Steyning Walks

River and Countryside Walk

Welcome to Steyning

About this Walk

Beginning in Steyning you make your way to the banks of the River Adur. The land abounds with wild grasses and flowers and during the summer there are many butterflies, damselflies and dragonflies. The river attracts a wide variety of birds including herons, geese, ducks, kingfishers and cormorants.

The River Adur once carried trade with the French Ports. Cargoes were transported direct to Steyning and Beeding churches and other buildings in the area. It was also extensively used by the carpet works of Beeding. Today it is a haven of peace and delight to the naturalist.

This circular walk crosses the 32 mile long Downs Link (a bridleway which links the South Downs Way to the North Downs Way near Guildford) and then takes you via local farms into the countryside. There are great views of local landmarks including Trigwall Hill, Charltonbury Ring and Lancing Beacon.

There are ample opportunities on the walk for picnicking, when dry on the river bank, and on well positioned benches. The walk is suitable for exercising dogs, providing they remain under control and on the lead near farms and animals.

On returning to Steyning don’t miss the opportunity to visit the Church of St Andrew with its magnificent Norman nave.

Country Code

• Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs
• Leave gates and property as you find them
• Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
• Keep dogs under control and on this lead through farms
• Consider other people
• Wear sensible clothing and sturdy footwear

Events

How to get here

By Car

Steyning lies between the A24 and A27, just north of the A27. The A23 runs past the town. Free car parking is available at several of the towns car parks.

For route planning information please visit

www.google.co.uk/maps

By Train

The nearest station is approximately 2 miles away at Shoreham-by-Sea on the South Coast line between Brighton and Portsmouth.

For further information please see

www.nationalrail.co.uk

Further Information:

Visit www.steyningouthdowns.com for more information

Visitor Information is also available at:

Steyning Library - Church Street BN44 3TB Tel 01903 812751
Steyning Centre - Pochetts Craft, BN44 3YX Tel 01903 813602
Steyning Museum - Church Street BN44 3YU Tel 01903 813333

For further information on the wider area including tourism publications visit


Supported By:

Loyalty Funded

www.steyningsouthdowns.com

Walk 2

4.5 miles taking approximately 3 hours. An easy circular walk along the banks of the River Adur.
Welcome to Steyning

How to get here

Events

Other Walks in this Series

Walk 1 - Three Ancient Churches Walk
4 miles taking approximately 2 hours.

An easy circular walk exploring three of the ancient village churches of the Adur Valley.

Walk 2 - Chichester Cathedral Walk
7 miles taking approximately 3-4 hours.

Moderately difficult circular walk with a steep ascent up to the South Downs Way and Chantry Ring, returning via Washington.

Walk 4 - Rural Retreat
7.5 miles taking approximately 4 hours.

A lovely circular country walk through meadows, farms and woodland to Wiston and back.

About Us:
The Steyning & District Community Partnership is a voluntary organisation set up as part of a nationwide programme by Action for Market Towns, West Sussex County Council, Horsham District Council and Action in Rural Sussex, to enhance and develop the local community for both residents and visitors.

The information in this leaflet is published in good faith and whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information, Steyning & District Community Partnership cannot be held responsible for any loss, damage or inconvenience caused by errors, omissions or subsequent changes.

For further details and for lots more events please see our website at: www.steyningsouthdowns.com

Historic Steyning, nestling against the inspiring landscape of the South Downs, is well known as one of the most picturesque towns in Sussex.

The town of Saint Cuthman (CTISA), Steyning is rich in history, with scores of timber-framed buildings in and around the ancient High Street, and its excellent museum. It was once a port on the then navigable estuary of the River Adur and was seized by the Normans; their legacy today includes the magnificent parish church and the ruins of the castle in nearby Bramber.

Steyning offers the visitor a fantastic selection of interesting shops (including the award winning Cobblestones Walk), a monthly farmers market and ample free parking. There are also restaurants, pubs and tea rooms offering delicious food and drink, plus a wide selection of great accommodation for the weary traveller.

Rightly known as a great destination for walkers, Steyning provides easy access to beautiful countryside, the South Downs Way and to other long distance paths. There are also excellent local routes to the mysterious Chantry Ring, the Iron Age Hill fort at Cesturus, and delightfully gentle walks through the Adur Valley.

Come and experience Steyning for yourself; the warmest welcome awaits you.

Steyning Walks
River and Countryside Walk
The walk is about 6.5 miles, taking around 3 hours. It is a relatively level walk, with some stiles. Some paths can be overgrown in the summer, so sturdy footwear is recommended all year round. Free car parking is available at Fletchers Croft in Steyning, and bus stops are nearby. Refreshments and public toilets are available in Steyning, but none on route.

Start
From the car park cross a wooden bridge over a small stream alongside a child’s play area and turn right up to a crossing path. Turn left up to a road. Cross into Holland Road. At the end, cross a road and go along a path between houses, which crosses the bypass on a high footbridge. Turn right and immediately left into a path. Stay on this path until a crossing road, ignoring a side road and path. Cross into Castle Way, stay on the left side, crossing a side road and, at the end, cross a road into another path between houses.

Go down to a crossing path and turn left, shortly reaching a stile into open fields. Stay on a high path alongside a stream until a stile and turn right over the stream towards a metal bridge over the River Adur. Turn left at the bridge and walk along the high bank keeping the river on your right.

Pass through a gate/stile and, still keeping the river on your right, join a path coming in from the left before another gate/stile. A pylon to the left close to the river is used as a roost by cormorants later in the year. Keep following the river, keeping it on the right.

The path reaches two gates and a stile; continue on keeping to the river side, the path is now grass. At low tides, look right at the first hand left hand bend and the remains of an old quay can be seen. A trackway ran from here to a quarry at Small Dole.

After a few bends, you reach an old railway bridge, which crosses the river. This is the Downs Link which starts a few miles away at Bramber and goes to St Martha’s near Guildford in Surrey mostly using old railway tracks.

Cross a stile up onto the old railway track bed. There is a bench here with great views north. The row of white houses north eastwards is the Neptown area of Henfield. After crossing via a gate, continue along the river bank. Pass through two gate/stiles close together and then through two more before reaching a marshy area on the left, where grey heron and white egrets can be seen.

At the fifth gate is Northover Pump. Turn left away from the river and follow the track, pass through a field gate (after passing a high hedge Chaldonbury Ring is clearly visible on the far horizon). Pass some houses and farm buildings on the left. At a junction, turn left through a field gate into a farmyard where there are free range chickens waiting to greet you.

Bear right through gate/stile and turn left, and walk along the edge of a field, to cross another stile, then walk around to the right following the field boundaries and the footpath signs. In the fields, there are brown and small blue butterflies.

Cross a wooden bridge with kissing gates either side before eventually walking uphill with a small oak copse on the right, to an area where farm machinery is kept. On the right, the barn buildings of Huddleston Farm can be seen.

Turn left and follow the minor road, ignoring side paths and tracks. At a junction, there is a bench, with lovely views of Truleigh Hill, and in the distance, Devil’s Dyke and the chapel at Lancing College.

Turn right and here the surface of the road becomes a track. Shortly you join the Downs Link (straight on, not left). Follow this snaking track. At Greenfields Farm entrance, the track becomes a road again and you soon cross an old railway bridge. Stay on this minor road passing a water treatment works and Kings Barn Farm.

At the end, turn right. Continue straight on, leaving the Downs Link as it turns left between Kings Barn End. Stay on this road as it crosses the bypass on a high bridge and follow it down to the right before it turns left towards the church. The car park is on the left opposite the church.
The walk is about 6.5 miles, taking around 3 hours. It is a relatively level walk, with some stiles. Some paths can be overgrown in the summer, so sturdy footwear is recommended all year round. Free car parking is available at Fletchers Croft in Steyning, and bus stops are nearby. Refreshments and public toilets are available in Steyning, but none on route.

Start

From the car park cross a wooden bridge over a small stream alongside a children’s play area and turn right up to a crossing path. Turn left up to a road. Cross into Holland Road. At the end, cross a road and go along a path between houses, which crosses the bypass on a high footbridge. Turn right and immediately left into a path. Stay on this path until a crossing road, ignoring a side road and path. Cross into Castle Way, stay on the left side, crossing a side road and, at the end, cross a road into another path between houses.

Go down to a crossing path and turn left, Shortly reaching a stile into open fields. Stay on a high path alongside a stream until a stile and turn right over the stream towards a metal bridge over the River Adur. Turn left at the bridge and walk along the high bank keeping the river on your right.

Pass through a gate/stile and, still keeping the river on your right, join a path coming in from the left before another gate/stile. A pylon to the left close to the river is used as a roost by cormorants later in the year. Keep following the river, keeping it on the right.

The path reaches two gates and a stile; continue on keeping to the river side, the path is now grass. At low tides, look right at the first hard left hand bend and the remains of an old quay can be seen. A trackway ran from here to a quarry at Small Dole.

After a few bends, you reach an old railway bridge, which crosses the river. This is the Downs Link which starts a few miles away at Bramber and goes to St Martha’s near Guildford in Surrey mostly using old railway tracks.

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