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 Chipingye meaning long Market Square. There has been a market here since the 12th century and was a major wool-trading town in the 13th century. The great ‘wool’ church of St Mary, built in perpendicular style, is a testament of its prosperity.

Cornwell
Cornwell is a small estate village on the edge of the Cotswolds. The impressive Cornwell Manor was once mentioned in the Doomsday 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:

Cotswolds Conservation Board
Fosse Way
Northleach
Gloucestershire GL54 3JH
Tel: 01451 862000
Fax: 01451 862001
Website: www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

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.

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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: SP14792 (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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Refreshments: Numerous pubs, restaurants and cafes in Chipping Norton, pub in Salford
Walk through the village for approximately two miles, then turn right into "Darcy Dalton Way". Go through the gate and follow the path as it bends right towards the church (signed 'Church'). When the path opens up, you will see another kissing gate on your left, signed 'Darcy Dalton Way'. Go through the gate and immediately turn right. Walk diagonally through the orchard to join a track. 

When you reach the kissing gate, 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. Once through, proceed in the same direction towards the farm buildings. Exit the farm buildings and you will come out on a drive. Continue along 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 towards the road to turn left. 

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. Pass through a gate, cross the minor road and through another gate into the field ahead. 

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. 

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. 

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. 

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

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