

Country Walks

TO BIBURY (SCENIC ROUTE!)

2.5 hours | 5.25 miles (8.5 km)

- 1. Exit via the car park, turn right into the lane for 20m; turn left along a track by Church Farm passing buildings on your right. (You will see a footpath arrow) Continue through the farm and through the gate slightly to the right (ignore the small gate into the churchyard on the left).

 Walk straight through the field. Go through the field gate at the end (you may need to climb over it). Walk straight through this field (keep the orange poles on the right). At the end of the field you will see a stole stile next to the road. Go across the stile.

 Carefully cross the road (as you are close to a bend) and go across the stone stile
- 2. You are now passing through Barnsley Park.

 Continue in the same direction across the field to meet a drive; turn left along the drive for 50m. Where the drive turns right to the house, continue to the left to a stile into a field.

opposite, via some steps. (This is the start of Barnsley Village)

- 3. Bear right along the right-hand field boundary with a 'ha-ha' fence (a type of ditch to enclose livestock) towards a walled garden and greenhouse. Go through a field gate and join a track; bear right towards the house and after 20m turn left through a kissing gate towards some large metal gates.
- 4. You will see a house to the left and a stile in front of you. Go over this stile. Walk straight through this field to the stone stile. Over this stile and straight through the next field. At the far side of the field, you will see a high wall and steps.
 Go up the steps and carefully cross the elevated stone stile and down steps on the opposite side; continue in the same direction along the path through some bracken to enter a field.
- 5. Enter the next field and turn left to follow the field boundary into the corner; turn right and follow the field boundary for to the middle of the field and look for an old wooden post by the beginning of a drystone wall. Turn left into the next field, through the gap and immediate left to continue along the left-hand field boundary towards some trees. You'll reach the beginning of a track leading into the trees; continue ahead bearing right by a junction of tracks. The track then bends to the left, then to the right; on the bend, take the path straight ahead into a field. Follow the left-hand field boundary to a field gate by a lane (there is a yellow footpath sign).
- **6.** Go through the gap on the left-hand side of the field gate and turn left into the lane. Turn immediately right through another field gate and follow the left-hand field boundary; eventually this boundary turns left away from you; continue straight ahead along the track as it descends to the end of the field.
- 7. Follow the track through a gap in the hedge (it is very overgrown) and turn left to a gate. Go through and turn immediately right over a stile and descend to a gate to the right of the stables ahead. Go through the gate and follow the path to a stile by the road.

- **8.** Cross the road and follow the lane opposite; just by an entrance into a property bear left along a path between two houses. On your right is a thatched house. The path emerges onto a lane; continue straight ahead along the lane until you reach a splendid farmhouse on your left with two lion statues by the entrance to the property.
- 9. Look to your right for a gate into a small field leading to another gate by the river (this is before the lion statues). Go across the footbridge and bear left along a path through the trees to a field gate. The path turns right before the field gate and follows the boundary of the field to a gate.
- 10. Continue straight on for 50m and then bear left diagonally up the slope and over the brow of the field aiming for the far top right-hand corner of the field and a field gate. Go through and continue down the track heading for the far field gate (ignore the first field gate on your right) and into the next field. Sometimes after rain this area can flood and we suggest as the track descends turn left and circumnavigate the wet area in the field before heading for the field gate.
- 11. Once in the next field, follow the left-hand track with the field boundary on your left. The track leaves the field and is flanked by two dry stone walls; the track passes a kennels and the river starts to appear on your right. The track meets a field gate and joins a lane; continue straight on to Arlington and a road junction.
- 12. Turn right and follow the road over a bridge and the River Colne until you reach a road junction. Turn left (signposted Barnsley) and continue uphill until the road levels out by a house. Turn left through a gate and follow the path to another gate by a strip of land; cross the strip; go through the gate and over the stile ahead. Continue straight ahead to a stile; cross the stile and through a kissing gate to the opposite side of the field. Go through a kissing gate by a farm building and continue to a drive. Cross the drive and the path is opposite slightly hidden by a hedge.
- 13. Cross the stile by the end of the hedge and go through some trees and into a field. Head straight across to meet a track. Continue straight ahead through a kissing gate with buildings on your left to a gate and now you are on a tarmac drive leading to a field gate. Continue down to meet a road by a red telephone box. Turn left and follow the pavement down the hill into Bibury.
- **14.** Go past the mill on your left and carefully cross the road by some parking spaces on the opposite side of the road.
- 15. Turn left and follow the pavement bearing right over a bridge and the river to meet the main road. Turn right and follow the pavement to the footbridge. Here, turn right up to Arlington Row. Retrace your footsteps back to the main road and turn right along the pavement. The road bears left; continue straight on into a quiet road with a "no entry' road traffic sign. Continue along until the road bears left; here on the right is Bibury Church. Enter the churchyard and exit at the far corner via a gateway to the gardens at the back of Bibury Court hotel. Follow the building round to the left for the front entrance and Reception.





SOUTH TO MEET THE ROMANS

About 1 hour | 2 miles (3.2 km)

Wellies or walking boots strongly advised!

- 1. Walk down the straight, main path through the back gardens.
- 2. At the end gate turn right onto the track, passing 'Herbs for Healing' on the left."
- 3. Climb over the stile on the right of the gate.
- 4. Walk straight, keeping the hedge on your left.
- 5. Climb over two consecutive stiles.
- 6. Walk to the left of the field along the hedge line.
- 7. Still keeping left, climb over the stile and bridge at the end of the field.
- **8.** Follow the pathway, walk through the gate at the end of this field and climb over the stile on the right. Continue along the pathway until you reach the road.
- 9. Turn right onto the road (called Roman Road).** Walk along this road for about 5-7 minutes (480 metres), keeping right until you reach the stile on your right by the stone wall.
- 10. Climb over the stile and follow the woodland path, with the wall on your left.
- 11. Continue straight into the next field and walk to the end where you will reach another stile.
- **12.** Climb over it, and you should find yourself at the other end of the field, with the driveway running down the middle.
- 13. Walk towards the top right end of the field, walking over the driveway again.
- **14.** Cross back over the two consecutive stiles and you should see Barnsley House in the distance.
- **15.** Continue back through the field and along the road to arrive at your starting point!

^{**}The Roman road of Ackeman Street links Watling Street, near St Albans, with the Fosse Way at Cirencester. It is thought to have been built before 180AD.



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^{* &#}x27;Herbs for Healing' was run by Davina Wynne-Jones (daughter of Rosemary Verey) who passed away in October 2019. Rosemary Verey OBE, VMH was an internationally known English garden designer, lecturer and garden writer. Ask at Reception for more information on her and the history of Barnsley House & Gardens.



VILLAGE WANDER & SECRET WALLED GARDEN

About 1 hour | 2.5 miles (4 km)

- 1. Leave by hotel main entrance, then turn right.
- 2. Turn first left past a village pump which is just off the main road. Continue straight up the hill and over the cross roads to the Welsh Way (overgrown quarry on the left).
- 3. At the brow of the hill the wide nature of the road is revealed. The Welsh Way continues to Wales and the Barnsley Wolds Access Area.
- **4.** At this point turn around, return to the cross roads and turn left onto the road to Coln Rogers.
- **5.** At the triangle, take the first right and continue straight. The high wall on the left is the boundary of Barnsley Park.
- **6.** Turn right onto the main road. Just after the bus shelter turn left—you can see The Village Pub on the right. Head towards the wooden gate of the church.
- 7. Pass the church which will be on the right. Cross the stone stile.
- **8.** Cross the field, look to the left and head for the stile which is slightly to the right of the gate. Turn left and follow the wall. This is the Palladian Way.
- **9.** Continue straight on passing a cottage. There is now an electric fence here—there is a blue handle to the right which you can use to open and get through the wire fence. Please take care and only touch the blue plastic handle!
- **10.** Continue heading straight towards a wall and stile. Cross the busy road and further stone stile to enter Barnsley Park.
- 11. Follow the wire fence on the left. Left onto a track and straight over the wooden stile.
- 12. Follow the 'ha-ha' (sunken wall) on the right. Go through the wooden gate then on your left is a metal kissing gate. The Barnsley Park Walled gardens (private) can be viewed through the gate.
- 13. Return using the same route. Pass the ha-ha and wire fence, cross main road and two stiles.
- **14.** Still retracing your steps, go straight on, past woods and a cottage.
- **15.** Follow the wall on the right and cross the stone stile just beyond double gates. Cross the small field and stile.
- 16. Pass back through churchyard to the main road. Turn left.
- 17. Follow the road back to the hotel.



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