

WILTON AND WYLYE VALLEY



Visit Wilton and the tranquil tree-lined avenues of Grovely Wood. Descend into the beautiful Wylye River Valley and explore Great Wishford before returning to Wilton along the valley. This walk is particularly special in spring when carpets of bluebells light up the forest floor.



VISITWILTSHIRE

The walk

1 Start

From the town centre head out through a set of traffic lights along the A30 towards Shaftesbury. If you have parked in South Street, head back to the lights. After 250 yds you will pass an Italianate Church on the L. As the road bends L turn R by the Bell Inn towards Great Wishford.

2 0.8km/½ mile

Pass under a railway bridge and turn immediately L and take the Rhand fork up a gravel bridleway. Above the housing estate turn R and continue on the earth track as it enters woodland. Keep to the R and then fork R past an

information board, up a lane to Grovely Wood. Look back, as you walk up, for a magnificent view of Salisbury Cathedral.

3 3km/1¾ miles

At the top of the rise turn L and follow the wide tree-lined avenue (Roman Road) towards Grovely Lodge. After 1 mile, at the third permissive sign opposite a fenced enclosure, turn R and head down hill.

4 6km/3¾ miles

After 1 mile the forest track emerges from the wood at Hadden Hill. A bench seat, by the side of the track, offers a welcome stop

and chance to admire the views. Afterwards continue on down hill.

5 7.3km/4½ miles

The track passes under a railway bridge and meets the road at the outskirts of Great Wishford. The walk continues to the R but be sure to turn L first and explore this beautiful village before carrying on. Afterwards, head south out of the village along the lane.

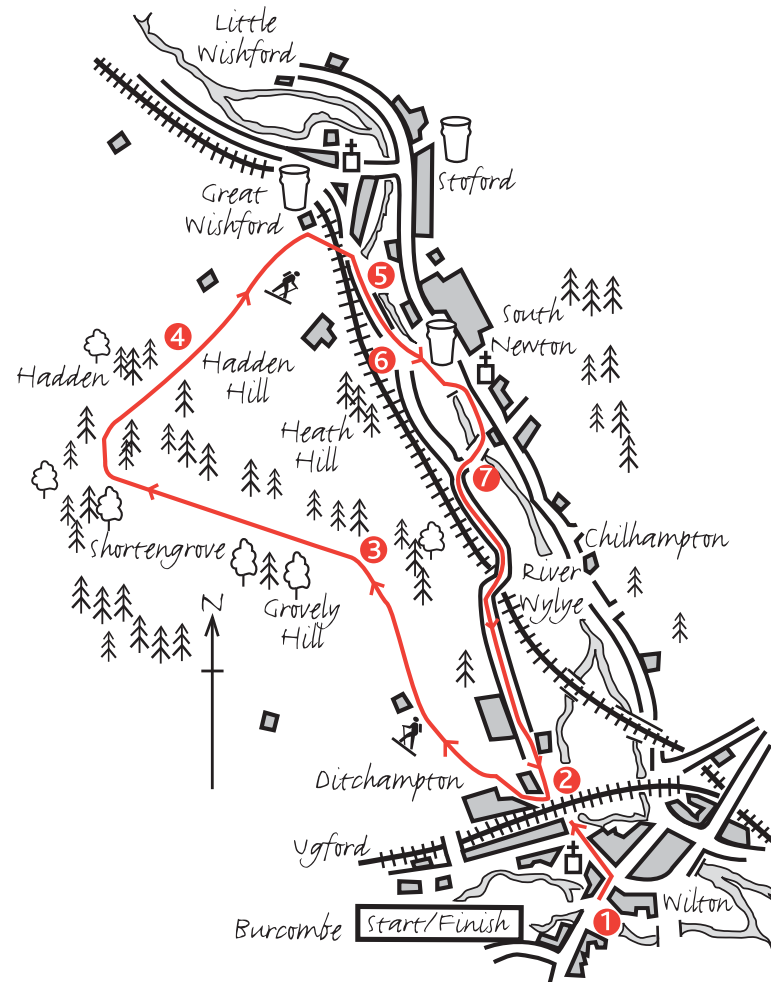
6 8km/5 miles

After ½ mile turn L and follow a pedestrian sign along a tarmac footpath towards the river. Do not cross the bridge, but instead, head along the grass footpath and

field margin (note: during the growing season this detour may become impassable). After 500 yds you will come to a weir. Cross over the footbridge and turn immediately R along the opposite bank. 500 yds further on, cross back over the river on a wide metal bridge, and up to the main road.

7 9.3km/5¾ miles

Opposite the local sewerage works, turn L and head along the lane towards Wilton. The lane passes back under the railway line and continues straight on to the edge of the town. After 1 mile pick up the footpath and head back under the second railway bridge, retracing your steps to the start.



IS THIS WALK FOR YOU?

Terrain: Quiet lanes, woodland tracks and riverbank, interspersed with one moderate climb and descent
Stiles: 0
Suitable for: Average walkers

PLANNING

Start/Parking: South Street car park, Wilton at SU 095 311. NB there is public parking in the town.

Nearest town: Wilton & Salisbury

Refreshments: Various options in Wilton. The PO/shop and Royal Oak Inn (food & beer garden), Great Wishford

Public toilets: In Wilton and at the facilities mentioned above

Public transport: Bus Nos. 264/265 run regularly: Salisbury - Warminster - Bath. Bus No. 2 runs hourly: Salisbury - Shrewton - Devizes. For further details contact Traveline, tel 0871 200 2233

MAPS

Ordnance Survey Landranger 184 Salisbury & The Plain or Explorer 130 Salisbury & Stonehenge

ACCOMMODATION

If you would like to find somewhere to stay in Wiltshire, please go to www.visitwiltshire.co.uk, Where to Stay.