

Toolkit: Circular Paths

Two parishes (Alderbury and Pitton & Farley) have now set up their circular paths in Southern Wiltshire. Also West Dean has set up its very own History Trail in the village which is another great way of encouraging locals and visitors to explore the local area (a 'how to guide' for history trails will be completed soon).

This short toolkit will help you to establish your very own circular path.

1. Establish a footpath group (see our Footpath toolkit). This only needs to be a small group of interested local volunteers.
2. Identify a suitable route that takes in local point of interest. Ensure the route is supported by Parish Council.
3. Audit the route to identify any improvement works that need carrying out.
4. Carry out the upgrades required. Alderbury footpath group, working with the Rights of Way team, installed kissing gates, upgraded stiles; resurfaced difficult areas and way marked the route.
5. Create a map and description of the walk. We have a template below if required. Some areas have installed a permanent display board with a map.
6. Arrange a local 'Grand opening' and guided walk. In both Alderbury and Pitton there was a huge turnout to enjoy the opening of the path.
7. Promote locally in pubs, shops and parish mags.

Good luck!

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****EXAMPLE****

Walk recommended by:
Pitton and Farley Parish
Council



Circular walk from Pitton to Clarendon Palace

With permission from the landlord, cars can be parked at the Silver Plough (01722 712266). Parking is also available at Pitton Village Hall. As a courtesy check parking availability on the website (see below) and follow the link to Facilities, Village Halls and Pitton Booking Calendar. It would be expected that the walkers would patronise the pub in return for the parking.

Further information can be found on:

www.pittonandfarley.co.uk



Pitton Post Office and Stores are open during the week and Saturday and Sunday mornings.



Distance:
5 miles (8km)

Walk difficulty:
Easy

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Dogs must be on a lead in the Clarendon Estate. There is livestock grazing around the palace ruins.

Start Grid Reference:

OS Sheet 184 SU 211 314

Walk description:

From the Silver Plough or the Village Hall take the unmade track with the Village Hall on your right.

Adjacent to the tennis courts, take the path to the left and continue parallel to the track.

At the cottage on your right ignore the path that diverges to the right.

After a slight climb the path passes two memorial seats.

After 100 yards the path joins an unmade track,

ignore the tracks to the left and right.

After approximately half a mile there are sign-posted paths to the left and right. Take the right hand path across the fields into the forest.

Follow the path through the forest, cross the estate road and carry on to where it makes a right turn and then after 200 yards a left turn.

Continue on the path for half a mile passing a path branching to the right. This is the return path to Pitton, but to reach the ruins of Clarendon Palace continue for a further 100 yards. The ruins are quite extensive.

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From the palace there is a walk into Salisbury, but to return to Pitton retrace your steps to the path that branches off to the left. The path becomes a well used track and after a mile passes the estate cottages on the right.

At the lane (The Slateway), by the Pitton pumping station, turn left and then right at the cross roads.

Continue up the hill to the Silver Plough and the Village Hall.

