

# I. Chipping Campden and Dovers Hill

This delightful short walk leads you from the charmingly English market town of Chipping Campden, through shaded woodlands and past breathtaking views. A wonderful introduction to the Cotswolds, and a perfect start to the Cotswold Way.

## Distance:

4½ miles or 7.2km (Shorter route  
3 miles or 4.8km)

## Duration:

2½-3½ hrs (Shorter: 1½-2½ hrs)

## Difficulty:

Moderate, some steep sections  
(Shorter: Easy, avoids climbs)

## Public transport:

No. 1 (Johnsons) or 606  
(Marchants) from Broadway.  
No. 1 and 2 (Johnsons) from  
Stratford upon Avon (See the  
'Explore the Cotswolds' public  
transport guide or visit [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info))

## Start/Finish:

Grid reference SP 151/392  
(OS Explorer sheet OL45)  
Postcode GL55 6HB

## Refreshments:

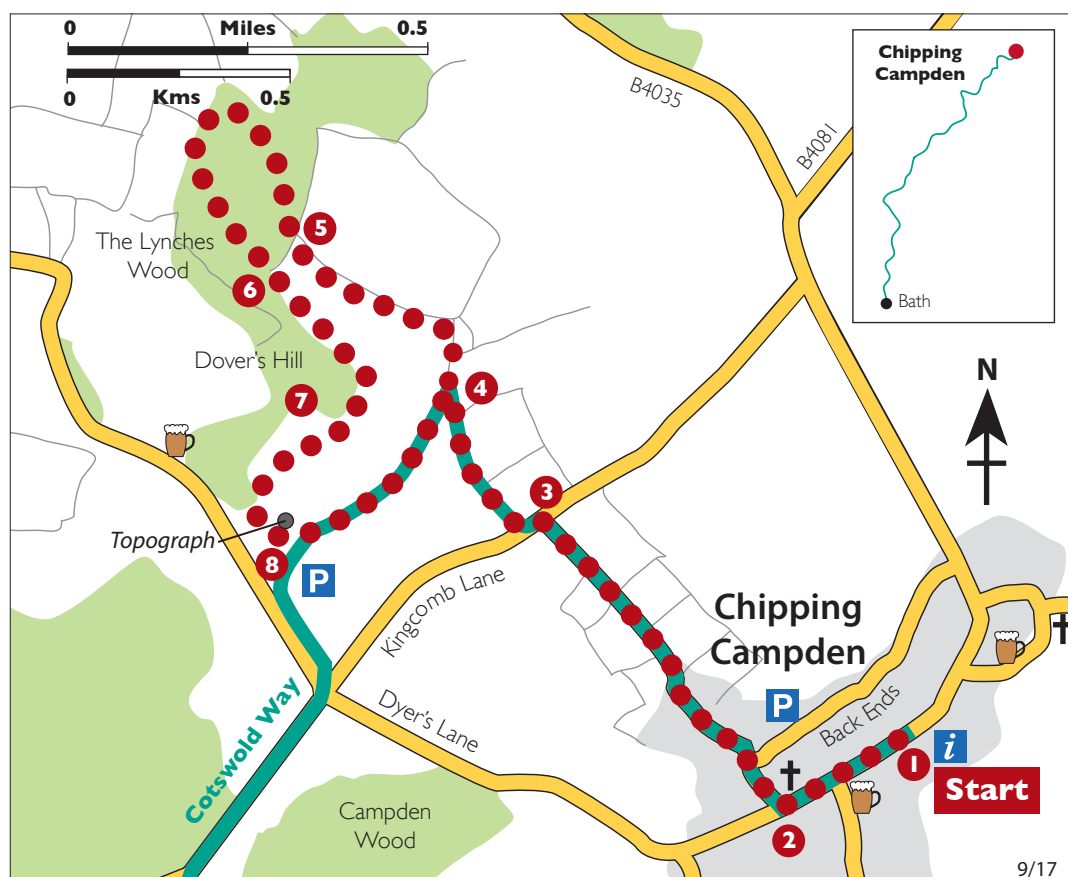
Numerous cafés and pubs in  
Chipping Campden.  
Public toilets in Sheep Street.

## Parking

There is free parking along the  
High Street and other locations.  
Walkers are asked to use the free  
parking in Back Ends. Dover's Hill is  
now a paying car park unless you  
are a National Trust member (need  
your N.T. card).

**1** Beside the Market Hall is a  
hand carved marker stone for the  
start/end of the Cotswold Way.  
(Before you start take a minute  
to look upwards at the fascinating  
roof structure of the 1627 building).  
Standing on the stone and facing  
the road, turn right past the war  
memorial and follow the pavement.

**2** Turn right just after the church,  
past the first of many oak signposts  
along the Cotswold Way, and on  
up Hoo Lane. This becomes an



un-made track, leading in half a  
mile (0.8km) to an opening onto  
Kingcomb Lane.

**3** Watching for traffic, turn  
left and walk along the lay-by for  
100 metres. Turn right opposite a  
Cotswold Way signpost, entering  
a footpath to a kissing gate leading  
onto Dover's Hill (owned and  
managed by The National Trust) and  
a taste of the spectacular views to  
come.

*To take the shorter route and avoid  
the steep sections, turn left here and  
follow the Cotswold Way directly to the  
viewpoint at the end (point 8) - just  
breathing in the incredible views and  
freshest of winds is unforgettable  
enough!*

**4** For the full route, leave the  
Cotswold Way to follow the  
bridleway to the right. Follow  
the fenceline to a gate on your  
right and go through into a small  
windswept woodland. Take the left

track and follow it as it turns left  
downhill towards two gates. Take  
the left hand kissing gate which  
emerges onto the hillside and then  
straight on, keeping the fence on  
your right, to the woods at the  
bottom.

**5** Pass through another kissing  
gate into the leafy calm of Lynches  
Wood, with the area's finest show  
of bluebells in May. A boardwalk  
has been installed where the track  
can be very muddy. Near the  
bottom of the woods, curve to the  
left and carry on uphill taking the  
long flight of steps. At the top of  
the steps, turn right and follow the  
path through a kissing gate back  
into the fields.

**6** Follow the wide grass track  
ahead keeping the fence to the  
wood on your right. Keep following  
this track as it bends to the right  
and along the side of the hill (there  
may be muddy sections here).

**7** Pass a small pond amongst  
trees on your left. Stay with the  
track as it bends left up the last bit  
of hill to the stone topograph on  
Dover's Hill.

**8** Take a few minutes to catch  
your breath and enjoy the stunning  
views. If you were here in spring,  
you might witness the annual  
'Olimpick Games' which have been  
played on the hill since 1612, and  
continued on and off to the present  
day. The games involve painful-  
sounding sports such as 'shin-  
kicking' and 'pike-tumbling'. Finally,  
follow the edge of the hill back to  
point 4, and retrace your steps back  
to Chipping Campden for a well-  
earned rest.

**Congratulations, you have  
just started the Cotswold  
Way**