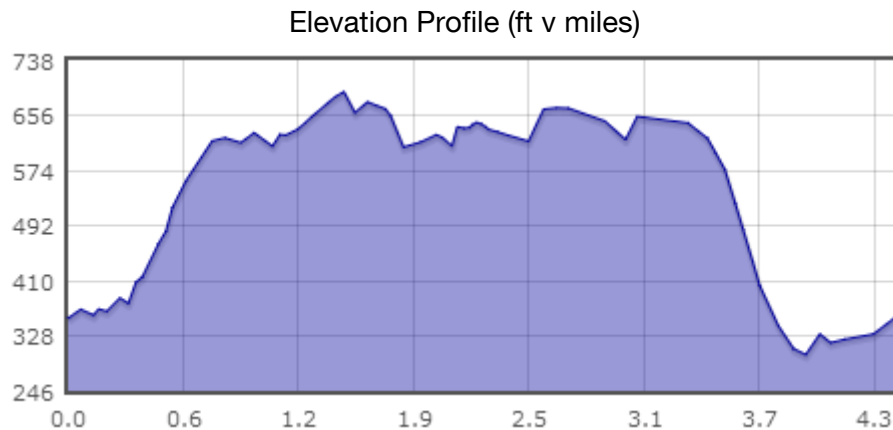


Walk No 3 – Wotton, Brackenbury Ditches, Tyndale Monument, Westridge Woods

GPX file: Walk-3.gpx
 Distance: 4.5 miles (7.2 km)
 Total ascent/descent: about 580 ft (175 m)
 Walking time: about 2 hrs (without a break)
 Options: shorten route to 2.6 miles (4.2 km)



Starting at The Haven, go left up Merlin Haven. This ends in a footpath which leads onto another road. Follow this around to a T-junction. Turn left, and in a few metres turn right up a tarmac path (Little Acre) between cottages to reach a road. Turn left and immediately take the first turning right (Westridge Road).

At the end of this, take the path to the right of a large house and through a kissing gate. Pass through the field, keeping slightly right, and through a first kissing gate, and then another shortly after. After a short time, take a wide path which climbs diagonally up to the right. Climb this path to the top, and when it reaches another path in a slanted T-junction, continue left, now almost on a level. This well-signposted path is the Cotswold Way.

For a shorter route, take a right at the end of the clearing on your right, before you head into the woods again.

Taking the longer route, follow the Cotswold Way through Westridge Woods (a National Trust property). Keep left of a conifer plantation. The well-used route passes Brackenbury Ditches, a prehistoric camp, on the left opposite another conifer plantation. You will eventually reach an old gate beside a large stone on the ground.

From here, walk between beech trees into a large field. Follow the way-marked fence on the left to reach the Tyndale Monument, from which there are fine views. This structure commemorates William Tyndale, the translator of the Bible into English, who may have been born at North Nibley, the village at the foot of the hill. The Monument is typically open to climb, for a donation, but may be closed at times for maintenance; amazing views can be had from the top.

Turn sharp right at the Monument and walk around the outside of the big field, skirting an old quarry and turning right when you meet a path coming up from North Nibley. This pleasant ramble will bring you back to the gate. Fifty metres beyond this at a junction of tracks, take the third exit from the left (the Cotswold Way is the right-hand route). In 50 metres cross diagonally left over a wider track, then continue on this path, crossing two drives, until you reach the Cotswold Way. Turn left and continue along it. After 125 metres, turn 90 degrees left beside a line of conifers.

If you took the Short Route above, this is where you rejoin...

At the next track junction, in around 100 metres, turn 90 degrees right onto a track beside a wood. When the wood ends, go ahead on the track to a road (Adey's Lane). Walk down the lane almost opposite for 400 metres. Just past a pair of houses on the left, cross a stile on the right beside a gate. Keep right down the field and continue on the obvious path to the right around the outside of a housing estate. This path eventually reaches a road beside an old chapel (the Tabernacle).

Go straight ahead down the road, noting the almshouses to the left. At the crossroads go straight across. Continue until you are nearly heading out of town, and take the last steep path on the right, with a stone wall on your left. Continue past the metal barriers. This is Merlin Haven, and after a time you will return back to The Haven.

