Barcombe Walk

A walk across fields and along quiet country lanes, following the river Ouse to Barcombe Mills, visiting the ‘three villages of Barcombe’.

Local Information

This walk takes you through the three villages that make up ‘Barcombe’. The original village of Barcombe near the church was largely deserted at the time of the Black Death, when Barcombe Cross replaced it as the main centre. The settlement of Barcombe Mills grew up around the river Ouse, with flour mills being mentioned in Domesday.

Essential Information

Distance: 5.3 miles/8.6km
Walk grade: Easy
Maps: OS Explorer 122, OS Landranger 198
Start/Finish: Barcombe Cross High Street
Post Code: BN8 5DH
Grid Ref: TQ 421158
Route Description

1) Starting from the Post Office in Barcombe Cross High Street, turn right and head towards the roundabout, turn right again and follow the road for approximately 385 metres (420 yards). Turn left at the footpath sign and follow the field edge path to reach the footbridge. Turn immediately left after the bridge and continue to follow the footpath into the next field heading initially towards a pair of red tile hung cottages. Before reaching the cottages the footpath divides, bear right at this point and follow the route across the field to the farm drive, with the fortified barns of Banks Farm visible on your right.

2) Cross the drive to follow the waymarked path, bearing left after the first field and continue along the edge of the next field, keeping the hedgerow on your left. Turn right and follow Anchor Lane for approximately 475 metres (520 yards) to the next footpath signed on the right.

3) Follow the field edge path turning right at the next signpost and keep the hedge on your right. Follow the path around the corner of the field and cross into the adjacent field at the next gap. Continue, now keeping the hedge on your left to reach the next stile. After the stile keep to the well waymarked path around the buildings. After passing the barn on the surfaced driveway turn left to cross the bridge.

4) Turn immediately right after the bridge and follow the riverside footpath to Barcombe Mills. Turn right onto the road, crossing the bridge and follow the road passing the old toll house and site of the old toll bridge.

5) Continue to follow the road to join the main road. Turn right to follow past the old Barcombe Mills station on your left, to find the next footpath sign on the left. Of the three footpaths at this point, follow the left hand one along the field edge to the stile in the field corner. Continue, crossing two footbridges and the route of the old railway, bearing right at the next sign across the field to reach a handgate. Continue to reach a signpost, at which, turn left to follow the path between the houses.

6) Cross the road and follow the path along the field edge. At the far side of the field turn sharp right to double back over a footbridge. Follow this path towards Barcombe Church and at the surfaced path turn right past the thatched round house and barn on your right.

7) Cross the road to the kissing gate and follow the waymarked path to the next road. Turn right and then left at the road junction. After approximately 210 metres (230 yards) turn left over the stile and follow the waymarked footpath turning right at the next signpost to cross the old railway route again.

8) After the kissing gate follow the line of the waymarked path to reach another sign and stile. Follow the path around the field edge and then along the surfaced section behind the houses. Turn left at the end of this path and follow the road, crossing another, back to the High Street, next to the Royal Oak.