops in the top part demolished and built a new wall around the castle grounds.
20. **Arundel Museum** aims "to tell the story of this historic town" from prehistoric times to the present day. After surviving in temporary premises for many years it eventually secured funding for a new building opposite the main visitor entrance to the castle, which opened in 2013.
21. The stone walls of **Blackfriars** are the remains of a 13thC Dominican Friary dissolved by Henry VIII in 1538. They were wrongly shown on older maps as the Holy Trinity hospital (or *Maison Dieu*), which was in another part of the town.
22. The **South Downs Way** runs for 161 km along the length of the South Downs, from Winchester in Hampshire to Eastbourne in East Sussex.
23. **Amberley Castle** was built as a palace for the Bishops of Chichester soon after the Norman invasion. It was owned by a prominent Royalist in the Civil War and partly destroyed by Parliamentary forces. It is now a luxury hotel.
24. **St Michael, Amberley** is Norman, with the nave and chancel arch dating from about 1100. There are medieval wall paintings to the right of the arch. The church was enlarged in 1230 and much altered in a Victorian restoration.
25. The **Amberley Museum and Heritage Centre** is "dedicated to preserving the industrial heritage of the South East", with over 40 exhibits and a team of craftsmen demonstrating traditional skills.

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