

SHRIVENHAM WALKS NO 4

A circular walk of approximately 3½ miles starting from Stainswick Lane, turning west by Stainswick Farm, crossing the B4000, on into Bourton and back to Shrivenham via Steppingstone Lane.

No stiles; some ploughed fields; uneven underfoot in places; the walk is mainly flat.

1. From the Stocks cross over the High Street, turn right and after the One Stop shop turn left into Stainswick Lane. Continue for about a mile (20-30mins), use the footbridge to cross over the railway line and continue past a wood on your right-hand side.

2. Just past the wood turn right into the driveway of Stainswick farm and walk almost to the buildings, turning left, away from the tarmac drive on to a dirt track. Continue a few steps on this track towards a tree-lined boundary.

3. On your right is a long wooden building, go to the far end and turn behind it to follow an obvious footpath. Go through the gate in the garden wall and turn right.

4. Continue with the wall (and then fence) on your right and then go through a gate into a field. Walk along the edge of the field with the hedge on your right.

5. Where the hedge ends continue in the same direction following the track as it winds through a field to a gate onto the road (the B4000).

6. At the road turn right and walk on the verge for about 2 minutes until you see a footpath sign on the other side of the road.
7. Cross the road, with care, and walk straight up the field to a hedge and continue in the same direction with this hedge on your right.
8. Reaching a hedge in front of you go through the gap and in the next field, turn right.
9. Continue to the corner of this field and then turn left to continue in the same direction as before with the hedge on your right.
10. After about 5 mins the public footpath goes through this hedge, turns left, and continues in the same direction but with the hedge now on your left. Don't worry if you miss the gap, just keep ahead until the hedge ends.
11. When the hedge ends, turn to your right and go through a gate into a grassy field, possibly with horses.
12. Walk diagonally across the field to come out at the bottom of Silver Street in Bourton.
13. Walk right up Silver Street, at the top go across by the war memorial and turn right into the main street.
14. Walk down the hill and when the pavement ends cross the road into Steppingstone Lane which is in front of you.

15. Follow Steppingstone over the railway and then over the canal.

16. Climb up the canal bank and turn left.

17. After passing telegraph poles on your right look for another set of telegraph poles down by a hedge on your right. Follow a small path through the grass towards them and go over a small footbridge in the hedge into the next field

18. Walk ahead, at the field's edge, with the hedge on your right.

19. At the top of the field, at another hedge, turn right and continue with this hedge on your left until, in the corner of the field, you come to a gate.

20. Go through the gate and follow the footpath to the right leading across the bottom of a garden.

19. Negotiate a wooden bar and continue ahead until a gate brings you out into Station road.

20. Return to the centre of the village, either by crossing the road and following the pavement to your left

OR

Having crossed the road go ahead into Beren's Road and when reaching Cox's Road, turn into it and using the footpath come out in Fairthorne Way, turn left to come back into the High street.

