

Kintbury circular Walk Directions

Main Directions		Short cut Directions	
Last checked		Last checked	
22 nd September 2018		16 th May 2009	
Current Status	Document last updated Sunday 31 st October 2021		
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These directions provide a circular Kintbury walk. To be used in conjunction with the Kintbury to Great Bedwyn walk described in Time Out Country Walks near London – Volume 2 (CW2).

Start and finish: Kintbury station

Length: 23km (14.3 miles).

Time: 7 hours. For the whole outing, including trains, sights and meals, allow at least 11 hours.

Transport: Hourly (less frequent on Sundays) trains run between London Paddington and Kintbury. Journey time is just over an hour. Not all trains are direct. You may have to change at Reading or Newbury.

OS Landranger Map: 174

OS Explorer Map: 158

Toughness: 3 out of 10

Walk Notes: Undulating terrain up until Hampstead Lock, finishing with an easy 3.8 km walk along the Kennet and Avon canal. On catching the return train back to London. Please ensure that you get to the platform at least 5 minutes prior to the scheduled departure, as the barrier over the road (which you need to cross to reach the London bound platform) is not always raised after the train has pulled into the platform.

Walk options:

b) Short ending. You may shorten the circular walk by 5.5km to 17.5km. Follow the (9a) main walk directions until [A3], and then follow the Short ending directions at the end of the main text.

Saturday Walkers' Club: If stopping at the recommended lunch place at Inkpen Common take the train nearest to 9.10 am from Paddington to Kintbury, otherwise if stopping at the earlier lunch place at Lower Inkpen take the train nearest to 10.10 am. Note: If you have not reached the Swan at Lower Inkpen before noon, then you should consider making this pub your lunch stop, given that The Crown and Garter (7km further on) stops serving food at 14:00.

9a Alternative walk directions for a Kintbury Circular walk.

WALK DIRECTIONS

[1] ~~[Numbers refer to the map.]~~

Use the Kintbury to Great Bedwyn walk directions until you reach the top of Inkpen Hill.

Follow the path to the top of the hill until it shortly comes to a T-junction with another path where you *turn left*, your initial direction 60 degrees. Continue along the ridge (open access land) with the fenced in (car wide) byway 10 to 50 metres off to your right.

In 1km at the right hand corner of the field go over a metal fieldgate and turn left down the fenced in byway to reach a cross-roads after 40 metres (with a car park up ahead). *Go over the cross-roads and in 25 metres veer right up a (car wide) bridleway* passing by the car park on your left, your direction 140 degrees.

In 1.1 km at a cross-paths [A1] (100 metres beyond a wooded section of the track), *turn left* over a stile into a field and veer left, your direction 350 degrees. After 100 metres at the crest of the hill, descend towards a stile passing by the (redundant) stile after 120 metres to then after a further 350 metres go over a stile into a wood. Follow the footpath down through the wood to *cross over a lane* after 120

metres and continue down a footpath through a lightly wooded area. In 80 metres you emerge from the lightly wooded area into the upper corner of a field to continue down its left hand side, your initial direction 40 degrees.

After 700 metres turn left onto a lane and follow it to continue in the same direction as previously, (40 degrees), (passing the boundary road sign for West Woodhay after 40 metres).

In 400 metres turn left along a lane marked restricted byway, your direction 290 degrees. After 600 metres the tarmac lane becomes shingle. In a further 90 metres **[A2]** *go over a cross-paths.*

After 150 metres you reach a T-junction with a lane. Turn left for **The Crown and Garter** pub.

If not stopping at the pub, turn right along the lane, your direction 40 degrees. In 200 metres fork right off the lane marked by a footpath signpost. After 30 metres go through a wooden kissing gate into Inkpen Great Common Nature Reserve. After 15 metres turn left off the main footpath, along a permissive path (which initially runs parallel to the lane off to your left), your direction 60 degrees.

In 70 metres ignore a turn to your left (leading to a gate onto the lane)

and in 30 metres go through a wooden gate, to continue along this path ignoring paths to the left and right, your initial direction 50 degrees.

After 350 metres go through a wooden gate and *turn right along a lane*, your direction 120 degrees. In 450 metres at a T-junction with a road *turn left*, and after 50 metres *turn right* to go along the left hand side of a car wide shingle track, your direction 60 degrees.

After 60 metres cross over a stile (to the left of a metal fieldgate). In a further 240 metres go through a metal gate into the corner of a field to go along its left-hand side. In 120 metres at the field corner, go through a metal gate to continue in the same direction along the left hand side of this next field, your direction 70 degrees. After 170 metres, cross over a stile into the next field to go along its left-hand side.

In 70 metres *you reach the corner of the adjacent field (on your left-hand side)*. **[A3]** If you intend to take the short walk, refer to the directions (Short ending) at the end of this text.

Otherwise, *veer right across the field*, your direction 100 degrees, aiming just to the left of a large tree on the far side. In 240 metres *at the far side continue along its right hand edge*, your initial direction 70 degrees. In 260 metres *you come out to a lane and turn left*, your direction 50 degrees. After 120 metres (by a brick house on your left hand side) *turn right across a footbridge* to go over a stile to veer left across a field aiming for a stile in the fence on the far side, your direction east.

After 250 metres cross a footbridge to veer right across this next field aiming for the remnants of a stile to the left of a metal fieldgate, your direction 80 degrees. After 140 metres

go past the fieldgate to turn right along a road. In 20 metres *fork left up a car wide track* (footpath) bordered by a wood on your right and a hedgerow and field beyond on your left, your direction east.

After 450 metres **[A4]** where the main track swings round to the right, *continue straight ahead* through a wooden fieldgate *into a field to follow a footpath signpost across the field aiming for the right hand side of a wood*, your direction 40 degrees. In 130 metres continue along the left-hand edge of the field (bordered by the wood), your direction 50 degrees. After 100 metres *at the left hand corner of the field, turn left* past a redundant stile into the wood, and veer right to reach a cross-paths after 20 metres, to follow the footpath sign through the wood in the same direction, (50 degrees).

In 220 metres go through a metal gate to emerge from the wood into a field, and turn half right across the field, (down towards Hampstead Marshall), your direction 50 degrees. After 270 metres go through a wooden gate (left of a metal fieldgate), to go down a car wide track, your direction 20 degrees. In 100 metres go through a double metal fieldgate (passing by a Dogs Trust Kennel on your right), to continue down a tarmac car wide track, your direction 70 degrees.

After 180 metres **[A5]** *at a T-junction with the main road (with **The White Hart pub** directly ahead)*, *turn left* up the road. In 60 metres *turn right* down a car wide bridleway, your direction 40 degrees.

In 650 metres go through a metal gate to cross a road, and go through a wooden kissing gate to follow a footpath up across a field, your direction 35 degrees.

After 120 metres at the top, go

through a wooden kissing gate into the next field, to go along a car wide track on the right hand side of this field. After 400 metres, (by a metal fieldgate on your right), *turn left along a footpath across the field, aiming towards (redundant) concrete gate pillars with spheres atop.* In 100 metres you go past the pillars aiming towards a church.

After 140 metres *go through a wooden kissing-gate, and (if not visiting the church) after 50 metres turn right* along a car wide track, (your initial direction 110 degrees), that gradually goes down across the field with the track curving to the left after 150 metres. In a further 250 metres *at the bottom,* turn left along a car wide track, and after 20 metres go through a kissing gate (to the right of a cattle grid) to *turn right along a road.*

In 120 metres **[A6]** *cross over the Kennet and Avon canal, and turn left* to follow the footpath (with the canal on your left-hand side) for 3.8 km into Kintbury.

b) Short ending

Follow the 9a walk directions until point [A3].

Turn left down the left-hand side of a field, your direction 340 degrees. In 230 metres at the corner of the field, follow the footpath round to the right for 20 metres, to then *turn left down a footpath into a wood,* your direction 340 degrees.

After 130 metres, cross over a wooden footbridge to continue up through the wood. In 30 metres cross a stile, and turn right for 15 metres to then cross another stile (to the left of a metal fieldgate), to go up the left-hand side of a field, your direction north.

After 180 metres, at the top left-hand corner of the field, cross a stile (to the left of a metal fieldgate). *Turn left along a lane for 35 metres, to then turn right* through a squeeze stile to go across a field, your direction 350 degrees. After 120 metres cross a stile, to continue down the left-hand side of the next field. In 130 metres at the left hand corner of this field, go over a stile to your left, and turn right to continue in the same direction. In a further 30 metres go over a wooden footbridge flanked by two squeeze stiles, to go up the right hand side of a field, your direction 330 degrees.

In 80 metres *turn right over a stile, to cross a 3-plank footbridge into the next field to turn left up it,* your direction 330 degrees. After 160 metres you pass by the corner of some garden fencing on your left (with an adjacent footpath post), to continue up the left side of this field.

In a further 70 metres at the left-hand corner of this field, exit through a car wide gap (with a redundant stile on its right), to follow a car wide track up and round to the left. (There is a 1960s style building 50 metres off to your left.)

After 100 metres at a T-junction, continue ahead through a squeeze stile, to go (initially) up across a field, your direction 340 degrees. In 150 metres on the far side of the field, go through a squeeze stile to veer right down across this next field, aiming for a stile at its bottom corner, your direction 350 degrees.

After 130 metres, go over the stile and turn left down a car wide track for 50 metres, to then *turn right at a T-junction with the main road. In 35 metres fork right* down Laylands Green, your direction 50 degrees.

In 650 metres at a T-junction with the main road, turn left. After 300

metres you pass by the Prince of Wales pub on your right. (Note: Dundas Arms at Kintbury station does not open until 6pm.) In a further 50 metres *at a T-junction, turn right* for Kintbury station.

Lunch and Tea places:

The Crown and Garter *Inkpen Common, RG17 9QR (01488 668325)*
Serves lunch, 12 noon – 2pm Wed - Sat. 2.30pm on Sun (Closed for lunch on Mon - Tue.) Located 13.5 km from the start of the walk, this is the suggested lunch stop.

Dundas Arms *Kintbury, RG17 9UT (01488 658 263)*. **Open** 11am-11pm Mon-Sat, 12-11pm Sun. **Food served** noon-3pm daily; noon-2pm, 6-9pm Mon-Sat and 6-8pm Sun. A pub at the start of the walk (and therefore the end of the Circular Walk option), with a lovely garden, a small river on one side and the Kennet and Avon canal on the other. Steak and ale-type meals are served in the bar; more elaborate food is available in another light-filled room.

The Prince of Wales *Newbury St, Kintbury, RG17 9UU (01488 658269)*

~~**The White Hart Inn** *Hampstead-Marshall, RG20 0HW – currently closed 24th Sept 2018*~~

~~**The Swan Inn** *Lower Inkpen*. Located 6.5 km from the start of the walk, this is the suggested earlier lunch stop. – *currently closed 24th Sept 2018*~~