

STEP INTO THE COTSWOLDS WALK **SEVEN**

Cherington, Warwickshire



Summary

Wonderful Cotswold countryside and two picturesque villages combine to make this a perfect little circular 4.5 mile walk through the South Warwickshire part of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

This walk forms part of the 'Step into the Cotswolds' series of walking routes. Look out for these waymarkers along the route. →



Walk information

Start/End Point: The Cherington Arms

Grid Reference: SP293368

Distance: 4.5 miles (with shorter 3 mile option)

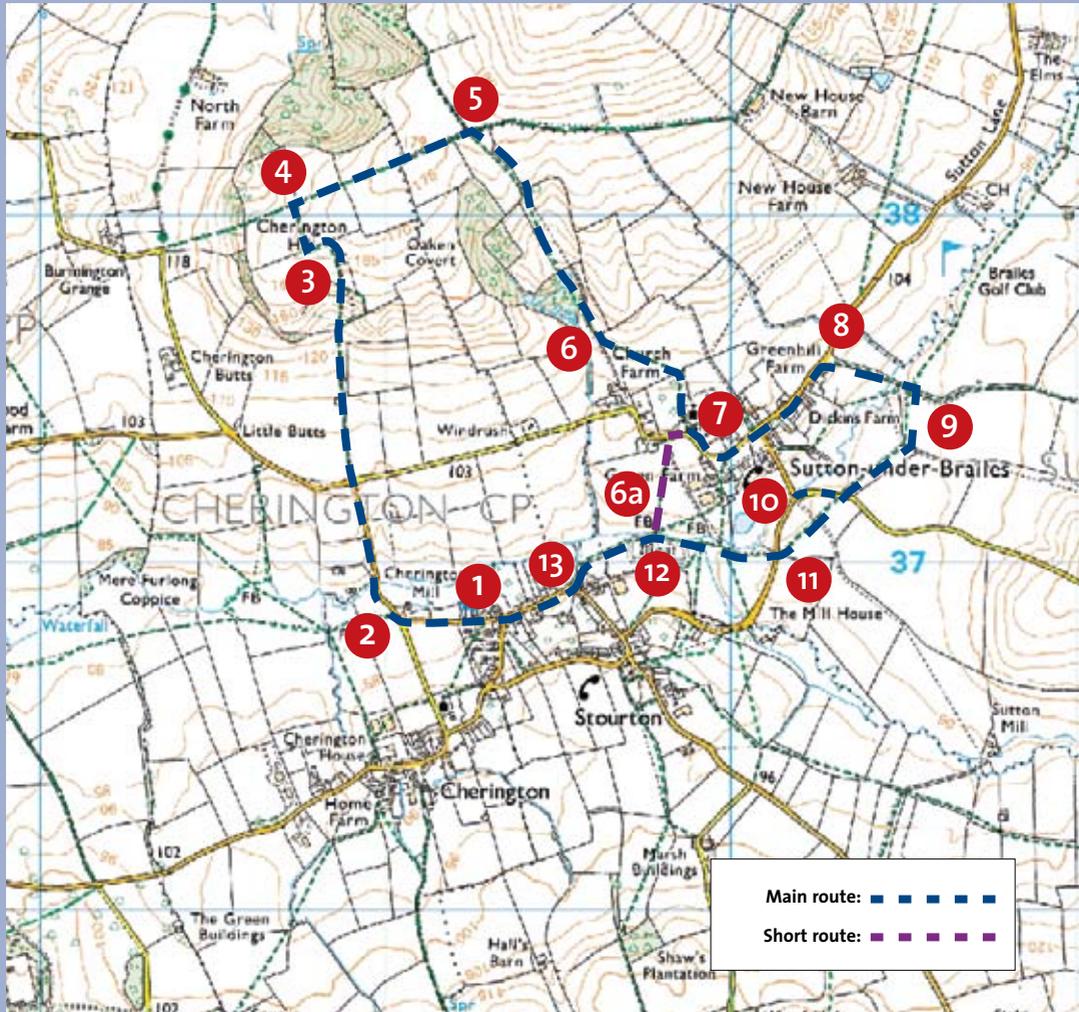
Terrain: Gently undulating with one steep climb

Parking: On road side near Cherington Arms

Public Transport: Details of bus services can be found in the 'Explore the Cotswolds by Public Transport' leaflets available from the Cotswolds Conservation Board (Tel: 01451 862000). You can download the leaflets from: www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk. They are also available at most Tourist Information Centres and libraries.

Public toilets: None

Refreshments: The Cherington Arms



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1 Kilometre



1 Mile



- 1** From the car park of the Cherington Arms turn left, and follow the lane, bearing right by Cherington Mill.
- 2** At the next road junction go straight ahead up the track leading to Cherington Hill.

- 3** Where the track takes a sharp turn to the right continue straight uphill and across the next field. Follow the hedge along the edge of the next field for 150m before turning right through a field gate.



- 4 Follow the bridleway across the next four fields.
- 5 On the far side of the last field turn right onto a footpath. Follow the path downhill along the edge of the next two fields onto a concrete farm track by a wood. Continue down the track.
- 6 Just before a field gate marked 'Private Road' turn left through a kissing gate. Bear diagonally right across the next field. After crossing a bridge over a ditch, walk straight ahead across an orchard, to emerge onto a lane by Sutton-under-Brailes church.

For the short route back to Cherington.

- 6a *Turn right along the lane. After 20m turn left alongside a garden and into a field. Bear right across the field down to a bridge over the river Stour. Turn right to rejoin the long route at 12.*
- 7 Turn left and follow the road round to and across the top of the Green. Continue along the road leading out of the village towards Brailes.
- 8 At the last house, Greenhill Farm Barn, turn right and follow the track alongside the golf course.

- 9 After approx. 400m turn right across a footbridge. Ignore the stile in the corner and follow the edge of the field. At the corner turn right. Cross the ditch and walk across the next field onto a lane. Cross the lane then bear right across to the corner of the next field. (Note: a short detour down the lane to the right of the road junction will allow a visit to Sutton-Under-Brailes sheep wash 10).

- 11 Carefully cross the road and follow the river Stour along the edge of the field to footbridge.

- 12 By the bridge bear slightly left across the field to a metal kissing gate. Continue around the corner of a garden, past an old chapel, and onto a road.

In the fields on your left can be seen the extensive earth works of the manor house. This includes the moat and possibly a fish pond, a characteristic feature of medieval manors.

- 13 Turn right to return to the Cherington.

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Points of interest

Cherington

Cherington is a predominantly stone built North Cotswold village set in the rolling South Warwickshire countryside away from busy roads in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is situated close to the famous Rollright Stones which span nearly 2,000 years of Neolithic and Bronze Age development, attracting people from far and wide to visit them.

Sutton-under-Brailes

Until 1840 the parish of Sutton-under-Brailes was a part of Gloucestershire. This anomaly came about because the medieval manor had been granted to the priory of Deerhurst in Gloucestershire. After the Dissolution the manor passed to Sir William Petre and then in 1784 to the Pole family. The church, dedicated to Saint Thomas Beckett was built in the 12th century with later 14th and 15th century additions.

Cotswolds Conservation Board

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Sheepwash

The sheepwash at Sutton-under-Brailes is one of over 132 sheepwashes known to have existed in the Cotswolds. They were used to wash the fleece of sheep before shearing or going to market. The sheep would have been driven into the wash pool and then would run out up the exit ramp on the right. The Sutton sheepwash is rather unusual as it is constructed of brick, possibly a latter re-building of the original. It was in use until 1912.

Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

The Cotswolds is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful areas in England – the quintessential English landscape. It is the largest of 38 AONBs in England and Wales, protected by Government since 1966 as being of great value to the nation. This ensures the very features that attract people are there for future generations to enjoy. The natural qualities of the Cotswolds AONB are unique. Limestone gives the Cotswolds its distinctive, unified appearance, visible everywhere in walls and buildings. It is a place of immense diversity: rolling landscapes with breathtaking views, river valleys, picturesque villages and pastures. Ancient beech woodlands and limestone grassland with rare flora alternate with broad swathes of arable fields, and the landscape is sprinkled with remnants of its past such as Iron Age hill forts, Neolithic burial chambers, Roman villas and Bronze Age stone circles.