

A CIRCULAR WALK FROM GODDARDS GREEN

This walk starts and finishes at The Sportsman Pub at Goddards Green to the west of Burgess Hill. Parking is possible in the pub's large car park. It is a relatively easy walk mainly along field paths and quiet country lanes through restarting pointlatively peaceful countryside.

The highlight of the walk is the magnificently restored Cobbs Mill, which is well worth a visit, on one of the occasional open days. The walk is four miles long, and you should allow two hours to complete the circuit.

From the pub, walk west along Gatehouse Lane and take the signed footpath on the left. Walk through two fields with a hedgerow on your right to a stile. Cross this and bear left round the pond at Dumbrells Farm then half right to enter a thicket.

At the next stile, maintain direction ahead through a rough area to use a stile over a low fence. Maintain direction to cross a footbridge then slightly uphill through a field on a well defined path to join the lane, opposite Pooklands.

Turn left along Pookbourne Lane for just under a mile to a crossroads, where you should turn right into Mill Lane, with Cobbs Mill almost immediately on your left. Look for a gap in the hedge to the right of the entrance to Cobbs Mill, and cross the grassy area to a footbridge beside the watermill and mill workings.

Bear left up onto the bank and follow the mill stream to a stile and bridge, which you should cross, then left to double back on yourself, parallel with the stream.

Turn right at the field corner and follow the obvious path ahead through three fields to a footbridge where you should veer half left to a wooden gate, leading out to Pomper Lane.

Turn right along the lane, and almost immediately left up the bank to negotiate two stiles giving access onto a wide fenced path which should be followed around two sides of the field and into a small copse at the far end.

Pass through the copse then turn right to a field corner going left parallel with the road to a rather awkward double stile giving access onto Cuckfield Road.

Turn left along the road, and shortly right into the entrance of North End House, opposite Mill Lane. Go to the far end of the yard, and look for a barway beside buildings to your left, and proceed downhill to a pond bearing right to a stile beside the wood. The path ahead is initially beside the wood, and soon drops down a bank to High Hatch Lane.

Turn right, and then in a few yards, turn left on an enclosed path between fences to join Malthouse Lane via a stile beside a pair of metalled gates.

Turn left along the lane and where it swings sharp right, look for a track on your left signed "Public Bridleway Motorcycles Prohibited" and follow this for half a mile to join Gatehouse Lane.

Turn left for the Sportsman pub and your car.

Although the route description should be adequate, the whole route is shown on Ordnance Survey Explorer Map No.122 (Brighton & Hove) that is available to purchase locally.