



STEP INTO THE COTSWOLDS WALK TWO Chipping Norton/Salford/Cornwell



Points of interest

Chipping Norton

Chipping Norton is the highest town in Oxfordshire, situated on the western slopes of a hillside that was once the site of a Norman castle.

'Chipping' is derived from ceapen, an old English word meaning market. Alternatively the meaning comes from the medieval word Chepyng meaning long Market Square. There has been a market here since the 13th century and was a major wool-trading town in the 15th century; the great 'wool' church of St Mary, built in perpendicular style, is a testament of its prosperity.

Salford

The name of this village originates from a crossing on the London turnpike road and an old salt track from the Midlands salt mines.

Cornwell

Cornwell is a small estate village on the edge of the Cotswolds. The impressive Cornwell Manor was mentioned in the Domesday Book, although the present house is predominantly 18th Century. The village was rebuilt in the 1930s by Clough Williams-Ellis. The original village probably surrounded the church. One theory for the distance from the village to the church is that the Black Death wiped out the original village.

Bliss Mill

Until not too long ago, Chipping Norton, apart from being a small market town, had a real industrial base in wool and tweed production. Just outside the town stands Bliss Tweed Mill, designed by George Woodhouse, which is a landmark for miles around. Tweed of high quality was made here for many years. The Mill finally closed in 1980 and has now been converted to luxury apartments.

The Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

The Cotswolds is considered by many people to be one of the most beautiful areas of England - the quintessential English landscape. It is also a very special area: one of only 40 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) in England and Wales, it is protected by Government as being of great value to the nation. This ensures the very features that attract people are there for future generations to enjoy.

The natural qualities of the AONB are unique. Limestone gives the Cotswolds its distinctive, unified appearance, visible everywhere in buildings, walls, towns and villages, which subtly blend with their surroundings.

The Cotswolds is a place of immense diversity: rolling landscapes with breathtaking views and open skies contrast with intimate valleys, villages and pastures. Ancient beech woodlands, rare flora and limestone grasslands alternate with broad swathes of arable fields. Pre-historic hill forts are found close to the fine craftsmanship of manor houses and stone cottages.

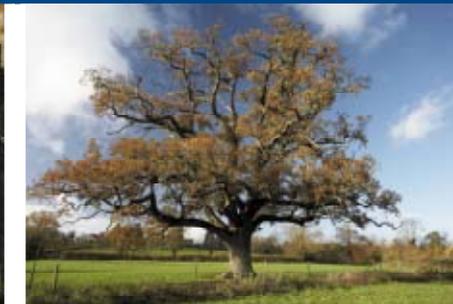
'Step into the Cotswolds' & the Cotswolds Conservation Board

This walk, and others in the series, has been funded through money raised by the 'Step into the Cotswolds' Visitor Payback Scheme, where visitors make voluntary donations to local access and conservation projects.

The scheme is run by the Cotswolds Conservation Board in partnership with West Oxfordshire District Council and supported by Oxfordshire County Council's Countryside Service. For more information about the Visitor Payback Scheme, the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the work of the Cotswolds Conservation Board contact:

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Summary

A delightful walk of 6.5 miles across gently undulating countryside from the market town of Chipping Norton to the Cotswold villages of Salford and Cornwell and back to Chipping Norton.

This walk is part of a visitor payback scheme called 'Step into the Cotswolds' and has these waymarkers along the route. →



Walk information

Start/End Point:	The Crown and Cushion Hotel, High Street, Chipping Norton
Grid Reference:	SP314272 (this route can be found on Ordnance Survey Explorer Maps 'OL45 - The Cotswolds' and '191 - Banbury, Bicester & Chipping Norton')
Distance:	6.5 miles
Terrain:	Gently undulating
Parking:	New Street Car Park (free long stay) - off the A44 just west of the town centre
Public Transport:	Details of bus services can be found in the 'Explore the Cotswolds by Public Transport' leaflets available from the Cotswolds Conservation Board (Tel: 01451 862000). You can download the leaflets from: www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk . They are also available at most Tourist Information Centres and libraries.
Public toilets:	New Street Car Park or Chipping Norton Town Hall
Refreshments:	Numerous pubs, restaurants and cafes in Chipping Norton; pub in Salford



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Route description

1 From the Crown and Cushion Hotel on Chipping Norton High Street, cross over the street, bear right and then turn immediately left down Goddards Lane with the Blue Boar pub on your right hand side. Walk past the Chequers pub, cross over into Church Street and walk down into St Mary's churchyard. Cross the churchyard bearing left on the path ahead and exit past the white wooden gate.

2 When the path opens up, enter the recreation ground at the first kissing gate. Walk diagonally across the field to the far corner, skirting around the play area to the kissing gate, down the slope and over the concrete bridge at the bottom.

3 Over the bridge the footpath forks into two - take the left path up the slope. Proceed through the two kissing gates either side of the road and on to the tarmac path at the edge of the cemetery. Exit the cemetery via another kissing gate.

4 On the opposite side of the tarmac road are two fields divided by a wide hedge. Cross over the road and walk along the right hand side of the hedge. Exit the field at the top left corner and follow the path ahead as it crosses the large field. Exit this field via the kissing gate and walk on the right of the hedge in the next field.

5 Once you have walked approximately half way through this field, you will come across a gap in the hedge with a kissing gate. Go through the gate and, bearing right, head for the gate at the bottom of this field. Once through, proceed in the same direction and through the next gate. Continue on the wider footpath and eventually through two gates close together to enter Village Farm. Walk straight ahead between the farm buildings and you will come out on a bend in a road. Go straight on towards the village. At the next junction bear left, with the Village Hall on your right.

6 Walk through the village for approximately 100 yards to the next T-junction. Follow the path as it curves to the right and cross over. Walk along the gravel path towards the church (signed 'Church'). Do not follow the path as it bends into the church or cross the cattle grid into the field ahead. Instead turn left and follow the waymarked path at the field boundary,

7 When you reach the A44, turn right and walk a short distance on the right side of the road. You will shortly see a bridleway on the opposite side of the road. Carefully cross over and follow the bridleway for approximately half a mile to Glebe Farm.

8 Entering Glebe Farm, follow the bridleway left and then right between the farm buildings. Exit the farm along a drive towards the road. Turn right at the road and very shortly cross over and take the first footpath on the left.

9 Continue along the path as it goes down the dip, over a bridge and straight up the other side. You will shortly approach a church. Go through the metal kissing gate, follow the path through the churchyard and exit in the far right corner. Proceed along the tree lined concrete walkway ahead.

10 Half way along the walkway there is a kissing gate on the right signed 'Darcy Dalton Way'. Go through the gate and follow the path as it heads off left towards the open field. When the field opens up you will see another kissing gate on your left, again signed 'Darcy Dalton Way'. Go through the gate and immediately turn right. Walk diagonally through the orchard, to join a track.

11 Follow the track to the T-junction with a road. Turn left again and follow the road through the village of Cornwell. You will eventually walk up to another T-junction at which you should turn left.

12 Follow the road for approximately 0.75 miles until you come to a small junction with a road on the left. At the junction take the bridleway across the field. After the first field, continue straight ahead with the hedge-line of the next field on your right. Exit via a gate, cross the minor road and through another gate into the field ahead.

13 The large open field has a fenced off pond in the middle. Walk across the field, skirting around the right of the pond, and exit over the bridge in the corner.

14 You will enter the next field in a corner with two paths ahead. Follow the left path as it leads up to the far corner. Exit the field via the gate and onto the next footpath. Follow the tree and hedge lined footpath and you will come out on a drive. Continue straight on to the A44. Turn right and walk towards Chipping Norton.

15 When the first residential area peters out, cross over and turn left into Elmsfield Industrial Estate. Walk straight ahead and past the Owen Mumford building on your right. You will eventually find a kissing gate on your right, which you have been through before. Go through the gate into the cemetery.

16 Retrace your steps through the cemetery, using points 3, 2 and 1 to return to the Crown and Cushion Hotel.



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