



Wychwood Walk No. 1: Charlbury - Fawler - Stonesfield
 Approximately 7 miles / 11.2 km (long route) 2.5 miles / 4 km (short route)
Parking: Spendlove Centre car park, Charlbury OX7 3PX, SP 357 194
 (Please park with consideration to residents)

Part of a series of circular walks that link in with The Wychwood Way



TL - Turn left BL - Bear left
 TR - Turn right BR - Bear right

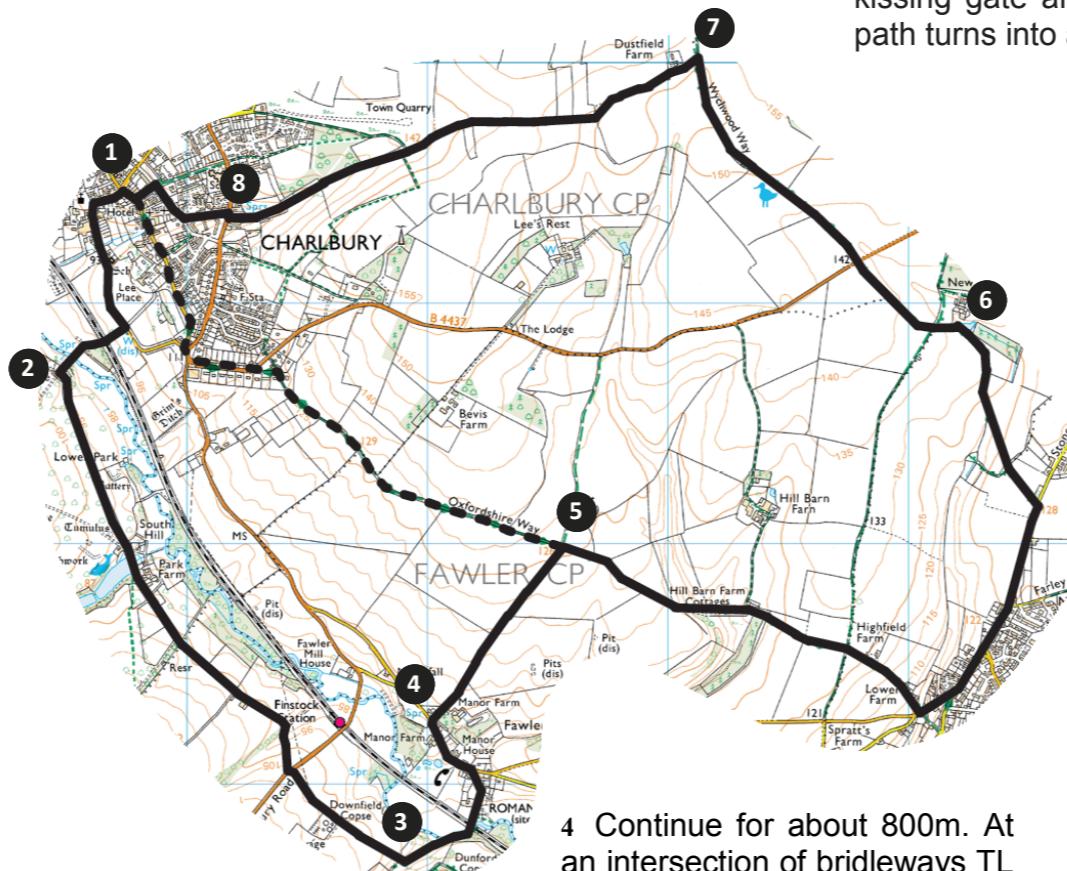
8 Cross over the road BR and take the footpath opposite. Cross over the stone stile by the stream. Emerge onto a road –TR and then TL down Fisher's Lane, at the end of which TR into Sheep Street. Continue along this street and TL down into Church Street till you reach The Bell.

Start Point

1 From outside The Bell TL down Church Street along round to the left opposite the Church. Continue straight ahead for about 600m then TR into Cornbury Park drive.

2 TL before North Lodge through the gap in the wall. Walk along the edge of the Park with fence on your right. Emerge onto a concrete road through a gate by the next lodge. Keep on the road for about 1 km to the public road. TL and then TR onto a farm road. Keep straight ahead, across a field to a path.

3 TL at end of track through a kissing gate. Then BR through a kissing gate to walk along the river. Cross the bridge and then under the railway bridge through the gate and on to a second gate on the far side of the field. Walk through Fawler. BL to the main road. Keep left for about 200m past Manor Barn. TR onto a farm track and bridleway marked 'Charlbury 1 ½ ml.'



4 Continue for about 800m. At an intersection of bridleways TL towards Charlbury for the short route; or TR towards Stonesfield for the long route.

7 Pass Ditchely Park Farm (marked as Dustfield Farm on the map). At the far field boundary TL and then TR onto a tree-lined public bridleway. Follow this for about 700m, continuing past a bridleway to your right before BR into a strip of woodland. Follow the wooded path, until the path emerges through a kissing gate at the bottom of some steps into Bleheim Farm Nature Reserve. Exit through another kissing gate and continue straight ahead. Soon the path turns into a track.

6 Keep on this track through fields, and through a gateway. Keep to the left-hand side, to another gateway, and onto a path between two hedgerows. At the next gate keep straight on the path. Keep following the Wychwood Way until it meets the Charlbury / Woodstock road. Cross with caution and continue on the track on the opposite side. Continue along the track, until an intersection of tracks near Dustfield Farm House, TL on-

Long Route

5 Stay on the Oxfordshire Way towards Stonesfield. At an intersection of tracks keep straight ahead to the Stonesfield / Fawler road, where you TL walking through Stonesfield. Continue for about 1km. TL onto 'Ruddy Lane' marked as restricted byway.

Short Route

5 Continue along this wooded path until a road. BL downhill onto the main road and BL. At the 'Fiveways' intersection take the Hixet Wood road ahead (3rd exit) heading into Charlbury. Continue along Sheep Street until you come to Church Street which leads back to the Bell. **End Point**

Points of Interest

1 The name Charlbury is thought to be from the personal name 'Ceorl' and 'burgh', meaning fortified place. This area was probably settled in the Anglo-Saxon period. The centre of the town forms a conservation area with attractive local stone buildings.

2 – 3 Pass along the edge of Cornbury Park, a designated National Nature Reserve of 647 acres. For historical information about the house and estate visit www.cornburypark.co.uk. You will also be close to the River Evenlode along this stretch.

3-4 The name Finstock means a place frequented by woodpeckers – look for some today! Sadly the site of a roman villa, scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, is no longer visible at ground level. The monument includes not only the site of a Roman villa, but also its associated buildings, water management system and the buried remains of later post-medieval agricultural buildings.

6-7 The Saltway is an ancient broad trackway along which salt was taken from Droitwich to Princes Risborough, and later used as a Drovers Road. The stretch from the B4437 to Dustfield Farm is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).



Wychwood from the East of Charlbury



The Wychwood Way



Towards Fawler

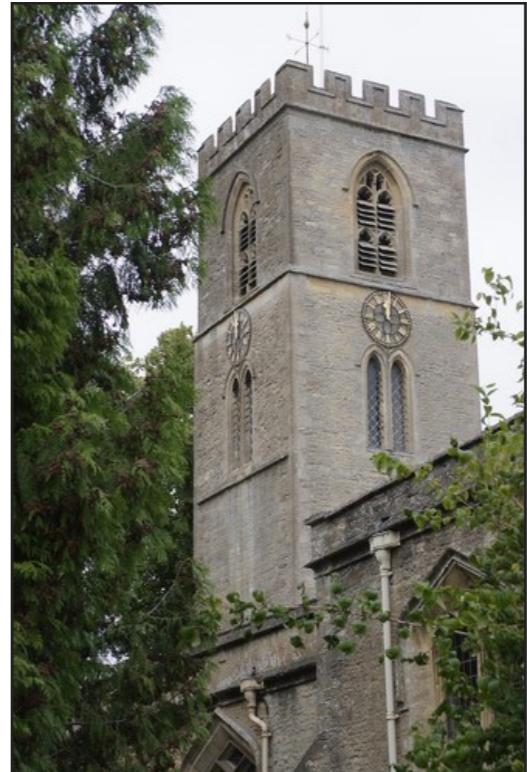


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Charlbury Church Tower © Oxfordshire County

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