

SWC Walk 115: Moreton-in-Marsh Circular via Chipping Campden

Moreton-in-Marsh Circular via Paxford and Broad Campden		
1 st walk check	2 nd walk check	3 rd walk check
25 February 2018 (excluding extension)	24 November 2018 (excluding route from Chipping Campden – as we finished in Broadway)	
Current status	Document last updated 21 August 2019	
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Start: Moreton-in-Marsh Train Station

Finish: Moreton-in-Marsh Train Station

Length: **Short:** 12.3 miles (19.8 km) via Paxford and Broad Campden only

Standard: 15.6 miles (25.1 km) via Chipping Campden

Long: 17.9 miles (28.8 km) via Chipping Campden and Dover's Hill

It is possible to shorten all of the walks by 3.4 miles/5.6 km by catching a bus number 1 from Blockley (either at the top of the green by the bus shelter or near the Great Western Arms). Stand on the opposite side of the road from the bus stop for buses headed towards Moreton-in-Marsh.

Difficulty: **Short:** 4 out of 10; **Standard:** 5 out of 10; **Long:** 6 out of 10

Time: 7-8 hours for the short and 8-10 hours for the main and long option, including transportation, lunch, afternoon refreshment stop and time spent admiring views and sites.

Transport: For the standard and long option, take the train closest to 9:00am from **London Paddington** to Moreton-in-Marsh. For the short option, the train closest to 10:00am will also work with lunch in Paxford. Return trains run hourly.

Lunch/Tea: For the standard and long option walks, the recommended lunch pub is the **Eight Bells** (www.eightbellsinn.co.uk/ 01386 840 371) in **Chipping Campden** (8 miles (13 km) into the walk), serving good quality food until 14:00 Monday to Thursday; 14:30 Friday and Saturday and all afternoon on Sunday. It is recommended to call ahead as it is popular. Should the Eight Bells be unable to accommodate you, additional options in Chipping Campden include the

Volunteer Inn (www.thevolunteerinn.net/ 01386 840 688), serving traditional English and Indian food and the **Red Lion Inn** (www.theredlioninn.org/ 01386 840 760), serving basic pub food. There are also a number of additional cafés and restaurants in Chipping Campden from which to choose – so you should not go hungry.

For the short option, the recommended lunch pub is **The Bakers Arms** (bakersarmscampden.com) in **Broad Campden** (6 miles (10.1 km) into the walk), serving traditional home cooked food. It is open Tuesday - Friday from 12:00-15:00, serving food until 14:00. It is open all day on Saturday and Sunday, serving food until 14:00 on Saturday and 16:00 on Sunday. It is not open on Monday afternoon. As it is a popular pub, it is worth calling ahead 01386 840 515.

The **Churchill Arms** (churchill.co) is an early, more gourmet option in **Paxford** (4 miles (6.7 km) into the walk). It serves high quality gourmet food Tuesday-Saturday 12:00-15:00 and Sunday 12:00-16:00. It is recommended to call ahead and make a booking on the weekends 01386 594 000.

The recommended tea stop for all walk options is the **Blockley Village Shop and Café**, a community run venture (01386 701411/blockleyshop.com). It is open daily until 16:00. If the café is closed (or you prefer something stronger), the **Great Western Arms** in **Blockley** (01386 700 362/ thegreatwesternarms.co.uk) also serves a variety of beverages (including tea). It is open from 5:30 Monday-Friday and all day on Saturday and Sunday.

Moreton-in-Marsh also has a number of options for post walk libations. Some recommendations include **The Bell Inn** (a reputed haunt of J.R.R. Tolkien) and **The Back Bear**. **Hassan Balti** serves very good Indian food (also available on a take-out basis to eat on the train – don't forget to ask for plastic cutlery!)

Map: OL 45 OS Explorer

Walk Summary:

A peaceful walk through the gentle foot hills of the Cotswolds visiting a number of pretty honey colored villages, including Paxford, Broad Campden, Chipping Campden (a jewel of the Cotswold) and Blockley. The morning route passes through some gently rolling fields before commencing a steady climb up a hill with lovely views then descending down to Broad Campden. The standard route then takes you up to the bustling market town of Chipping Campden with an optional extension to Dover's Hill on the Cotswold escarpment with fine views across the Vale of Evesham and the Malvern Hills. On the return route to Moreton-in-Marsh, the afternoon stretch again gently climbs up and follows the top edge of a picturesque valley for a spell before passing through a dramatic dip on the approach to Blockley.

Features of Interest:

Blockley: Blockley is famous for its silk production. It once employed 600 people making silk for ribbon factories in Coventry from mills powered by Blockley Brook. Currently, there is a micro-brewery in the village with its products available at the local village shop.

Chipping Campden: Chipping Campden is an old market-town (Chipping from old English “cēping” meaning “a market”), noted for its elegant terraced high street dating from the 14th to 17th century. In the Middle Ages, it was a thriving center for the wool trade.

Dover’s Hill: At 230 meters above sea level, Dover’s Hill is a high point along the Cotswold escarpment near Chipping Campden with tremendous views across the Vale of Evesham and the Malvern Hills. The grassy slopes are currently managed by grazing sheep. It is named after Robert Dover, a local lawyer, who founded the first British Olympics in 1622 on Dover’ Hill. These games, now called the Olimpics, continue to be held every year in early Spring and include events such as shin-kicking and morris dancing.

East & West Banqueting Houses: Two remarkable Jacobean buildings, being all of what remains of **Campden House**, built in 1614 by Sir Baptist Hicks, a somewhat self-made man who was the son of a London mercer and money lender. He financed much of the extravagance of the court of James I which greatly increased his fortune and led to his knighthood. The grand house was destroyed by fire in 1645 during the English Civil War. The banqueting houses served as places of retreat away from the main household following the afternoon meal where wine and dessert would be enjoyed while looking over the garden grounds.

Moreton-in-Marsh: Moreton-in-Marsh is one of the principal market towns in the Northern Cotswolds, Gloucestershire located on the **Roman Fosse Way** (a Roman road that linked Exeter and Lincoln). It grew up as a market town during the 13th century and there is still an active market on Tuesdays. Buildings of note include the **Redesdale Market Hall** (erected in 1887) located on the High Street and the **Curfew Tower** (probably the oldest building in the village dating from the 16th century) located at the corner of the High Street and Oxford Street. Moreton means “Farmstead on the Moor” and “in Marsh” comes from *henne* and *mersh*, meaning a marsh used by birds such as moorhens. An alternative suggestion is that Marsh is a corruption of March, an early English word for boundary.

Monarch’s Way: The Monarch’s Way is a 615 mile (990 km) long-distance footpath that approximates the escape route taken by **King Charles II** in 1651 after being defeated at the **Battle of Worcester**. It runs from Worcester to Brighton (via Bristol and Yeovil).

Old Market Place (Chipping Campden): A beautiful 400 year old market place built in 1627 by Sir Baptist Hicks to provide shelter for traders. Note the worn stone floor evidencing years of a bustling trade. In the 1940s, it was almost sold to an American (god forbid); but the towns folk heroically raised the funds to purchase the building and donated it to the National Trust.

Ridge and furrow: A medieval agricultural technique evidence of which is extensive throughout the walk. It is basically the result of plowing the same strip of land with non-reversible plows each year. It is visible on land plowed in the Middle Ages but not since.

St. James’ Church, Chipping Campden: One of England’s finest **wool churches** (a church financed by wealthy wool merchants in an effort to save their souls) is built in a grand perpendicular style. However, it began as a much smaller Norman church around 1180 with a more squat tower. Around 1260, this Norman structure began a transformation that would last about 250 years with the noble west tower being added in 1500. At a height of 120 feet, this tower ensured the church could be seen from some distance – as noted on this walk. Inside, the church has a set of eight bells, a unique pair of Altar Frontals dating from 1500 and a Cope from 1400.

Walk Instructions:

1. Leave the station through the main entrance and *turn right* through the car park. In 40 meters, *turn left* on a pathway just before a fence down an alleyway that you follow as it turns right then curves left with a wall on the left and a large grocery store behind a metal fence on the right.
2. In 80 meters, at a T-junction with the main road, *cross the road* and *turn right*.
3. In 30 meters, *turn left* to go down some steps, marked with a footpath signpost, into a park. Continue in roughly the same direction across the park, initially on a tarmac path with a playground on the right. When the tarmac path ends, continue straight ahead towards a line of trees about 60 meters away.
4. When you reach the trees, *turn right* along a clear path between the rows of trees (this is the **Diamond Way**, which you will follow for a spell – occasionally marked with a diamond), now heading in a northerly direction. In 100 meters go through a metal gate to cross a tarmac lane and continue through the wooden kissing gate on the far side of the lane.
5. *Veer half left* (your direction 340°) across a field aiming towards the left of an electricity pole 60 meters away (with a diamond marker). Continue past the electricity pole in the same direction towards a large dead tree in the far-left hand corner of the field.
6. In 300 meters at the far-left hand corner of the field, near the dead tree, *turn right to go through* a wooden kissing gate into the next field and continue on the left-hand edge of this field. In 160 meters go through a metal kissing gate with a diamond marker into another field to carry along in the same direction on the right-hand side of this field. In 220 meters go through a metal kissing gate to the left of a metal field gate to carry on in the same direction along a car wide dirt track.
7. In 180 meters the track turns into a tarmac lane and in a further 110 meters at a house *cross over* a lane and *veer slightly left* to carry on to the left of the house in generally the same direction with a field on the left and a hedge on the right along a dirt and gravel track following a footpath sign with a diamond marker. Continue along the edge of the field on this track as it gently undulates. In 230 meters, you walk through an often-open double metal field gate and in 110 meters ignore a metal gate into a wood on the right.
8. In a further 120 meters when the track starts to turn sharply to the right, **[!]** *continue straight ahead in the same direction on a footpath (which can be overgrown with crops in the summer)* through the field (your direction 340°) aiming for a gap in the field boundary ahead.
9. In 160 meters go through a wooden kissing gate into the next field and, if a path has been cleared through the field or the field is just grass, carry on ahead in the same direction (340°) for 100 meters to the crest of the field where you *veer half right* and gently descend for 200 meters to cross a bridge and *turn right* with a ditch now on your right and carry on for 140 meters and skip to instruction 12. If the field is not passable, *turn right* to carry along the boundary hedge on the right-hand edge of the field.
10. In 130 meters, cross a car wide farm track, and *veer left* to follow a path along the right-hand field boundary with a line of trees on the right. Continue along the field boundary as it goes up and down through the rolling fields. In 350 meters *curve left*

- with the field boundary following a footpath arrow on a post.
11. Cross over a culvert and *turn right* to remain on the right-hand side of the field with a stone house ahead.
 12. In 100 meters, at the stone house, *turn right* through a wooden field gate down a dirt and gravel track to walk underneath the railroad tracks. In 50 meters the track curves to the left with a field on the right and some trees on the left. In 170 meters ignore a footpath turning right and in a further 90 meters, you walk to the right-hand side of a stone wall then house to continue along a car wide stone and dirt track as it curves left to reach a tarmac lane. Cross over the tarmac lane and continue straight ahead down a lane through **Aston Magna** village (initially between stone walls).
 13. In 80 meters, at a T-Junction with a more substantial road, *turn left* uphill.
 14. In 70 meters, just before a bridge over the railroad track, *turn right* onto a signposted footpath, briefly tarmac, then grassy, with the railroad track on the left. In 70 meters go through a wooden squeeze gate into a field and carry on in the same direction on the left-hand side of the field with a hedge boundary on the left. In 135 meters *veer left* into a light wood strip for 60 meters, then *veer right* to leave the wooded strip and continue in the previous direction along another field's left-hand boundary. In 350 meters at another field boundary, carry on in the same direction through a gap.
 15. In 50 meters ignore an underpass on the left and in 200 meters at the corner of the field with a field boundary without a gap, *turn right* to follow a footpath marked on a post (which could be obscured in high summer) along the left-hand edge of the field with a ditch on the left.
 16. In 320 meters after the path curves to the left, emerge onto a lane where you *turn left*. Ignore ways off and in 600 meters follow the lane around to the left (ignoring a footpath off to the right).
 17. 180 meters after the lane bends left, *turn left* over a stile by a footpath signpost into the field aiming for a boundary hedge 30 meters ahead.
 18. At the boundary hedge *veer slightly to the right* to carry along a more defined path between two grassy fields towards some brick buildings directly ahead (your direction 280°). In 210 meters walk through a metal field gate into the next field and in 110 meters, at a hedge corner, *veer slightly right* to follow the path as it runs to the left-hand side of the field boundary hedge. In 130 meters, at the field corner, continue in the same direction through a metal field gate. Carry along the track in the same direction on the right-hand side of a field with a wire fence on the right-hand side.
 19. In 200 meters at the right-hand corner of the field *turn left* to carry along the right-hand edge of the field with trees to the right.
 20. In 55 meters cross a stile to the right of a metal field gate onto a tarmac lane and *turn right* (note the red phone booth directly ahead has a defibrillator).
 21. In 70 meters **you have a choice:**
 - a. if not stopping at the pub in Paxford, *turn left* just after the "Round House" over a stile to the left of a metal field gate to follow a public footpath sign diagonally across the field (your direction 300°). In 120 meters curve slightly left with the path and in a further 20 meters cross a car wide bridge with railings over a stream with a metal field gate on its far side.

- b. if stopping at the pub in Paxford, carry along the lane and in 180 meters, you arrive at the **Churchill Arms in Paxford** on the right-hand side, a possible early and rather indulgent lunch option. After lunch, *turn right* out of the pub to cross the main road) to go through a wooden kissing gate and follow a signposted footpath along the right-hand side of a field, but *veering slightly to the left* aiming for the visible railings of a bridge. In 180 meters cross a car wide bridge with railings over a stream with a metal field gate on its far side. *Note: About 50 meters of this route approaching the bridge does not match the footpath on the map which appears to turn right into a private garden. There is no sign of the marked footpath – so I believe this route across the field is considered a permissive route.*
22. On the far side of the bridge, *turn immediately right* along the stream towards a wood, aiming for a stile in the far right-hand corner of the field (ignoring a wooden stile/squeeze gate off to the left across the field). In 150 meters, you cross a stile and a wooden bridge with two railings to enter into some woods.
23. Immediately after crossing the bridge at a three-way junction of footpaths, *turn sharp left* to take the path most immediately on the left which initially runs adjacent to the field that you just left, following a yellow footpath arrow on a post just inside the wood, your direction 250°. In 150 meters continue following the path as it *turns to the right* before a small stream (which can be overgrown and hard to see) still just inside the wood.
24. Continue along this path as it weaves along through the wood with the stream occasionally visible on the left and in 240 meters at a footpath post on the right-hand side, *turn left* following the footpath arrow. In 10 meters cross over a wooden bridge with a single railing to emerge into a field.
25. Once in the field (10 meters after crossing the bridge), *turn right* to carry along the right-hand edge of the field for 40 meters to its corner where you *turn left*, still following the right-hand edge of the field.
26. In 40 meters, *turn right* towards a wooden gate and cross an improvised corrugated metal plank bridge over a ditch to go through the gate to then *turn left* to carry on up the left-hand edge of the neighboring field. In 280 meters cross a stile to go over the railroad tracks and carry on down some steps on the other side to keep going in the same direction along the left-hand edge of the next field. In 340 meters go through a metal field gate to carry on in the same direction along the left-hand hedge of the next field. In 200 meters, it may be necessary to crawl under some electric fences erected across the footpath to carry on in the same direction, and in a further 200 meters (or in 400 meters total if the electric fences are no longer in the way) go over a stile by a footpath signpost to the left of a metal field gate to emerge onto a road. *Cross the road and [!] follow the unmarked footpath directly opposite* into the woods on an ill-defined and potentially overgrown path.
27. In 20 meters, *turn right* onto a more substantial car wide track heading gently uphill. In 200 meters when the track starts to curve harder to the left, cross over an earth track heading into the field on the left to continue straight ahead on the now

somewhat narrower path still curving to the left uphill between trees.

28. In 500 meters, 10 meters before a footpath post, *turn right* towards a stile and, in 10 meters, cross the stile to emerge onto a road. Cross the road and cross the stile directly across the road.
29. Over the stile, *turn half right* (your direction 330°) and head downhill towards a wide gap in the hedges, with the buildings of **Broad Campden** immediately ahead. You have great views here with **Chipping Campden** visible just beyond Broad Campden (including the impressive **St. James' Church**) and **Dover's Hill** rising in the background. In 260 meters towards the bottom of the slope just after passing through the gap, follow a wooden fence that appears on the right-hand side of the field down towards some houses to reach a stile in the field corner. Cross the stile to carry on in the same direction between wooden fences. In 20 meters go down some steps to emerge onto a road. Cross the road to carry on down a passageway straight ahead between fences.
30. In 180 meters, you emerge onto a lane with a church in front of you (behind some trees), *turn left* on the lane. In 20 meters at the junction in front of the church, **you have a choice:**
- for the standard walk to Chipping Campden, *turn right* keeping the church close by on your right and carry on with instruction 31.
 - for the shorter walk via Broad Campden only, *veer left* towards the main road and *turn right* to follow the road around the corner uphill for 50 meters to the **Bakers Arms** on the right-hand side, the recommended lunch stop (or afternoon drinks stop if you have

eaten in Paxford) and pick-up with instruction 45.

31. **[!]** In 20 meters at a fork with a footpath signpost to Chipping Campden (on the left – the return route), *take the right fork* still keeping next to the church. In 90 meters carry on ahead where the tarmac lane becomes a dirt track.
32. In a further 75 meters at a last lone house on the left with a footpath marker at ground level, *veer half right* down across an arable field on a path (your direction 40°).
33. In 110 meters at the bottom of the field, *turn left* onto a path now with a stream on the right. In 350 meters at a field corner with another stream ahead, *turn left* and in 10 meters *turn right* over an earth bridge.
34. **[!]** *Veer half right* (your direction 30°) to cross the field on an initially indistinct path towards a barely visible marker post ahead in the boundary hedges (ignore a nice clear broad track going straight across the field). The path will become clearer and the marker post more visible as you cross the field. In 140 meters at the marker post, pass through the boundary hedges and *temporarily veer half left* in the direction of the arrow on the post (your direction 290°) before, in 10 meters, you *veer slightly right* to resume more or less the same direction as before to cross through the middle (lengthwise) of the field on a reasonably clear path (your direction now 330°).
35. In 250 meters go through a metal gate and in a further 10 meters *veer half left* between wire fencing around some horse paddocks (your direction 310°). In 100 meters, at a junction of tracks go straight ahead on a path between paddocks.
36. In 150 meters at a cross paths, continue ahead through a metal gate and *veer half right* across a field. In 80 meters go through another metal gate and carry on ahead in

largely the same direction with a wire fence on your left. In 50 meters pass through another gate and some hedges to emerge into an open field in a further 10 meters and carry on in roughly the same direction (310°), but curving left eventually with a stream on your right.

37. In 160 meters, *turn right* to cross the stream on a metal bridge and *veer half right* towards a foot path post (your direction 50°). In 80 meters pass by the post to carry on in the same direction. In a further 140 meters pass through a wooden gate and over a bridge to carry on in the same direction (your direction 20°) up across another field towards some rooftops visible ahead (ignoring an inviting path to the right) with the impressive **St. James' Church** and **East & West Banqueting Houses** on the left among the foundation and former formal gardens of **Campden House**.
38. In 170 meters cross over a stile in a stone wall to the left of a wooden field gate to cross a road and *turn left* onto the pavement. In 275 meters at a road junction, *turn left* to follow the road (sign marked Church Street). In 50 meters, pass the entrance to the church and the impressive gateway to the banqueting houses on the left. Continue along the road as it curves to the right with, in a further 40 meters, a row of almshouses on the right.
39. Just past the almshouses, *turn right* with the road to find the recommended lunch pub, the **Eight Bells**, ahead in 30 meters.
40. After lunch, *turn right* leaving the pub to cross the High Street in 40 meters and *turn left*. In 180 meters pass through the historic **Old Market Place** (built 1627 – info panel at ceiling level). On leaving the market place, *veer right* to remain on the elevated side of the High Street.
41. In 200 meters with a phone box and Sheep Street T-junction on the left, **you have a choice**:
- For the extension to **Dover's Hill** (adding 2.3 miles/3.7 km to the walk), carry on ahead for 100 meters and *turn right* just after passing **St. Catherine's Roman Catholic Church** and pick up with the **Dover's Hill Extension** at the end of these instructions; or
 - To continue with the standard walk, *turn left* to cross the High Street and carry along Sheep Street (note that the other recommended lunch pub **The Volunteer Inn** is 100 meters further ahead on the High Street) and continue with instruction 42.
42. In 100 meters by the Crystal Palace take away, *turn left* to follow a footpath path along the right side of a ditch. In 70 meters follow this path around to the right to reach a road in 30 meters where you *turn left*. In 70 meters at a road junction with George Lane, *turn right* down a cul-de-sac with Monarch Way and Heart of England Way stickers. In 370 meters, after passing some athletic fields and playgrounds, emerge onto a road and *veer left* to follow a footpath signpost along a path running on the left side of some boundary hedges along the right-side of a field. In 275 meters, at the bottom of a dip where the road on the right curves away to the right, carry on ahead uphill across the field heading for a post on the rise.
43. In 160 meters at the post, *veer right* following the Monarch Way and Heart of England Way markers. In 150 meters go through a wooden gate and carry on ahead with a fence on your right. In 40 meters, emerge at a tarmac drive and carry along its grassy right-hand verge. In a further 30

meters, *veer left* to cross the drive and follow the public footpath sign through a gate and along a path between stone walls. In 40 meters emerge onto a tarmac lane with a Quaker Meeting House ahead and *turn right*.

44. In 100 meters at a road junction (just after a church on your left), *turn right* to arrive at the **Baker's Arms** on the right in 50 meters.
45. Leaving the Bakers Arms, *cross the road* and *turn left* for 20 meters and [!] *then right* (or if not visiting the pub, just before the Baker's Arms *turn left*) onto a wide grassy track with a wooden field gate ahead (*note the footpath marker post is on the opposite side of the road just before the Baker's Arms*). In 20 meters go through a wooden gate following the yellow footpath sign (Heart of England Way) in roughly the same direction. Carry along the left-hand side of the field initially with a wall on the left and *curve left* with the wall to eventually follow a line of trees on your left, as you gradually make your way up the valley. In 150 meters, where the tree line and a fence end, continue straight ahead in the same direction along the very faint path through the middle of a field (your direction 240°). In 220 meters cross a wooden stile to enter into a light wooded area for about 20 meters, crossing another stile to emerge into another field and *veer half-right* towards some boundary shrubbery, effectively cutting the corner of the field (your direction 220°).
46. In 80 meters pass through a gap in the field boundary shrubs to continue more or less in the same direction *on a faint path* uphill (your direction 210°).
47. In 140 meters (at the top of the hill) stop and look back to enjoy the view before *veering half left* towards the remains of an

ornate – but rusted – metal fence. Carry along the undulating path with the metal fence on the left at times and a wire fence on the right.

48. In 370 meters go through a wooden gate to carry along in the same direction and in a further 400 meters near the head of the valley at a three-way junction with a gate and sign for the Northwick Estate on the right, *turn left* to follow the path down to the left – now on the **Monarch's Way** (which you will follow all the way back to Moreton-in-Marsh).
49. In 40 meters *follow the path around to the left* with a lovely stone building on the right, head slightly uphill through a gate and up some steps to reach a farm track where you *turn left*. In 320 meters follow the wide earth-gravel track as it goes around to the left (ignoring the various turnings off in other directions), with a former quarry and some unknown current activity towards the right, to ultimately start going downhill on the on the right-side of a field with a view ahead to Blockley in the valley.
50. In 600 meters where the now tarmac track veers sharply to the left [!] *carry on straight ahead downhill* on a faint path on the right-hand side of a field with some boundary hedges on the right (your direction 120°).
51. In 260 meters at a dilapidated wooden gate at a T-Junction *turn right* to follow a footpath sign with Heart of England Way and Monarch's Way stickers.
52. In 10 meters *turn left* to follow the path as it starts to drop into a very picturesque dip. In 220 meters cross a stile to the left of a wooden field gate to cross over a little stream at the bottom of the dip.
53. Continue up the other side of the dip on a faint path going up the flank of the hill [!] *veering to the left* (off of a car wide track) aiming for some wooden fencing around

young trees (your direction due south/180°).

54. In 90 meters *veer first to the right and then the left* as you skirt a depression going up the flank of the hill towards the young trees with protective wooden fencing, ultimately passing between a couple of sets of fencing to the right of two lone fenced trees -- a Monarch's Way marker visible on the fencing as you pass. At the top of the hill, *stop and turn around and enjoy the view*. On a warm and sunny day, this is an excellent place to pause and enjoy the countryside or wait for others.
55. Continue in generally the same direction *slightly diagonally right* across a grassy field (your direction 190°). In 140 meters in the right-hand corner of the field, cross a stile with a public footpath and a Monarch's Way sign into a slightly wooded area for 20 meters, emerging into another field with the village of Blockley visible ahead in the valley. Continue in the same direction on the clear path between fields. In 300 meters, cross a stile and carry along a concrete pathway between two wooden fences.
56. In 40 meters at a T-junction with the road, cross the road to carry on in the same direction along a tarmac lane (Backends) opposite following a public footpath sign post (with a Heart of England Way sticker).
57. In 190 meters at a junction with a little green, *turn left* on Bell Bank heading downhill. In 50 meters pass the village hall on your right and in a further 80 meters emerge at a junction with Bell Lane where you *turn left*. In 70 meters you arrive in front of the **Shop and Café** (a possible tea stop for a traditional tea service) and a church (for the bus stop *turn left* and walk up the left-hand side of the village green to arrive at the bus shelter in 90 meters).
58. In front of the Shop and Cafe, *turn right* to take the concrete pathway towards the church. In 45 meters in front of the church, *turn left* at the T-junction to walk downhill with the church on your right-hand side. In 45 meters pass through a metal barrier to *veer right* down a steep tarmac drive with a railing on the side to emerge in 40 meters onto the main road.
59. On the main road, **you have a choice**:
- to visit the **Western Arms** pub, *turn left* and the pub will be about 50 meters down the road on the right; or
 - to continue with the walk, cross the road and *turn right*.
60. In 210 meters (65 meters past a road with a Pasture Farm arrow), *fork left* at a public footpath post marked with Heart of England and Monarch's Way emblems along an initially wide stony track gently uphill (ignoring the small path continuing ahead parallel to the road). In 70 meters go through a metal field gate (or over a stile to its left) into a field to carry on in the same direction on the left-hand side of the field with field boundary hedges on your left.
61. In 100 meters pass through another field gate (or go over a stile to its right) at a field boundary and *veer half right* in the direction of a footpath arrow on the gate with Heart of England and Monarch's Way markers to carry on diagonally up across the field. In 175 meters cross a stile to continue uphill in the same general direction as indicated by the footpath markers (Heart of England and Monarch's Way) towards a marker post visible 60 meters ahead and continue to follow the line of marker posts up the hill.
62. In 420 meters, at the top of the hill in the upper left-hand corner of the field, cross a stile to the left of a metal field gate and *turn*

left to follow Heart of England and Monarch's Way sign posts along the crest of the ridge with Blockley down in the valley on the left-hand side. *Don't forget to look back and admire the view and breathe a sigh of relief at having just completed the last climb of the day.....*

63. In 100 meters, pass through a wooden gate and *turn right* following a footpath sign post with a Monarch's Way sign to go along the right-hand edge of a field with a line of trees on your right. In 260 meters pass by a field boundary on the left to carry on in the same direction along a farm track with a wall on the right. In a further 170 meters pass through a usually open metal field gate to continue in the same direction still following the Heart of England and Monarch's Way along a car wide dirt track for another 45 meters up to a T-junction with a road. Cross over the road and follow the public footpath signs (Heart of England Way and Monarch's Way) over a stile to the right of a wooden gate and stone wall to carry on in the same direction eventually downhill with a wall on your left.

64. In 420 meters at a footpath post on the right continue straight ahead over a path with a wooden gate to the left still following the Heart of England and Monarch's Way. In a further 35 meters the path joins a wider car wide track where you *turn left* to carry on downhill with the valley ahead of you on the right.

65. In 340 meters, at a fork in the track with a public footpath sign (Heart of England and Monarch's Way markers), *take the right-hand fork* (the narrower of the options). In 30 meters, cross a stile into a field to follow the Heart of England/Monarch's Way in the same direction gently downhill through a meadow (with evidence of **ridge and furrow** agriculture to the right).

66. In 150 meters pass through a wooden gate to the left of a wooden field gate and *turn right* along the grassy verge of a tarmac lane and in 5 meters *turn left* to cross the lane and pass through a wooden gate in 10 meters to cross another meadow still following the Monarch's Way footpath (with more evidence of **ridge and furrow** agriculture in the field to the right). In 120 meters *veer slightly left* with the path and in a further 120 meters continue over a little wooden bridge before a wooden kissing gate to continue in the same direction on a clear path across the next field still on the Heart of England/Monarch's Way aiming for the left corner of the field. In 180 meters pass through a wooden kissing gate to carry on in the same direction with a barbed wire fence and field boundary on the left-hand side. In 250 meters cross over a narrow stone bridge with metal railings to carry on in the same direction. In a further 40 meters pass over a two-plank bridge and pass through a wooden kissing gate to carry on in the same direction through another meadow with the path curving slightly left. In 140 meters go through wood railings to carry on in the same direction still following a Monarch's Way footpath marker. In 150 meters, pass through a wooden gate to continue in the same direction now on a broad path across a field with a steeple in Moreton-in-Marsh directly ahead of you. In another 260 meters pass through another wooden kissing gate to carry on in the same direction. In 100 meters pass a redundant/broken wooden kissing gate on the left to carry on in the same direction still following the Monarch's Way. In 110 meters go through a wooden kissing gate and cross over a 3-plank bridge to carry on towards a footpath post.

67. In 50 meters at the footpath post, *turn left* through a wooden kissing gate in a gap in the boundary hedges on the left-hand side and then *turn right* to continue along the right-hand side of the next field with boundary hedges on the right heading towards the buildings of Moreton-in-Marsh.
68. In 100 meters follow the path as it *veers half left* through the field. In 150 meters pass through a metal kissing gate to continue down a gravel path with allotments on the left and hedges on the right. In 100 meters, cross a tarmac lane and continue down a tarmac lane to reach the High Street of Moreton-in-Marsh in a further 90 meters with a variety of post walk refreshments available, including a **Coop** immediately on your right and **Hassan Balti**, an Indian restaurant, 200 meters to the left on the left.
69. To go directly to the **Station**, cross the slip road and *turn left* through a parking/market area to cross the High Street at the street lights. After crossing the High Street *turn left* along the pavement and then in 60 meters shortly past the ASK restaurant, *turn right*. In 90 meters *veer left*. In 60 meters arrive at the station approach road with the station ahead in a further 40 meters. Alternatively, enjoy some refreshments along the High Street and then make your way to the Station.
70. For those going to **Hassan Balti**, coming out of the restaurant, *turn left*. In 50 meters when the slip road curves right towards the High Street, cross the High Street and *turn left* along the pavement with a wall on the right and in 20 meters follow the pavement around to the right onto a tarmac path with a grocery store for any last-minute train supplies 20 meters on the left. In a further 40 meters you emerge into the car park for

the Station. Trains to London are on the far platform.

Dover's Hill Extension

1. In 100 meters where the road turns to the right, carry on ahead up Hoo Lane following a Cotswold Way marker. In 400 meters, carry on ahead when the lane turns to gravel. In 100 meters pass by some outbuildings on the left to carry on ahead (after turning back to enjoy the view over the valley).
2. In a further 250 meters, *turn left* onto a lane.
3. In 75 meters, *turn right* following the Cotswold Way on a path between hedges.
4. In 275 meters, go through a wooden gate and *turn half left* onto the summit of **Dover's Hill** with vast views ahead of the Vale of Evesham and the Malvern Hills. Walk towards the trig point 75 meters ahead. From the trig carry on ahead along the escarpment (your direction 230°) enjoying the views to the right and its interesting amphitheater shape. You may even catch sight of **Broadway Tower** ahead (3 miles/5 km away and passed on SWC 288).
5. In 375 meters, you reach a toposcope at the edge of the escarpment, explaining the view. When finished enjoying the view, from the toposcope or the nearby bench (with your back to the view) head *half right* towards a wooden fence and car park beyond. In 100 meters go through either of the two wooden gates into the car park – there is an information panel near the right hand of the two gates, explaining the origin of the Cotswold Olimpicks held on Dover's Hill by Captain Robert Dover in 1612.

6. Go through the car park and down an access drive to arrive at a tarmac lane in 50 meters where you *turn left* to follow the Cotswold Way along a path to the left of the lane. In 200 meters (after passing through a couple of gates), you exit onto the lane to reach a road junction, cross the minor road (which has been on your right for a spell) and then the more substantial road (effectively crossing the junction diagonally) [!] to pick up a footpath heading straight ahead downhill now on the right side of the lane (ignore the Cotswold Way turning right here). In 400 meters, the path emerges onto the lane and you continue ahead in the same direction.
7. In 100 meters, *turn left* and cross the lane to follow a footpath sign to Chipping Campden. In 15 meters *veer half right* on a path through a field with Chipping Campden ahead.
8. In 300 meters near the left corner of the field, *turn left* onto a track and in 30 meters *turn right* onto a tarmac lane.
9. In 80 meters at a road T-junction, *turn left* to reach the **Volunteer Inn** in 110 meters. Carry on ahead for a further 100 meters to *turn right* on Sheep Street and pick up with instruction 42.