Landscape Park designed by Lancelot
as a World Heritage Site in 1987 for its
Churchill. Blenheim Palace was inscribed
in 1704 over French and Bavarian troops.
It is also closely associated with Sir Winston
of Marlborough, in recognition of his victory
in 1395 and has been little altered.
The villa is in the care of English Heritage.
mosaics that are now under shelter.
60 rooms, including some well preserved
20th century.
16th century until the beginning of the
know in Oxfordshire as Stonesfield slates,
or possibly fool’s, field. Cotswold stone tiles,
unearthed in 1813 and consists of over
patchwork of landscapes and habitats
local communities to restore its rich
of trees were cut down and areas of
In a period of only 18 months, thousands
much of what is now West Oxfordshire.
In 1854 an Act of Parliament was passed
Wychwood Forest
At the time of the Domesday Book in 1086,
royal Church of St Laurence
Combe’s name derives from the Celtic word
'cumb', meaning 'at the valley'. St Laurence
cation, visible everywhere in
Limestone gives the Cotswolds its distinctive,
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.
The natural qualities of the AONB are unique.
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Continue straight ahead. The path will become a track, passing the entrance for Lower Riding Farm. Keep straight ahead, crossing Whitehill Bridge and take the footpath on your left to North Leigh Roman Villa.

**Route Description**

Starting in Stonesfield village centre (near the church/Post Office), walk down Church Street. Where the road bears right, continue straight ahead onto Brook Lane until you reach the river. Cross the river.

**Route for extension 1**

- Approx 3.9 km/2.5 miles
- Take the footpath through Combe Churchyard following the well marked footpath until you reach a narrow road called Bolton’s Lane.
- Turn left and walk up the lane. When you come to a road junction turn right and continue along the lane to the entrance into Blenheim Park on your left.

**Route for extension 2**

- Approx 4.5 km/2.8 miles
- Take the footpath through Combe Church following the well marked footpath until you reach the entrance for Lower Riding Farm. Keep straight ahead, passing the entrance for Lower Riding Farm. Keep straight ahead, crossing Whitehill Bridge and take the footpath on your left to North Leigh Roman Villa.

**With the river on your left, look for the footpaths ahead of you. Take the right hand path which will take you through a wooded area known as Stockey Bottom. Go through the double gate, turn left, then right. Continue along the road into Stonesfield, turning right into Well Lane (Signed 'Oxfordshire Way/Bridleway').**

At the top of the lane you will come to a cross roads. Go straight across into the High Street.

**Route for extension 1**

- Approx 3.9 km/2.5 mile
- After crossing the river, continue straight ahead to the far side of the field. Go right through a gate. The footpath soon follows the bank of the River Evenlode, under a railway bridge and through Whitehill Wood until you reach a road junction at Ashford Bridge.

Turn left and walk along the road for a few metres. Turn left onto bridleway to Holly Court Farm. Turn left and go uphill, and then follow the footpath across the fields to East End until you reach the road. Turn left away from East End and then right at the sign marked Roman Villa to rejoin the main walk at point 3.

**Route for extension 2**

- Approx 4.5 km/2.8 miles
- Take the footpath through Combe Church following the well marked footpath until you reach a narrow road called Bolton’s Lane.

Once through the gates, go straight forward, following the public footpath signs, along the Blenheim Estate road. At a square grass junction take the left hand estate road to Park Farm. At the entrance take the public footpath on your right. Go through the gates towards the clump of beech trees in front of you. Just after the trees, take the left hand footpath. When you reach an estate track turn right. Almost immediately turn left off the estate track, to rejoin the main route at point 7.