

Useful Information

Directions

All the walks were tested in 2013. Please note, however, that some footpaths may be diverted and buildings such as pubs may have changed their name since the walks were written. If you have any comments please send them to the Harbour Office to be considered for the next edition.

Distances and Timings

All distances and timings are approximate.

Maps

The maps provided are a guide and are not to scale. Please use OS Explorer Map 120 (Chichester).

Map References

The reference given is for the start point of the walk.

Public Transport

Buses: Stagecoach run most of the local buses. Timetable details are at www.stagecoachbus.com/south or telephone **0871 200 22 33** (10p per minute).

For the Selsey – Itchenor service see www.compass-travel.co.uk

Trains: Timetable information is at www.nationalrail.co.uk or telephone **08457 48 49 50**.

Stiles and Gates

Please note stiles are gradually being replaced with gates where appropriate. This may affect some of the walk directions and photos.

Tides

Please note some paths are flooded at high tide. If you have misjudged the times, you usually only have to wait a short while before the path is clear enough to use. Tide times can be found at www.conservancy.co.uk or from the Harbour Office; please note these are only a prediction and factors such as low pressure can make the tide higher than expected.

Tourist Information

Chichester: www.visitchichester.org or telephone **01243 775888**.

Hayling Island: www.visithavant.co.uk or telephone **023 9246 7111**.

Weather

Please check the weather before starting your walk and take the appropriate clothing. Weather forecasts can be found at www.conservancy.co.uk or from the local tourist offices.

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11

7km/4 miles

2 hours

Map Ref. SU 858 048 - Ordnance Survey Explorer 120

Walk 11

Chichester to Bosham

A 7km walk starting in the heart of the Cathedral city of Chichester. The route leads through the urban outskirts of the city quickly reaching the Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Crossing meadows and fields, the walk takes in a section of the shoreline as it reaches the ancient village of Bosham. This walk can be extended by following Walk 12 Across the Harbour.

Start Point

Chichester Cathedral, West Street, Chichester.

By Road

There are a number of car parks in Chichester.

By Bus

Bus stops in West Street serve most of the routes into the City including the 700 Coastliner. The stops are very close to the Cathedral. The return bus from Bosham to Chichester is Service 56. This is an hourly service running Monday to Saturdays but not on Bank Holidays. Please check for up to date details.

By Rail

From Chichester station walk north towards the Cross and then turn left into West Street, the Cathedral is on your left.

Refreshments

Lots of pubs, restaurants and cafés in Chichester. In Bosham there are two teashops and a pub.

Toilets

In Tower Street, Chichester opposite the Cathedral and in Bosham car park.

Tides

The path through the reedbeds just after point 4 floods when the tide is 4.8m or higher.

Walk Directions

From the Cathedral walk west along West Street (1) away from the main shopping area. At the roundabout cross over and continue straight ahead into Westgate. Cross over a mini roundabout into the final section of Westgate. At the end bear right and cross the railway line using the footbridge.





Bear to the right and continue on. There is pedestrian access on the left into Tesco if you need picnic supplies. At the end of the road go through the underpass (2) - the A27 is now above you! Once through turn left and then cross the road at the crossing point for bicycles and pedestrians.



Turn right and walk past a couple of houses. Look out for the footpath to the left through a kissing gate (3). Cross over a small stream and then into Fishbourne Meadows. Turn right.

Cows often graze these meadows, if they are in the way approach them slowly and they will move away. Please keep your dog on a lead through the meadows.

As the path enters the second meadow, bear right to walk alongside the stream. Cross over the first bridge.



After the bridge, bear to the right, then left to go through a metal kissing gate (4).

Continue along by a small section of the stream, then through another gate to bring you out by the Mill Pond.

Continue along the footpath straight ahead of you. The path shortly passes through a large reedbed and then up some steps. Turn left and follow the path down the side of the Fishbourne Channel.

Once past a section of oak grove, follow the path as it turns inland. This section can be quite boggy. There are various routes across this area but all lead to a hedgerow lined path which shortly opens out with a field on the right.

When you get to the field junction, turn left and continue to the metalled lane. Turn right and continue along to the junction with a road. Turn right.

At the entrance to Old Park Farm, there is a clear view of the Cathedral across the fields to the right.

Continue ahead looking out for the footpath to the left (5) which leads across to Bosham.



As you near some houses, the path turns right and then left before reaching the road. Cross over the road and the path continues alongside the flint cottage (6). At the end of the path, cross over the grass bank then follow the path to the right into the village of Bosham. If it is low tide you can walk along the shore road. If you take this road, at Bosham Lane (7) turn right and then immediately left.



Alternatively if you have taken the footpath in front of the houses, cross straight over Bosham Lane (7) and continue ahead. This road leads to the Church.



Having visited the Church (8), continue through the churchyard to come out to Quay Meadow, an area of grassland managed by the National Trust with harbour views that is ideal for picnics.

When you are ready to get the bus back or if you are continuing to walk 12, return to Bosham Lane. Follow signs to the car park where you will find the bus stop and public toilets.



Extra Items of Interest

Holy Trinity Church, Bosham

The church was built around AD1050-1100, although there were later additions and alterations particularly in the 12th and 13th centuries. Parts of the church can be dated very accurately using tree ring dating. The spire, for example, is built of timbers felled in the winter of 1405/06 and the summer of 1406.

The famous Bayeux Tapestry depicts King Harold II praying at the church before he set sail for Normandy in 1064. (*taken from Chichester Harbour – A Reference Guide*)

Chichester Cathedral

The Cathedral has been a centre of Christian worship and community life for 900 years. It is the site of the Shrine of St Richard and houses a collection of art from Romanesque stone carvings to 20th century paintings, sculptures and tapestries. The building of the cathedral began around 1076 under the Bishop of Selsey and was dedicated in 1108 by Bishop Luffa. During the 15th century, the detached bell tower (the only one of its kind remaining in England) was added. It houses a peal of eight bells. The spire, which is a focal point of the countryside and can be seen from many parts of the harbour shoreline, was also added in this period. However, following years of neglect the spire collapsed in 1861 and the one we see today is a restoration by Sir George Gilbert Scott. It is the only cathedral in England that can be seen from the sea.