

AMBERLEY AND THE RIVER ARUN, WEST SUSSEX



Challenging Terrain

3.5 miles
Circular
1.5 to 2 hours

301015



Access Notes



- 1. The first half of the walk is flat and follows riverside paths that can be very muddy and waterlogged in the wetter months so good boots are a must and wellingtons are recommended in winter.*
- 2. The second half follows quiet lanes and includes a fairly steep ascent and equivalent descent back to the village.*
- 3. You will need to negotiate 7 stiles along the way (all of which have gaps alongside for dogs to pass through) and there is also a pedestrian rail crossing on route so take particular care at this point.*
- 4. You may come across cattle within some of the riverside meadows.*

Hi, I'm Kelly and this is my West Sussex Weekends walk.

My two sisters live in Sussex so it's a great excuse to head down and spend time with them while exploring all that the area has to offer. This 3.5 mile walk from Amberley is ideal as a short stroll mixed with plenty of chatting and eating. To read my full story visit www.west-sussex-weekends.com so I can tell you why I think you will love this walk and what highlights to expect. The West Sussex Weekends website is a great resource where you will also find ideas for places to stay, eat and drink plus plenty more inspirational stories to tempt you to explore more corners of West Sussex.

Getting there

The walk starts and finishes at Amberley rail station, which is served by trains direct from London Victoria. Parking in Amberley is very limited so it is better to come by train, however there are a few free parking spaces at the station plus a large car park for the Amberley Museum which you are welcome to use if you are visiting the museum during your visit (NOTE: the museum has seasonal opening times so check before you travel).

Approximate post code **BN18 9LT**.

Walk Sections



Start to Bury Village



Leave Amberley Station into the car park alongside Amberley Museum. Turn left, following the access lane down to a T-junction with the main road. Cross over with care and turn left along the pavement, following it under the railway bridge. Immediately after the bridge, turn right to join the gravel driveway signed as a public footpath.

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Pass through the gap alongside the wide wooden gate and stay on the obvious track which leads you past a caravan site on your left. At the fork, keep left then stay with the path as it climbs and swings right with the River Arun running on your left and a fence running on your right.

When the fence on the right ends, cross the stile ahead (NOTE: you may come across cattle from this point) and continue along the riverside embankment path. Ignore the footbridge over the river, simply continue along the same riverside path with the river running on our left. The path bends right (heading north-west for a stretch, crossing the next stile along the way) and then swings right again (now heading north-east). Continue just until you reach a waymarker post set on the left, with the school, houses and church of Bury village visible on the opposite river bank.



dogs are welcome! There's something about spending time with family that gives you licence to indulge so it's cream tea all round for us...and we find out that all the crockery is made at the pottery that we just passed, how beautiful.

Continue ahead on the road, passing the school on the left and leading you out of the village to reach a crossroads alongside Corner Cottage.

1 → 2 Bury Village to Amberley Castle



Turn right here, leaving the riverside embankment and following a subtle grass track across the (sometimes waterlogged!) meadows to reach a wide gate. As you approach the gate, the path leads you over a drainage ditch. Cross the stile to the left and, with your back to the gate, walk at about 11 o'clock across the meadows.

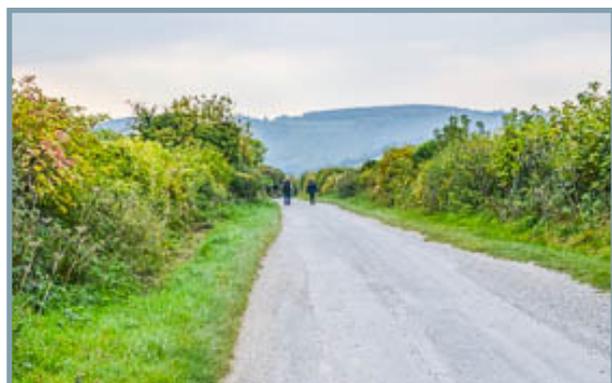
Continue in this direction, crossing two more stiles. A few metres later, the path becomes a track through a line of tree and then opens up once again to reach a railway crossing. NOTE: The crossing is unsignalled so look and listen for trains carefully before you cross. Cross via the two stiles and continue ahead on the narrow path between sections of hedgerow. Soon, this path leads you behind the impressive remains of Amberley Castle on your right. Once the fortified manor house belonging to the Bishops of Chichester, today the castle is a private hotel.

2 → 3 Amberley Castle to Corner Cottage

Keep ahead on the path which widens to become a stone track, passing a pond on the left and then swinging right to pass the thatched Rock Cottage and beyond this the village church, both on the right. Stay on the quiet road through the centre of the village, passing Amberley Pottery on the right. Soon afterwards, turn left into the tarmac side road and follow this as it swings steadily right between many more quaint cottages.

You will emerge to a T-junction with the old village pub (sadly, it is currently vacant) ahead. Turn right, heading downhill, and passing the village stores and post office on the left. Ignore the next turning on the right and a few paces later you will come to the Amberley Tea Room on the left (seasonal opening times), the perfect place to pause as muddy boots and well behaved

3 → 4 Corner Cottage to End



Cross over with care and take the small lane ahead, Mill Lane. The lane climbs fairly steeply uphill between steep banks. With this little workout on the edge of the South Downs, I won't need to kill myself at the gym to burn off the calories devoured at the tea room!

At the top of the hill you will come to a staggered T-junction. Turn right, following a tarmac lane steadily downhill, signed as part of the South Downs Way. Where there are breaks in the hedgerow to the right, take time to glance over and appreciate the views that your climb has rewarded you with. Further down on the left, some small wooden bollards mark the entrance to High Titten picnic site. This is a great place for a picnic and it's even possible to stay overnight here.

Continue down the road and you will reach a T-junction with New Barn Road. Cross over with care and turn left along the pavement, continuing downhill. The road leads you down past the museum entrance and on to reach Amberley Station on your left, where the walk began.

If you enjoyed this walk, remember to visit www.west-sussex-weekends.com where you will also find ideas for places to stay, eat and drink plus plenty more inspirational stories to tempt you to explore more corners of West Sussex.

Disclaimer

This walking route was walked and checked at the time of writing. We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

Walking Safety

For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and an Ordnance Survey map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before you set out.

