



General Information and Index

Originally created and published in 1994 by Michael Stenning, who was then the Postmaster at Churt Post Office, these walks have been revised and republished digitally in 2021 by the Churt Environment Working Group

These ten walks in and around Churt are of varying lengths and level of difficulty. Some are suitable for family walking whilst others are for more serious hikers. Whilst the commons are generally sandy soil which drains well, many of the footpaths can be muddy in wet weather, so sensible, waterproof footwear is recommended.

We hope that you will enjoy these walks and that you will be sure to follow the **Countryside Code**. You can download the full code [here](#) but in summary

Respect other people

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment

- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under effective control, especially in bird nesting season

Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs



List of Walks

Walks 1-5 are currently available. Walks 6-10 will be released later. All walks are circular, starting and ending in the centre of the village at **Churt Crossways** – but they can be started at any point.

1. Lampard Lane, Ivy Lane, Barford, Power's Pond, Whitmore Vale, Windy Gap, Hindhead Golf Course, Green Lane, Avalon Orchard, Old Barn Lane, Jumps Road, Old Kiln Farm, Old Kiln lane, Recreation Ground. Distance: 5.4 miles / 8.7 km.
2. Lampard Lane, Field House, Wishanger, Bacon Lane, Plaster Hill, Hammer Lane, Whitmore Vale, Barford. Distance: 4.8 miles / 7.7 km.
3. Lampard Lane, Frensham Common and Great Pond, King's Ridge, Old Kiln (extension via Frensham Mill and Church). Distance: approximately 4 miles / 6.4 km or 6 miles / 9.7 km with extension.
4. Churt Crossways, Old Kiln Lane, Crosswater, King's Ridge, Frensham Little Pond, Lowicks, Old Cricket Ground, Lampard Lane. Distance: 6.5 miles / 10.4 km.
5. Churt Crossways, Old Kiln, Jumps Road, Devil's Jumps, Rushmoor, Hankley Common, Kettlebury Hill, Pitch Place, Hyde Lane, Avalon, Green Lane. Distance: 6.1 miles / 9.8 km.
6. Barford, Whitmore Vale, Golden Valley, Hindhead, Devil's Punch Bowl, Gibbett Hill, Thursley, Dye House, Hankley Common, Rushmoor, Crosswater, Distance approximately 11 miles.

7. Crosswater, King's Ridge, Frensham School, Frensham Church, Spreakley, Batts Corner, Dockenfield, Frensham Mill, Frensham Pond Hotel, Lampard lane. Distance approximately 6 miles.
8. Avalon Orchard, Hyde Lane, Hindhead, High Button, Thursley, Pitch Place, Hankley Common, Rushmoor, Devil's Jumps, Old Kiln. Distance approximately 11 miles.
9. Whitmore Vale, Waggoner's Wells, Ludshott Common, Headley Down, Land of Nod, Whitmore Vale, Barford. Distance approximately 6.5 miles.
10. Barford, Ivy Lane, Simmondstone, Frensham Great Pond, King's Ridge, Frensham Little Pond, Tilford, Frensham Little Pond, Millbridge, Hollow-dene, Frensham Church, Frensham Mill, Frensham Pond Hotel, Field House, Lampard Lane. Distance approximately 10.5 miles.

Maps and Map Key

Maps are extracted from [FootpathMap.co.uk 2021](http://FootpathMap.co.uk) and the key is reproduced below.

Right of Way

	Footpath (England & Wales), Core Path (Scotland)		Bridleway
	Restricted Byway		National Trail / Coastal Path
	Byway		

Notes on Points of Interest - taken from Michael Stenning's original booklet

Old Mill and Barford Mill were two of three mills situated closely together on Barford Stream; the third known as 'The Barracks' is found on the edge of Power's Pond. All three buildings are now private houses. Barford Mill dates back to the 16th Century and is believed always to have been a corn mill and was working until 1930. Old Mill (or Lower Mill) was a flock mill preparing rag for paper-making and was in ruins for many years. The house was built in 1787 and in 1884 the miller is said to have had 50 employees and the largest water wheel in Surrey. The third mill 'The Barracks' or Upper Mill was used for making paper for over 100 years. It stopped working about 1830 and tradition has it that during the Napoleonic wars a small factory there made braid for uniforms and also that French prisoners were housed there.

Old Kiln was once a flourishing pottery.

Ivy Lane once formed part of the main route from Farnham to Hindhead, continuing up Whitmore Vale.

Sailor's Stone and Gibbett Cross, Hindhead: a memorial to an 'unnamed' sailor, who on his journey from London to Portsmouth to join his ship in 1786 was murdered by three footpads. The murderers were caught and hung on Gibbet Hill not far from the scene of the crime. The unfortunate sailor is buried in Thursley churchyard where his tombstone can still be seen. 'Sailors Lane' in Thursley is probably the route that the sailor took on his way to Hindhead.

Bacon Lane is named after Nicholas Bacon who purchased Simmondstone Farm in 1618.

Thursley derives from 'Thunor's Leagh', Anglo-Saxon for a 'clearing or grove sacred to Thor'.

Tancred's Ford: once the route of smugglers and allegedly a haunted spot. To the attentive ear, ghostly footfalls of sundry invisible ponies "Trotting through the dark" could be heard.

Tilford: beside the green at Tilford, one can see "The King's Oak" variously reputed to be between 700 and 1000 years old and one of the most celebrated trees in England. The girth 5 feet from the ground is 24 feet. A few yards along the same road and facing the green is 'The Barley Mow Inn dating from 1700. The two medieval bridges, one with four stone arches the other with six, span two different branches of the River Wey. Disastrous floods in 1233 caused much damage along the Wey, and the bridges may be two of the many rebuilt by the monks of Waverley Abbey, the remains of which stand two miles upstream. The Tilford Institute by the green is an early work of Sir Edwin Lutyens, built in 1893.

St. Mary's Church, Frensham: A Norman church well worth visiting. The sanctuary and lancet windows to the north of it are all that remain of the building of 1239. Inside the church is a cauldron of beaten copper measuring 8 feet 8 inches in circumference which has been the subject of conjecture. Some think that its original home was Waverley Abbey. According to another legend, it was the property of Mother Ludlam, reputed a witch, who lived in a cave in Moor Park, Farnham and was used by her for the brewing of her evil potions. Another tale is that a certain eminence named Borough Hill, presumably identified with either Stony Jump or Kettlebury Hill, was crowned with a large flat stone. If anyone preferred a request, and tapped upon this stone, the fairies would grant it; but anything borrowed had to be returned punctually, on pain of future petitions being refused. Frensham folk, who had borrowed the cauldron, failed to return it on the appointed day, so it is with their descendants still! The name Frensham derives from Frena's ham later Fremesham. Frena being a Saxon name, and 'ham' meaning dwelling. Two persons of that name are known to the Saxon Chronicle, the first a Danish Earl killed at the Battle of Ashdown in AD 871 and the second a Saxon who fled south from the Humber in AD 993.

Wagoner's Wells is a modern corruption of Wakener's Wells. The ponds were made by a Mr. Wakener in the 17th century and it is very probable that the primary object was to obtain a reserve supply of water for the ironworks which were operated between 1613 and 1640 by Henry Hooke who held the manor of Bramshott at that time.

Avalon: the footpath through the orchard was created by Lloyd George to enable his employees to walk to church at Churt.

Devil's Jumps: three natural mounds situated near the Pride of the Valley Inn. On the centre one an observatory was erected in or about 1865 by the astronomer Carrington. The legend of the Devil's Jumps is that the Devil used to jump from one to another, till Thor hurled at him the piece of sandstone rock that still lies on the summit of 'Stony' Jump.

The King's Ridge Barrows – Frensham: Traces of neolithic man are numerous and the summits of the sand hills were used as burial places. It is possible that a considerable British settlement may have existed not too far from here. A polished stone axe, found in a field adjoining the Blue Bell Inn at Batt's Corner was doubtless used by the people who raised the Barrows.