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## Wendover Circular

### Whiteleaf & Pulpit Hill.

**Start and Finish:** Wendover Station

**Length:** 18.5km (11.5 miles). For shorter variations, see *below* **Walk options**.

**Time:** 5 hours 45 minutes. For the whole outing, including trains, sights and meals, allow 8 hours 30mins.

**Transport:** Two trains an hour (one hourly on Sundays) run between London Marylebone and Wendover (journey time: 46-52 minutes). Take the train nearest to 9.15 am. For the Monk's Risborough to Wendover walk take the train nearest to 10.30am. For those driving, for non-rail users there is a high charge for parking at Wendover station car park. There is some street parking, and the public car park off the High Street by the library is free on Sundays.

**OS Landranger Map:** 165

**OS Explorer Map:** 181

**Chiltern Society Map:** 3

Wendover, map reference SP 865077, is in Buckinghamshire, 7km south-east of Aylesbury.

**Toughness:** 7 out of 10

**Walk Notes:** This energetic walk serves as a fine introduction to the Chiltern Hills,

first passing through woodland, then descending into hidden vales and fields before emerging out onto the Chiltern escarpment above Princes Risborough at a spot that commands panoramic views of the countryside below. After lunch in Whiteleaf, a pretty village with many ancient cottages, the return to Wendover goes through wooded valleys and hills. It continues along a fine open section of escarpment, with grand views north, before descending to the plains for a leisurely finish. This walk is particularly pretty in autumn when it is a riot of russet hues.

#### Current Issues:

[Link to map](#) of the impact of the proposed HS2 railway on this walk.

**Walk Options:** Directions are given at the end of the main text that allow you to shorten the walk in three different ways.

**a) Main walk via Cross Coppice short cut:** You may reduce the length of the main walk by 5km (3.1 miles) to 13.5km (8.4 miles) by following the main walk directions as given until [3]. Then follow the Short walk directions and then pick up the main walk directions at [7].

**b) Short walk from Wendover to**

**Monk's Risborough:** Follow the main walk directions to [6] and then pick up the directions at the end of the main walk text.. This route is 11.2km (7 miles).

**c) Short walk from Monk's**

**Risborough to Wendover:** Follow the directions at the end of the main walk text and then pick up the main walk directions from [6]. This route is 9.7km (6 miles).

For options b) and c) above, if driving, it is best to park at Aylesbury. Wendover and Monk's Risborough are on separate train lines, each being two stops down the line from Aylesbury.

**d) Finish via Coombe Hill ending:**

An option to finish via Coombe Hill. A more energetic ending to the Wendover walks (the main walk, short walk and Monks Risborough to Wendover) takes you up over Coombe Hill, another fine Chiltern viewpoint. It involves one very steep hill climb.

**MAIN WALK DIRECTIONS**

On leaving the ticket office of **Wendover station** *turn right up Station Approach. In 130 metres turn right at the T junction with Ellesborough Road to cross a bridge over the railway line and Wendover Bypass. Once over the bridge turn left to go up a car wide track, indicated by a footpath signpost. Cross over a stile to the left of a metal fieldgate onto a car-wide gravel track following the line of some National Grid pylons. In 50 metres cross over another stile to the left of a metal fieldgate. Turn half right to go diagonally across a field, marked by a footpath signpost, your direction 200 degrees.*

*After 300 metres, at the field boundary, cross a stile and turn right up a tarmac lane with houses on the left, your direction 240 degrees.*

*In 140 metres turn left down a signposted bridleway, your direction 140 degrees.*

*After 70 metres the path curves to the right. In 60 metres continue across a field between fences, your direction due south. In 200 metres, ignore a bridleway to the right to go through a metal kissing gate and continue in the same direction (due south), marked by a footpath arrow.*

*After 25 metres you pass under some mini pylon cables. Continue down past a redundant stile in a dip after 80 metres. Go diagonally up across a field towards a wood, in the same direction. In 300 metres *at the top of the field, go over a stile, your direction 210 degrees, to follow a footpath up into Coxgrove Wood. In 120 metres you pass by a tree on your right with a yellow ahead and left arrow painted on it. In 15 metres, cross over a path to go down to a stile, your direction 170 degrees.**

*In 30 metres pass to the right of the remains of a stile to emerge from the wood, to go down across a field. In 120 metres, pass to the right of a redundant stile into a wood. Ignore the paths to the right and left to go up an unmarked footpath ahead, (not the initially parallel bridleway going up off to the right), your initial direction 210 degrees. After 120 metres the footpath continues along the left-hand edge of the wood.*

*In 60 metres you emerge from the wood and go up the left-hand side of a field, your direction 170 degrees.*

*After 40 metres cross into the next field. Turn right as indicated by an arrow on a footpath post to go up the right-hand edge of the field, your initial direction 240 degrees. After 140 metres pass round to the right of a redundant stile into a wood of beech trees, your direction 230 degrees. In 250 metres continue straight on, ignoring a waymarked footpath down to the left. In 80 metres ignore a path up to the right and continue slightly downhill.*

*In 100 metres turn up to the left, your direction 160 degrees. After 60 metres turn right to go up a fenced-in footpath, your direction 250 degrees. After 200 metres, at a footpath T-junction, turn left. In 70 metres at a T-junction with a lane,*

*turn right onto the lane, passing Old Ford Cottages, Dunsmore, on your right.*

In 40 metres go straight over at a crossroads, following a road signpost to Kimble and Princes Risborough, passing by a duck pond on the left.

In 80 metres *turn left to cross a stile to the right of a metal fieldgate. Take the left-hand footpath across a field, aiming for a stile midway along the boundary fence opposite, your direction 200 degrees. (Do not head down the field to the stile at the bottom corner of the field. Dunsmore Old Farm can be seen below on the right. )*

In 100 metres go over the stile to go down across the next field, your direction 210 degrees. After 70 metres cross a stile into the next field and continue down in the same direction. In 150 metres go over another stile at the bottom edge of this third field. In 45 metres, *at the bottom corner of a small field with a wood to the left, go over a stile to reach a path T-junction after 10 metres. Turn left along a bridleway, with the wood to your left and a wooden fence and field beyond to your right, your direction 170 degrees.*

In 100 metres, *the path enters a wood, and forks three ways. Ignore the bridleways to the left and right to continue ahead on the middle footpath passing through a wooden horse-blocking barrier, your direction 130 degrees.*

After 250 metres a track joins from the right. Keep straight along this now car-wide track. After 300 metres, *at the corner of the wood, turn right up a car-wide track on the right-hand side of a field, bordered by a hedgerow, heading towards a wood, your direction 260 degrees.*

In 250 metres, *at the top corner of the field, you enter a wood, (Little Hampden Common). Continue up in the same direction, marked by a white arrow on a tree. After 140 metres (at a dip), ignore a path to the left as the footpath winds up through the wood, towards some houses.*

In 250 metres you emerge from the wood onto a track opposite the houses.

*Turn right up the shingle car-wide track leading into a wood, your direction 330 degrees. After 40 metres fork left off the shingle track, following a South Bucks Way sign up into the wood, your direction 300 degrees.*

*After 130 metres fork left along a bridleway in front of a footpath post. After 15 metres take a small footpath forking left off the bridleway, your initial direction 200 degrees.*

In 100 metres you *emerge from the wood. Continue straight ahead along the right-hand edge of a field, with a hedgerow on your right, your direction 240 degrees.*

After 180 metres cross over into the next field through a gap in the hedgerow, marked by a yellow footpath arrow on a post. Continue down in the same direction now with the hedgerow on your left.

After 150 metres, *at a dip, fork left up into a wood, marked by a yellow footpath arrow. In 140 metres you pass by a deep hollow on your left, your direction 310 degrees. 20 metres after this, where the footpath forks, take the left, lower fork, your direction west. In 140 metres you emerge from the wood into a field.*

Follow a footpath down the left-hand edge of the field towards a converted farm (Dirtywood Farm), your direction 240 degrees. In 120 metres *ignore a yellow footpath arrow through a private garden. Veer right to follow the 'Permitted Path avoiding private garden', your initial direction 300 degrees. After 200 metres turn right down a driveway.*

In 250 metres you *reach a T-junction with the main road, which you cross over. Follow a metal footpath signpost to continue straight ahead up a private (to cars) tarmac lane through a wood. After 200 metres you emerge from the wood to continue along the lane with trees to your left and a hedgerow and field beyond to your right.*

In 100 metres the lane curves sharply to the left. **[3]** On your right is a yellow footpath arrow indicating a footpath straight-ahead across fields.

[If you are intending to take the short walk refer to option **a)** the **Shortcut via Cross Coppice** walk directions at the end of this main section.]

[Here you also have the option to walk to point [5] along an alternative route that avoids some road walking later on and leads along a stretch of the Chilterns escarpment. To do so leave the lane and follow the footpath sign. Walk in this direction in between fields for 960m until you enter the woods through a gate. Turn left uphill inside the woods. In 320m at a T-junction turn right for 10m and then left to continue uphill. In 300m, where you can see a field through the trees ahead, turn right. In 720m turn left, pass the car park (do not enter it) towards the road, cross the road and walk up the ramp on the other side. After the kissing gate turn left. Follow the ridgeway along the edge of the wood and escarpment until in 170m you turn right downhill to pick up the walk at [5]]

*Otherwise, for the main walk follow the lane up and round to the left, your initial direction 220 degrees. There are woods on the left for 70 metres then open fields both sides as you go up towards a wood of conifers.*

*After 350 metres at the edge of the wood where the road sweeps up to the right towards Solinger Farm, turn left to cross over a stile to the left of a double wooden fieldgate. Continue straight ahead into the wood along a car wide track, your direction 220 degrees. After 120 metres at a dip, you pass by a track off to your right to continue up the track with a field visible through the trees to the right.*

**[!]** In 250 metres, *where the track curves slightly up to the left, turn half right down into the trees along an easily missed narrow footpath, marked by a footpath post and a white painted arrow on a tree to the right, your direction west. After 130 metres the footpath veers down to*

*the right, passing a hollow on your left, your direction 320 degrees. In 40 metres you pass a short concrete post on your right, with a field to your right.*

In 200 metres at the corner of the field to your right, a wire fence now runs alongside the footpath on your right. Continue up through the wood, your direction 260 degrees. After 100 metres, *where the wire fence comes to an end at a T-junction, turn right uphill, your direction 310 degrees.*

In 40 metres continue straight ahead to *emerge from the wood, now with a fenced field on the left and trees to your right as the path goes upwards and then flattens. After 450 metres you reach a crosspaths and just ahead to the right is a wooden hut with scaffolding and a satellite dish. Continue ahead along a car-wide gravel track towards a house, your direction 280 degrees.*

In 240 metres *cross a stile to the left of a metal fieldgate and turn left along a driveway, your direction 210 degrees. After 80 metres, at a T-junction with a road, cross over and turn right along a grass verge. In 150 metres at a road junction turn left down a road signposted Princes Risborough, your direction 250 degrees.*

In 200 metres *where the road starts to descend more steeply downhill you pass a wooden fieldgate on your right with 'Brush Hill Local Nature Reserve' engraved on its top bar. 40 metres after this turn right to enter the nature reserve through a metal kissing gate by a two-armed Ridgeway signpost.*

**[5]** *Follow the downhill arm along the footpath initially parallel to the road, your direction 260 degrees. After 200 metres, go down some steps and through a metal kissing gate to leave the reserve. Go down some further steps to enter a shrubby wooded area and continue downhill, your direction 260 degrees.*

In 150 metres you reach a footpath junction marked by a three-armed footpath signpost. Continue straight on to

go down some more steps to emerge from the wood after 20 metres. Continue down the left-hand edge of a field, and after 100 metres you emerge into an arable field. In 200 metres *at the field corner you reach a path junction marked by a three-armed footpath signpost. Turn right* onto the Icknield Way, a car wide track between hedgerows, your direction 50 degrees. Follow this track for 750 metres, to *come out to a crossroads.*

*Go over the crossroads and continue along a tarmac lane* (Upper Icknield Way), your direction 20 degrees. In 200 metres you reach the **Red Lion** pub in **Whiteleaf** on your right, the recommended lunch stop for the main walk. Coming out of the pub, turn right to continue down the Upper Icknield Way. After 80 metres you reach a lane (The Holloway) off to the left. **[6]**

[If you are taking option **b**) the **Wendover to Monk's Risborough** walk, refer to the directions at the end of this main section.]

*Otherwise, in a further 60 metres turn right up a tarmac drive to follow a bridlemay signpost marked Icknield Way, your initial direction 100 degrees.*

After 80 metres the drive becomes a narrow path up along the left-hand edge of a wood. After 160 metres, *at the top of this path, you reach a junction with a car-wide track. Turn right uphill into the wood* and keep to the bridlemay along the blue Riders route, your direction 200 degrees. (Ignoring a fork immediately to the right along a green chain link fence.)

In 25 metres the path veers left with a wooden Buckinghamshire County Council Whiteleaf Hill sign on the right. After 250 metres go through a wooden gate to follow the Icknield Way sign onto a grassy area. In 70 metres you *reach a three-armed footpath signpost at the top of the hill.* To the right you have a view of Princes Risborough and beyond, with the **Whiteleaf Cross** carved into the hillside below the wooden rail.

To continue the walk, *turn left to join the Ridgeway footpath, your direction east.* In 50 metres go through a metal kissing gate into a wood to join a car-wide track, which goes slightly downwards, your direction 80 degrees. After 180 metres you pass by a short concrete post on the right as the footpath goes downhill more steeply. [In a further 120m you can detour into "The Hangings" on a very indistinct footpath towards your right. Follow this path (use gpx if necessary) until in 400m you come to the fork two sentences further on where you turn sharp right to pick it up.] In 350 metres, at a crosspaths marked *by a four-armed footpath signpost, turn right to leave the Ridgeway, your direction 110 degrees. After 40 metres where the path forks, take the lower left path, your direction 100 degrees, gradually veering left and downwards.*

After 200 metres *go down some wooden steps to reach a crosspaths. Continue straight ahead for 15 metres, your direction 100 degrees.* (For the recommended lunch stop for the Monk's Risborough to Wendover walk, take a short diversion here: Turn left along the level car wide footpath, your direction 330 degrees. In 300 metres you cross a stile to reach the **Plough** pub.)

*To your right are 3 car wide tracks; take the lower left track into the wood, your direction east.* In 30 metres you go through two redundant wooden fieldgate posts. In 140 metres *fork right up a footpath, marked by a yellow footpath arrow on a post, your direction 140 degrees.*

*After 100 metres at a footpath junction turn left, your direction east and upwards, before levelling and, then going slightly downwards to reach a metal kissing gate after 300 metres near the edge of the wood. Go through this kissing gate to reach a crosspaths and turn left onto a bridlemay, your initial direction 20 degrees. After 450 metres the bridlemay leads out to a road [7].*

*Cross the road to turn half left onto the track opposite. After 20 metres turn right*

*up a bridleway signposted Icknield Way* to enter Pulpit Wood, your direction east. The path goes round to the right, initially parallel to the main road. After 80 metres *turn left at a crosspaths through a wooden horse barrier uphill*, (with the odd yellow painted arrow on trees along the way), your direction 70 degrees.

After 170 metres, *near the top of the incline, at a crosspaths, turn left* onto an unmarked car wide track along the side of the hill, your direction 310 degrees. In 150 metres continue straight on at a crosspaths, following a Pulpit Hill Fort sign, your direction still 310 degrees.

After 250 metres (at the brow of the track) *turn right to follow a sign pointing up to Pulpit Hill Fort*, your direction 40 degrees, soon with an embankment off to your left. After 80 metres, *at the top of the incline and where the embankment off to your left ends, turn left by a white painted crosspaths on a tree*, your direction 310 degrees. (This is the site of the remains of **Pulpit Hill Fort.**)

Follow the main path (ignoring further on a fork to the right, marked by a white arrow on a tree). After 110 metres, *at a path T-junction*, (marked by a white painted T on a tree), *turn right to follow the footpath along the top edge of a hillside*, your initial direction 20 degrees. After 100 metres the footpath veers to the right away from the hill edge and goes between a horse-blocking barrier in a barbed-wire fence. Continue down, your initial direction 40 degrees.

In 70 metres go over a crosspaths, and in a further 30 metres go through a wooden kissing gate. After 40 metres you emerge from the wood and continue downhill, your direction 40 degrees.

In 140 metres *you reach a field boundary. Veer left with a barbed-wire fence on your right* and a field beyond, your direction 350 degrees. After 30 metres ignore a footpath signpost indicating the Ridgeway to the right and left to *cross a stile ahead. Continue straight on, keeping the fence*

*on your right*. After 150 metres veer to the right to continue following the fence. After a further 100 metres, *just before the fence veers to the right, turn right through a wooden kissing gate*.

Head up the left-hand edge of the field, your direction 60 degrees. In 30 metres you go up into a wood and veer left. After 80 metres go through a wooden kissing gate (right of a metal fieldgate). In 20 metres cross a tarmac road (a driveway to Chequers, the Prime Minister's official country residence) and continue on a car-wide track through the wood.

After 130 metres you emerge from the wood through a wooden kissing gate to continue up an open area, with a hillock to the right. In 160 metres, by a footpath signpost, go through a wooden kissing gate to go down some steps to enter a lightly wooded area.

After 140 metres go through a wooden gate to emerge from the lightly wooded area to continue on a narrow chalky footpath cut into the side of Beacon Hill. The footpath becomes less defined in the chalk as you *continue down towards Ellesborough Church*, which can be seen ahead (partially hidden by foliage in summer).

After 300 metres, at the bottom right-hand corner of the field, go through a wooden kissing gate to cross the next field. In 200 metres go through a wooden kissing gate at the bottom right-hand corner to turn right onto the main road (Ellesborough Road).

[If you are taking option **d**) the **Coombe Hill ending** walk, refer to the directions at the end of this main section.]

After 20 metres cross over the road to enter the churchyard of **Ellesborough Church**.

*If not visiting the church, follow the footpath through the churchyard*, keeping to the left of the church. After 50 metres the footpath goes down some concrete steps and then through an old metal kissing gate frame, to go through a wooden kissing gate after 30 metres.

*Continue downhill towards a metal field gate. After 140 metres go through the field gate and turn right for 40 metres to then go through a wooden kissing gate to continue along a tarmac lane with houses to the left, your direction 60 degrees. After 180 metres, where the lane curves to the right, continue ahead to follow a footpath with a field to the left and houses to the right, your direction 80 degrees.*

After 80 metres ignore a footpath off to the left, to go along the right-hand edge of a field bordered by a fence. You can see Coombe Hill and its monument to the half right. In 220 metres go through a wooden kissing gate to continue along a narrow fenced-in footpath between fields. After 140 metres go through two wooden gates to continue towards some housing.

In 100 metres, go through a wooden kissing gate to *turn left along a main road*. (If you wish to break off for a late lunch at the [Russell Arms](#), turn right up the road. In 200 metres you reach the pub on your left.)

*In 40 metres turn right to go through a gate built into the right-hand side of a metal fieldgate, your direction 70 degrees. After 100 metres go through a metal gate between two metal fieldgates to continue up a grassy track between fields. After 140 metres go through a gate built into the right-hand side of a metal fieldgate to continue up with a fence on your right.*

After 250 metres, at the top right-hand corner of the field, go past a redundant stile [SP846 075]

[If wishing to take a direct route to Coombe Hill, turn right here for 400 metres, cross a road to then take a steep ascent for 350 metres up to Coombe Hill to then pick up the directions at the asterisk [\*] in section (d)]

Go across the middle of a large flat field, following a yellow (footpath) arrow, your direction 70 degrees. In 300 metres go over a stile into the next field and head across the field towards trees, your direction 70 degrees. After 160 metres go

over a stile into the next field. Continue along the left-hand side of the field towards trees.

In 100 metres go over a stile into an orchard, keeping to the left-hand side. In 40 metres go over a stile to the left of a large old house with tall chimneys (Wellwick Farm). Go straight down the field to go through a metal gate after 120 metres. *Turn half right towards some farm buildings, your direction 120 degrees. After 80 metres leave the field through a metal gate to go through the farmyard and cross a tarmac lane after 40 metres to enter a field.*

*Turn left to continue parallel to the lane for 50 metres, your direction 60 degrees. At a wooden telegraph pole turn right, indicated by a yellow Aylesbury Ring footpath arrow, to follow a grassy path separating two fields, your initial direction 140 degrees.*

After 350 metres you reach a hedgerow ahead. *Go through a wooden kissing gate to the left of the hedgerow and turn left in the direction of a brick bridge in the distance, your direction 60 degrees. Continue on the footpath between fields, going through several gates along the way. In 250 metres, after going through the last gate, turn half right to follow a yellow Aylesbury Ring footpath arrow diagonally across a field, your direction 110 degrees.*

Note: Whilst HS2 works are underway this path across the field is often closed. Alternative route to Wendover station: Continue ahead to the end of the field and cross the brick bridge over the road and railway. After 80 metres, take the first right-hand footpath, (initially passing by warehouses on your right, then leading out to join a path with the railway and HV cable run off to your right). After 700 metres you reach the railway station.

In 400 metres, at the corner of the field, you reach a mini pylon pole (with a transformer box) on the left and a yellow

footpath arrow. Turn half right to follow the arrow along the left-hand edge of the field, your direction 140 degrees. After 120 metres *you reach the entrance to Wendover Cricket Club on your left. If not wishing to take tea, turn left* here through the kissing gate for 100 metres to cross a stile and footbridge leading to *Wendover station.*

*Otherwise, continue straight on along the track.* After 180 metres the track joins the main road (Ellesborough Road). *Turn left to cross the bridge over the bypass and railway line towards **Wendover**,* down past Station Approach on the left and the **Shoulder of Mutton** pub on your left. 200 metres further, on your left is Rumsey's Chocolaterie which has a coffee shop. 80 metres further, on your right is the **Red Lion Hotel**. (To see **Anne Boleyn's Cottages**, built on land given to Anne Boleyn by Henry VIII as a marriage gift in 1533, continue down past the Red Lion to the Clock Tower at the mini roundabout and turn right up Tring Road. The cottages are on your left.)

After tea, retrace your steps back up to Station Approach and turn right down to **Wendover Station**.

### **WALK OPTIONS:**

#### **a) Shortcut via Cross Coppice walk directions:**

*Follow the main walk directions to [3].*

*Continue straight ahead to leave the lane.* Follow the footpath into a field, with a hedgerow on the left, your direction 280 degrees. In 300 metres continue into the next field, marked by a yellow Circular Walk footpath arrow. After 100 metres there is a wood (**Cross Coppice**) on your left. In 200 metres, *at the end of the wood, the footpath veers round to the left at the field corner. After 15 metres veer right to follow the footpath into the right-hand field of the two fields ahead,* your direction 280 degrees.

Continue along the left-hand edge of the field, your direction 270 degrees. In 250 metres, *at the corner of the field, follow*

*the footpath through a gap in the hedgerow.* Go down through a wooded area, following a yellow footpath arrow, your direction 280 degrees. After 60 metres *turn right at a crosspaths* onto a bridleway. After 450 metres the *bridleway leads out to a main road.*

To continue the walk, *follow the main walk directions from [7].*

#### **b) Short walk from Wendover to Monk's Risborough:**

*Follow the main walk directions to [6].*

*Turn left* down the lane (The Holloway). *In 60 metres fork left through a wooden gate down a fenced in footpath.* After 100 metres go through a metal kissing gate to go diagonally down across a field, aiming for a metal kissing gate to the right of some wooden fencing (enclosing a children's swimming pool).

In 160 metres go through the kissing gate and continue along a fenced in footpath. In 80 metres go through a metal gate to *reach the main A4010. Cross over and turn left. In 40 metres turn right* down Mill Lane. In 600 metres, *just before the railway bridge, turn right* up Crowbrook Road. Monk's Risborough station is 150 metres on the left.

#### **c) Short walk from Monk's Risborough to Wendover:**

Coming off the single platform at Monk's Risborough station, *turn right onto a suburban road,* your direction 210 degrees. *After 150 metres, at a T-junction, turn left* onto Mill Lane, signposted Monk's Risborough. *In 600 metres at a T-junction with the main A4010, cross over and turn left. In 40 metres, just after Monk's Risborough Church of England School on your right, turn right through a metal gate* along a fenced-in footpath. After 80 metres go through a metal kissing gate into a field and turn half left up across the field aiming for the left-hand corner.



After 160 metres, at the field corner, go through a metal kissing gate to continue up a fenced-in footpath. In 100 metres go through a wooden gate to come out to a lane (The Holloway). Turn right up the lane. In 60 metres you reach a T-junction. If stopping at the **Red Lion** pub, turn right to reach the pub on your left after 80 metres. Otherwise turn left and *follow the main walk directions from [6]*.

#### **d) Coombe Hill ending to Wendover:**

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At the road, (with Ellesborough church ahead), turn right along the road. In about 50 metres, turn right up a car wide gravel track, heading back uphill. In 250 metres, fork left off the track, following a signposted footpath (ahead is private anyway).

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Cross diagonally across a large field, on a clearly marked footpath. In 700 metres, when you come to the road, turn right for about 100 metres. Then turn left off the road up a signposted footpath, that takes you straight up the hillside on the the ridge.

When you emerge from the trees, there is a footpath slanting diagonally left along the edge of the clearing. It is tempting to take this (and it does lead to the top of Coombe Hill), but for better views, carry on straight up the hill for another 100 metres or so to the crest of the ridge. Turn left along the crest, on a broad grassy path, with a line of scrub to your right and a magnificent view to your right.

In 600 metres you come to Coombe Hill and its monument to the Boer War. Note that if you look backwards at this point, you get a fine view of Chequers, the country retreat of the serving prime minister.

**[\*]** After admiring the view, with your back to the monument and facing the view, turn right to follow the ridge, with the escarpment to your left on a bearing of roughly 60 degrees. Follow the clear path along the edge of the ridge as it descends gently for two kilometres into

Wendover. When you reach the road, keep straight on downhill. The station is just beyond the dual carriageway, and Wendover High Street, with its tea options, is straight ahead.-----  
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## **Lunch & tea places**

**Red Lion** *Upper Ickniel Way, Whiteleaf, nr Princes Risborough, HP27 0LL (01844 344476)*. **Open** noon-3pm, 5-11pm Mon-Sat; noon-7pm Sun. **Food served** noon-2pm, 7-9pm Mon-Sat; noon-2pm Sun. Located 10km (6.2 miles) from the start of the main walk, this pub serves wholesome food. There is a small beer garden at the front and back. This is the suggested lunch stop for the main walk. Booking is advised.

**Plough** *Cadsden Road, Lower Cadsden, nr Princes Risborough, HP27 0NB (01844 343302)*. **Open** 11am-2.30pm, 5-11pm Mon-Fri; 11am-11pm Sat, Sun. A short diversion from the walk route and 2.5km (1.6 miles) from the start of the Monk's Risborough walk, the Plough is the suggested lunch stop for the Monk's Risborough to Wendover option.

**The Russell Arms** *2 Chalkshire Road, Butler's Cross, HP17 0TS (01296 624411)*. **Open** 10am-11pm Tues-Sat; noon-10.30pm Sun **Food served** noon-2.30pm, 6.30-9.00pm Tue-Sat; noon - 4pm Sun. A short diversion from the walk route and 2.5km (1.6 miles) from the end of the walk, this pub serves decent food. This is the lunch stop for the short cut option.

**Ellesborough Church**, 3.5km (2.2 miles) from the end of the walk, is a nice alternative tea option. Tea and cakes are often served here from 2pm to 5.30pm at weekends during summer.

**Shoulder of Mutton** *20 Pound Street, Wendover, HP22 6EJ (01296 623223)*. **Open** 11am-11pm Mon-Sat; noon-10.30pm Sun. **Food served** 11am-10pm Mon-Sat; noon-9pm Sun. Serves meals plus tea and coffee.

**Rumsey's of Wendover** *The Old Bank,  
26 High Street, Wendover Bucks HP22  
6EA (01296 625060)*

**Red Lion Hotel** *9 High Street, Wendover,  
HP22 6DU (01296 622266) **Open**  
7.30am-11.30pm daily. **Food served***

noon-9pm daily. Serves tea and coffee as well as food.