Welcome to Steyning

Steyning Walks

River and Countryside Walk

How to get here

Steyning lies between the A24 and A25, just north of the A27. The A253 runs past the town. Free car parking is available at several of the town’s car parks.

By Car

By Bus

By Rail

Further Information:

Further information on the wider area including tourism publications

Supported By:

These walks were produced by the Steyning & District Community Partnership with assistance from Hidden Britain South East, and were funded by a lottery grant from Awards for All.
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Events

About this Walk

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 - Chantry at Steyning
7 miles taking approximately 3½ hours.

Walk 3 - Chandlers Ford and Washington Walk
7 miles taking approximately 4½ hours.

A lovely circular walk along the Adur Valley and through the woods of Chandlers Ford.

Walk 4 - Rural Retreat
7.5 miles taking approximately 4½ hours.

A lovely walk through the countryside, passing through villages and along the Adur Valley.

There is always plenty going on in and around Steyning, with events and activities for all the family. Below is a small sample of the many things going on throughout the year:

- Easter Walking Races
- May Fair
- Steyning Festival - May/June
- Three Forts Challenge - July
- Round Hill Romp - July
- River Adur Bathtub Race - August
- Christmas Late Night Shopping

There is also the monthly Steyning Farmers Market held on the first Saturday of every month.

For further details and lots more events please see our website at:

www.steyningsouthdowns.com

Historic Steyning, nestled 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 (c.780AD), 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 Cottages 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 Chanctonbury Ring, the Iron Age Hill fort at Cuckmere Ring, and delightfully gentle walks through the Adur Valley.

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

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.
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 corrnorants 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.

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 Chantrybury 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 farm buildings of Huddleston Farm can be seen.

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.

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.
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 runs 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 Cheltenbury 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 farm buildings of Huddleston Farm can be seen.

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.