

## **The 6 Churches Walk**

**A 10 miles circular walk visiting Hampton Poyle, Hampton Gay, Shipton on Cherwell, Kirtlington and Bletchington Churches**

**Starting at St Mary's Church, Weston on the Green, leave Church yard by gate opposite Church door and turn right on the road towards Bletchington. Continue out of the village, past Fox Leys wood on lefthand side to footpath sign on left for Hampton Poyle 2 miles.**

**Take footpath, crossing stile and heading directly across field to cross another stile opposite. Follow stream on your left until to the end of woodland, bear slightly right and cross footbridge to the left. Turn right through gateway and then diagonally left across field to gate in far left hand corner.**

**On leaving field, turn left and follow road to T junction, carefully cross B4027 and follow bridlepath for Kidlington. Continue between the hedge on your right and fence posts on the left to the end of first field, go through the gate and cross footbridge, continue straight on along right hand field edge to end of next field and turn right onto farm track to Hampton Poyle.**

**Turn left on road and then right into Church Lane to visit Hampton Poyle Church. On leaving Church, turn left as if to return then take path on left signposted for Kidlington circular walk.**

**Cross first field, over stile and concrete footbridge and almost immediately left over another stile. Turn right up hill bearing slightly left to cross stile in next fence, and continue diagonally left to small gap in left hand fence and on up to stile and footbridge at top of field. Go straight ahead bearing slightly left away from fence on right and over stile and footbridge in far hedge. Keeping hedge on your right, continue to next footbridge and again keeping hedge on right continue along next field edge to stile on the right. Cross stile and cross narrow field to tarmac road, turning left and continuing to end.**

**Go straight ahead through gate alongside Manor Farm and follow track past Manor ruin on right to turn right to Hampton Gay Church.**

**After visiting Church, follow footpath to the right of the Church down towards the river to cross metal bridge under the railway line.**

**Continue diagonally left across the next field, crossing the river and heading towards the Church to reach the canal.**

**Cross the canal to visit Shipton on Cherwell Church on left before returning to the canal and following the towpath under the bridge and continuing past Shipston Weir Lock, Bakers Lock, past Enslow Wharf and along to Pigeon Lock.**

**Leave towpath immediately before Pigeon Lock, joining Oxfordshire Way, crossing canal and following stone road up into Kirtlington village. Turn right at North Green onto main road, walking past the school on your left and then take Church Lane on the left across South Green opposite the Dashwood Arms.**

**After visiting the Church leave by the footpath leading from the porch along the right hand side of the Church and out through the gate to follow the footpath alongside the playing field and out onto the road**

**Bearing left go straight ahead past the lodge at the Park entrance to take a footpath on the left signposted Bletchington Park Into a small paddock, bearing slightly right to cross double stile.**

**Continue diagonally right down to edge of small spinney, follow hedgeline down to gap, go through gap and continue along hedge line to join wider track at bottom of field.**

**Turn left along track towards a wood, turning right through gate in wall and bear slightly left to follow path to gate between two plantations. Continue straight ahead up parkland following fence on your left into a small paddock alongside converted stables of Bletchington Hall. Bear right across paddock to stile in far right hand corner, cross stile and continue past stables through to Bletchington Church.**

**On leaving Church, turn left back along the front of the stables and cross stile back into small paddock.**

**Bear diagonally right to cross stile in fence on far side of paddock and head diagonally left down large field to the right of a spinney to cross footbridge into the next field.**

**Turn immediately right and follow field edge footpath along next two fields and out onto a gravel track, turning right and out onto the tarmac road in front of Stonehouse Farm.**

**Turn left, and then immediately right to go straight through farmyard and into the field immediately behind the last barn on the left.**

**Turn left and follow the left hand edge of this field to end bearing right through a small spinney and follow field path alongside lefthand hedge and stream to footbridge to cross the stream.**

**Head slightly right across next field, through kissing gate and over concrete bridge to another kissing gate immediately on the right.**

**Head diagonally left across this field to another kissing gate in far left hand corner, go through gate and up footpath between the bungalows, cross the road diagonally right and down footpath back to village hall and Church.**



**Track**      **Map**

↔ 20.4 km      ⌚ 3h 51m      ▲ 120 m      ▼ 108 m

Map features include: Tackley, Kirtlington, Bletchington, Hampton, Kidlington, Islip, Weston-on-the-Green, and various farms and landmarks. The track is marked with numbers 14 through 21. A compass rose is in the top left, and a zoom control is in the bottom right.

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