

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.

Acknowledgements

All walks were written and photographed by Ali Beckett for Chichester Harbour Conservancy. Design work on the book was undertaken by Neil Pafford at Pafford Design. Funding was generously provided by the Friends of Chichester Harbour.

10

8km/5 miles

2.5 hours

Map Ref. SU 794 035 - Ordnance Survey Explorer 120

Walk 10

Chidham Circular

An 8km circular walk with some of the best panoramic views of the harbour. There is always something to watch on the water, whether it is groups of young people learning to sail or kayak, or birds diving for fish.

Start Point

Cobnor Farm Amenity car park.

By Road

From the A259 turn south onto Chidham Lane. Keep on this road signposted towards Chidham East. After a mile turn left into the Amenity car park. If you reach the sign for Cobnor House you have gone too far.

Refreshments

The Old House at Home.

Tides

The shoreline section to the southwest floods when the tide is 4.5m or higher. Aim to reach it two hours before or after high tide.



Walk Directions

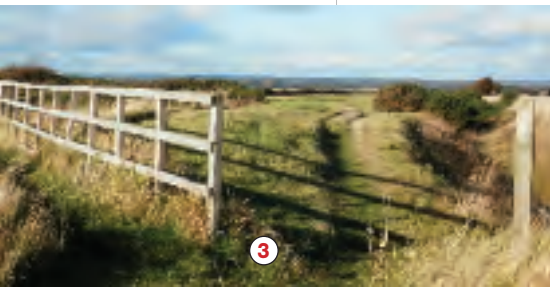
Take the first path on the left out of the car park. Going up a few steps you can see Bosham Church in the distance (1). Turn to the right and then left along the field edge, heading towards the shoreline.





At the shoreline path, turn right and keep going. Just before you reach the big accommodation boat for Christian Youth Enterprises (2), the path turns inland.

Carefully follow the footpath signs around the buildings and activity fields of the two sailing centres. You will shortly come onto a hard surfaced path through a dinghy park.



The path then turns left towards the shoreline. This section is suitable for wheelchairs. It was opened in 1988 on land kindly donated by Martin Beale, whose family still live at Cobnor House.

Keep on the path, there are a number of benches along this route for a break and to enjoy the view. The path eventually leads down a few steps to the shoreline. Turn right along the shore.

Once you have passed the shoreline oaks, climb back up onto the bank. Take the footpath that heads inland to the right of the fence (3).

When the path reaches the shoreline, turn right and look out for the footpath sign to the right (4). The path goes down a few steps and turns back on itself. Turn left at the field edge to walk inland across fields.



At the road, turn right. You will shortly come to some houses and then the Old House at Home pub (5).





Past the pub the road bears to the left. Take time to visit the church and look out for their collection of historical 'teasel people'. Just before the church there is a footpath on the right (6).

Keep on this wide grassy path as it wiggles around fields. On the straight section with electricity poles look out for the small unsigned path on the left (7) leading back to the road.

Turn right to return to the car park.



Extra Items of Interest

Coastal Realignment

On the western side you will see a line of low, crossed stakes. These are the remains of an unsuccessful land reclamation scheme in the 19th century. The island that has formed over some of the stakes is now a major wader roost in winter and in summer is sometimes used by breeding terns.

On the eastern side, land is being returned to the sea to create mudflat and saltmarsh habitats. This is the area to your right as you walk along the wheelchair accessible path. Two breaches have been created in the sea wall to allow water circulation and drainage. Over time four hectares of intertidal habitat will be created. This type of land is favoured by wading birds for feeding. In addition new water vole habitats are being created to ensure their continued presence on the site.

