

Circular Walk Two: All Saints and Naidens Lane



This is an easy walk of just under 2 miles (3 kms) taking in some of Boudicca Way with a little bit of a climb early on and takes in views over Shotesham and Howe and a walk over Shotesham Common. Duration 45 minutes. Start point All Saints Church, Shotesham. Explorer UK Grid reference TM 24682 99056

This walk starts at All Saints Church¹ where there are some parking spaces should you need one. Walk back down the access road to The Street and turn right. After a few yards you will notice a sign on your right marking Hayles Cottage. At this point cross the road and you will see a way-mark at the start of a footpath going uphill. This is part of Boudicca Way.² Follow this path as it goes through a lovely wooded area and opens out onto fields at its top end.

Now turn left and follow a field edge path that turns right in front of a wood and then heads out as a cross-field path towards two grain stores that you can see in the distance. This is real open countryside, as yet without any stunning

views. The path heads North East until you reach some chicken sheds. Here the path meets a track called Naidens Lane and you turn left onto it and follow this hedge-lined track for some distance. This is easy and pleasant walking. At various times of the year the hedgerows are full of blossom or berries. Shortly you will reach a point where there is a gap in the hedgerow on the left and you now have views across the rolling fields to Hawes Green and St Mary's Church in the distance.

Continue along the path you were on as it curves gently to the left and starts to descend. As it winds and you pass a copse of trees on the left, St Mary's Church and Hawes Green open up in the distance this time to your right through a gap in the hedge. Your path now descends back to the village and becomes a lot steeper. It comes out onto The Street between some houses. For those requiring refreshments, The Globe public house is 50 yards to the left, just a short detour.

Our route actually takes us across The Street and into Hollow Lane. After just a few yards follow a narrow path on your right parallel to the lane and lined by some trees to bridge over the ford. If you are walking a dog that likes swimming, this may present an opportunity.

Cross the road and open the gates to the common, not forgetting to close it behind you. Head across the common towards All Saints Church, taking one of the numerous paths, but keeping The Beck on your left so that you don't get trapped. At times, the common can become very boggy and this is an area requiring good walking boots or gumboots.

There are some lovely houses lining The Street, some of them thatched. the village has also retained its red telephone box. On the common itself as a house called Brookfields. As you get to Brookfields, follow the path to the left and back to The Street. Turn right towards the church and back to your starting point.

¹ <http://www.norfolkchurches.co.uk/shotesham1/shotesham1.htm>

² http://boudicaway.co.uk/bw_spaw2/uploads/images/Boudicca%20Way%20Route%20Full.jpg