Explore the countryside around the city

Take time to explore the tranquil countryside around Salisbury. There are five rivers, a wealth of wild flowers (bluebells in spring, wild orchids in summer), birds and butterflies. The landscape has archaeological sites including barrows and earthworks, and the downs and ridges give lovely panoramic views.

These walks are within a 10 mile radius of Salisbury. For each walk, you catch a bus to the start point and then either:

- Walk from the rural bus stop back into Salisbury via footpaths and lanes;
- Walk a circular route (where the walk starts and ends at the same point) and then take the bus back to Salisbury;
- Walk to another bus route to catch the return bus to Salisbury; or
- Walk to a different point on the same bus route and then take a bus back to Salisbury.

Salisbury Bus Walks:
Easy to moderate difficulty 3-6 miles in length.
Most walks have some stiles and uneven ground.

South West	North	East
A	E	J
B	F	K
C	G	L
D	H	South East
	I	M
		N
		O

Why not plan your own bus walk with Connecting Wiltshire?

Roads and respect for the countryside

- Cross all roads with great care.
- On roads and lanes, walk facing oncoming traffic (except at blind bends).
- Keep to public tracks, footpaths, bridleways or byways.
- Shut all gates you open, leave no litter and disturb no farm animals or wildlife.
- Control dogs at all times.

Planning your walk

- Check the walk description for any steep gradients.
- Think about how long it will take you. The estimated times shown are based on a walking pace of approximately 2 miles per hour.
- Check the bus times, particularly the last bus times.
- Check pub opening times!
- Always plan to arrive at least 5 minutes before the bus is due and signal clearly to the driver by waving your hand.

What to wear on walks

- Walking boots with ankle support. Chalk can be slippery and paths can be muddy and uneven.
- Long trousers to help protect against ticks.
- Take waterproofs and an extra layer.

Ticks can transmit bacteria that cause diseases such as Lyme disease. Tick bites may not hurt and you don't always notice you've been bitten, so make sure you thoroughly check yourself, your children and your pets. Remove ticks as soon as a possible with a pair of tweezers: grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible, then pull upwards slowly and firmly, as mouthparts left in the skin can cause a local infection.

What to take with you on walks

- The relevant OS Explorer Map (1:25,000 - 2½ inches to the mile). It is strongly recommended that you take this. The relevant map number is shown at the top of each walk description.
- Relevant bus timetables – you may need two routes.
- A mobile phone with useful numbers including taxi services.
- Water, snacks, bag for litter.

Walking near Bishopstone
by Pam Rouquette

A Coombe Bissett- Salisbury

Length: 4¾ miles **Est. Time:** 2½ hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus No: 29 Blue Boar Row or 20 Endless Street. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: Coombe Bissett Stores (29) or Fox and Goose Pub (20)

- Cross road and take footpath beside shop, turn R at main road, walk past the pub and on to gravel path. Take care at corner of house before turning R into Marsh Lane. At metal gate turn L up footpath through trees. Go through gates onto Homington Down with views over the Ebble valley.
- Follow grass path ahead, the path passes below a large house and lake to reach a minor road. Turn L for 200 m. then R onto a bridleway. After about ¾ mile turn L up track to Dogdean Farm (you have now joined the Avon Valley Path). Turn L past the farm buildings; then R onto a path, which follows the field boundaries north.
- At the second kissing gate, which opens onto the Old Shaftesbury Drove, turn L to reach the Blandford Road. Cross with care to track opposite, turn R at the first bend; then L onto a footpath going uphill behind houses. At the top of the hill the path drops down to the woods of Harnham Slope.
- Turn R onto the footpath known as 'Bishop's Walk', go down steps then turn R to reach the road and cross to far side. Walk downhill to main road, turn R and cross at the light controlled crossing then walk down Old Harnham Road, over St Nicholas Bridge and turn L along De Vaux Place to enter the Cathedral Close.

B Bishopstone- Salisbury

Length: 5½ miles **Est. Time:** 2¾ hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus: 29 Blue Boar Row. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: Northfield House for Bishopstone Church.

- Walk down Church Lane past the church and cross bridge over the River Ebble. Immediately after the bridge turn L at footpath sign into a garden. Keep to the edge of the river, cross the stile into a field and walk along the river then uphill to a gate onto a minor road.
- Turn L, then L again past Manor House. Turn R across green to a bridleway in the far corner. At the end of the path turn L downhill, past church to the hamlet of Stratford Tony. Cross bridge over river and continue to road junction.

River Ebble
by Pam Rouquette

I Amesbury-Stonehenge-Woodhenge

Length: 5¾ miles **Est. Time:** 3 hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus No: Active 8 or X5 Blue Boar Row. Mon - Sun.
Bus stop for start of walk: London Road, Amesbury 3rd stop.

- Walk back to Ratfyn Road and go through gate into Lord's Walk. Take path R, down steps and follow riverside path to road. (This section may not be passable in winter. For an alternative route walk down Lords Walk to the road and turn R.) Turn R to roundabout and use underpass to reach Countess Road. Walk ¼ mile up road, cross over to bridleway signed Kingsbarrows.
- Follow gravel track, after sharp bend R, take grass path through gate on L to information board with view of Stonehenge. Continue L, go through gate on R and walk downhill on grass path to gate in fence. At the information board "Stonehenge Avenue" continuing walking towards the stones.
- You can take any of the grass paths R to reach one of the many gates onto a gravel track and turn R. Look out for the information board "Stonehenge Cursus" then take 2nd gate R (48) into a field and follow the grass path diagonally down to a metal gate. Keeping the tree line on your left, walk uphill to an information board.
- Cross track ahead to path opposite, this widens onto the route of the old railway line. Approx. 300m further on turn L up slope. Go through gate and cross diagonally across field to Woodhenge.
- At car park turn L onto the old road to reach the main road. Cross over to footpath opposite, walk up to roundabout and turn R to bus stop on opposite side of Larkhill Road.

Return bus to Salisbury: X5 Mon - Sat ½ hourly. Sun hourly.
Bus stop: Outside Stonehenge Inn.

Stonehenge
by Steve Day

J Figsbury-Winterbourne- Hurdcott

Length: 3¼ miles **Est. Time:** 1½ hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus: 87 Endless Street. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: Figsbury Rings.

- Walk up concrete track to gate at the top, turn R and follow the hedge on your left. At the corner of car park bear L to Figsbury Ring. Follow footpath to the hillfort and climb the outer ring for extensive views of the Cathedral, Old Sarum and surrounding countryside. There is an abundance of wildflowers and butterflies in summer.
- Cross over and walk 200 m. up the road opposite. Turn R onto a track; walk past metal gate, uphill to a narrow footpath, this joins a track from the right, continue uphill. Do not follow the track where it turns left but keep straight on along the edge of a field, with hedge on right. At minor road turn L for 200 m. and cross Salisbury racecourse. Follow the marked path across the golf course to reach a track going downhill between trees. This is an old Roman road.
- Cross the main road with care and follow the track straight ahead for 100m then take the diagonal path R across the field. Cross a small bridge into the next field and turn L keeping the hedge on your left. At the corner of the field turn R and walk along the field boundary or go through kissing gate and turn R along path between trees. At next field corner go through the kissing gate , join path coming from left and turn R, continue along a track to Middle Street, Harnham.
- Go straight on along road until you reach the Town Path. Turn L, past the Old Mill Hotel to return to Salisbury on the path over the water meadows.

Fovant Badges
by Chris Knox

C Fovant-Chiselbury-Broad Chalke

Length: 4 miles **Est. Time:** 2½ hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus No: 26 New Canal. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: Fovant - Cross Keys Inn.
PLEASE NOTE: walk has a steep gradient.

- Walk on in the same direction, turn L into Brook Street. The lane becomes a track and curves left, at sharp bend ignore bridleway ahead and continue on track ⅓ mile to East Farm.
- Take footpath R through metal gate to foot of Downs and skirt chalk pit L. Go up steep footpath diagonally between World War I Regimental Badges cut in chalk to reach Chiselbury Hillfort.
- Follow earthworks clockwise half way round to a gate and stile ahead. Turn R onto Drove road, continue for about ½ mile, then turn L onto bridleway track, go past metal gate then continue down into the valley.
- After about a mile, the track becomes concreted and you come to a fork. Bear L onto a grassy bridleway. After ½ mile it is joined from the left by a farm track. Almost immediately the track bends right, ignore this and go straight ahead on a narrow footpath to Chalk Pyt Farm.
- After exploring the earthworks, leave by the gate on the far side of the rings onto a track going downhill, this is part of the Monarchs Way long distance path. 100m after railway bridge turn R onto a footpath, continue along the edge of a field with hedge on your left and turn L through a kissing gate in the hedge. Walk across next field to reach the road.
- Cross over, turn L then R down Gaters Lane, go over the footbridge across a beautiful stretch of the River Bourne. After 50m turn L into a field and keeping the hedge on your left continue straight ahead through fields to reach a small road and turn L.
- At the ford turn R, ignore left turn, continue for about 50 m. then turn L along the edge of a field. At the gate onto bridleway, turn L onto a track. Cross the river to reach the village of Hurdcott. Turn R and R again to reach Black Horse Pub or go straight ahead to main road (A338).

Return bus to Salisbury: 66, Mon - Sat. Hourly.
Bus stop: on main road opposite junction with village road.

View from Clarendon Way
by Nick Cown

K West Winterslow-Pitton-Laverstock- Salisbury

Length: 6/7 miles **Est. Time:** 3 hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130 & 131
Bus: 87/88 Endless Street. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: West Winterslow, Kings Corner.

- Walk on to end of wall then turn L through gate and take path uphill through fields keeping to the left of two paths. Go though gap in hedge and walk to the church. Turn L through gate and at road cross over to Back Drove; bear R onto footpath leading to a farm track.
- You are now on the Clarendon Way long distance path. Follow this straight ahead, it soon becomes a wide grassy path with extensive views. When the path meets a track turn R downhill, where the track bends right go straight ahead on narrow bridleway to a road. Turn L for 100 m then take tarmac path R through play area to next road, turn L and walk through Pitton Village to cross roads.
- Cross over and go straight ahead following the Clarendon Way sign. After 200 m. turn R onto footpath beside a field which bears left uphill to edge of wood. At farm road, cross over and follow path opposite with farm buildings on the right.
- Walk though the farm to Broadchalke village and the Queens Head pub and Community shop and cafe. (The Church is down the road opposite and can be visited).

Return bus to Salisbury: 29 approx. 2 hrly.
Bus stop: outside Community Shop.

D Dinton

Length: 2-3 miles **Est. Time:** 2 hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus No: 25 New Canal. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: Dinton Post Office/Shop

- Cross main road and take Snow Hill Road opposite, leading to Dinton Church. Follow footpath through churchyard, which leads to a gate into Dinton Park. This is National Trust property with open access. There are a number of paths to explore by the lake, across the meadows and into the woods above Philipps House.
- Leave the Park by walking along the tarmac drive to the main gate. Turn R and just before reaching the church take the signed footpath L beside a house.
- At the end of the first field go through gate on left and continue in the same direction. On reaching a road with bungalows turn R and walk down to main road and bus stops.The pub is further along the road on the left.

Return bus to Salisbury: 25
Bus stop: Shelter after junction of Snow Hill with main road, or beyond pub (on main road towards Salisbury).

E Stoford- Wilton

Length: 4 miles **Est. Time:** 2 hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus No: 2 or 265 New Canal. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: Stoford Bridge.

- Walk south across bridge over River Wylye to the village of Great Wishford. By church turn L. into South Street. At end of road take track opposite, slightly L, which goes under the railway bridge. Follow this uphill to Grovely Woods with views over the surrounding countryside.
- Continue uphill through the woods to reach the Broad Drive, turn L onto surfaced track lined with beech trees. On leaving the wood the track continues between hedges.
- Bear L at the track junction down an avenue of trees, keeping farm buildings on your right. In about ½ mile the track becomes a road, bends sharp L and goes downhill to road junction. Turn R under the railway bridge.
- At the main road turn L and round the corner turn L again to reach a footbridge across the River Wylye into Flouse Hole Nature Reserve. Follow the path to the R and cross another bridge into playing fields. Cross field to a road. Turn R into North Street to reach Wilton Market Place.

Return buses to Salisbury: PR3 Mon - Sat every 20 minutes. R3 Sundays approx. hourly
Bus stop: Wilton Market Place.

- The path becomes a track through the woods; keep straight on ignoring any cross tracks for 1½ miles. The track narrows to a path then joins a hard track, keep on in the same direction and take path R to kissing gate to visit the archaeological site of Clarendon Palace.
- Leave through the gate on the opposite side, turn R and walk down the track. (Steps on right lead up to a viewpoint and picnic table). Where the track bends right, go straight ahead across a field to rejoin the track further on. Continue past farm buildings onto a road, walk uphill, then down into Milford.
- To shorten the walk turn R at Riverbourne Road and follow the board walk to catch the R6 bus in Riverside Road. To continue to Salisbury cross road bridge and on reaching T-junction go up footpath opposite, called Milford Hollow. Walk down Milford Hill into the City Centre.

L East Grimstead –Winterslow

Length: 5 miles **Est. Time:** 2½ hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 131
Bus: 37 Endless Street. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: East Grimstead - Gothic Cottage.

- Walk on to road junction and turn L, ignore footpath signs and after ¼ mile turn R into Bugmore Lane. Keep straight on for ½ mile until it becomes a footpath and enters Bentley Wood.
- Follow path straight ahead to join track, turn L and follow this to T-junction. Turn R to Woodside farm, then L onto footpath through woods. Continue on this path until it meets a wide track with gate on left. Turn R.
- At the first path junction bear L onto gravel path. The path bears right and comes to a memorial stone and seat. At the track junction continue ahead on a wide track for about 1mile. After a right and left turn this track eventually turns right.
- At this point take the path ahead through a wooden barrier. Follow this downhill to leave the wood and join Witt Road; this leads into Winterslow. The bus stop is on the left, or continue further on to the pub and catch the bus at the next stop opposite Saxon Leas.

Return bus to Salisbury: 87/88, Mon - Sat. approx. 2 hrly.
Bus stop: Witt Road or Saxon Leas.

Bluebells - Bentley Wood
by Elizabeth Scruton

F Winterbourne Stoke-Steeple Langford

Length: 4.5 miles **Est. time:** 2½ hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus No: 2 New Canal. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke.

- Walk on in the same direction to light controlled crossing. Cross road and turn R, walk approx. 100m and turn L onto footpath beside stream. Cross road bridge and immediately turn R through metal gate to cross field on diagonal path.
- Turn L onto track, L again at road and then R at T-junction Walk past 'The Old School', pass church on left, then go over stile by a cottage into large field. A short diversion to the right before the stile takes you to a pretty section of the River Till.
- Cross the field on grass path, this joins a farm track. At top of short slope bear R to take a small diagonal grass path towards a line of trees. Walk down to gate and continue on path into next field, keep to the right side by the hedge.
- Cross stile and walk past thatched cottage to a metalled track. Continue straight on, the road bends round a large barn on your left, then bears right to reach the village of Berwick St. James.
- Turn L by the Boot Inn, cross road and turn R opposite bus stop signed to Berwick Farm Shop. The shop also has a café for refreshments. Continue further along the lane to a large corrugated barn, bear L here and go uphill on farm track.
- As the path rises there are extensive views over the surrounding countryside. At track junction, on the brow of the hill, cross over to continue past metal tower on left. At next track junction go straight ahead across tarmac road and walk downhill.
- At main road don't cross the stile but bear R and continue downhill to a tarmac road. Walk up slope to underpass and follow the road down to the village of Steeple Langford. Turn L on village road to reach the bus shelter or cross over and walk down Duck Street to visit Langford Lakes Nature Reserve.

Return bus to Salisbury: 265 Mon - Sat. Hourly.
Bus stop: on left past Berwick Lane. (The pub is further along down a short road on the right.)

Langford Lakes
by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

M Alderbury-Downton

Length: 6½ miles **Est. Time:** 3½ hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus: X7 or 37 Endless Street. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: Green Dragon.

- Walk back 50m, cross road to Silver St., after first house take footpath L. Go diagonally R downhill across field to kissing gate. Follow the path ahead to another gate, then go through trees to gate into churchyard. Turn L at road, then R into Tunnel Hill. After bend turn L through gate onto footpath through fields.
- After second field go through gap in hedge on L and bear R round edge of next field, through gate onto path which joins a gravel lane. At end of lane turn L into field , the path bears right, at next footpath sign take the path L across the middle of the field towards a white house, this can be boggy in wet weather.
- Cross stile, continue to lane and turn R. Where lane bends left turn R and after 50m go through gap in hedge on R and immediately L onto path. Walk around farm buildings and across field, bear L to bridge over dismantled railway. The path then bears right between open fields. Turn R at hedge. Go through a gap in next hedge, over bridge and turn L.
- Go straight ahead following the route of the old railway line on your left, continue up slope to reach minor road; turn R. At T-junction turn R and walk downhill for about ¼ mile until you see a footpath into the woods on your L. Follow this through Trafalgar Woods, cross field to gate opposite and continue through woods.
- When the path meets a hard track, turn R down to River Avon. Cross river and turn R to walk across weir. Follow footpath across water meadows. After bridge over stream bear left to gate and stile. Go through kissing gate opposite and walk straight ahead across fields to join hard track, continue in same direction.
- Where track bends right before farm, turn L over bridge into water meadows. Follow path across field to gate and tarmac path beside river leading into Downton Village where there are many options for refreshments. Turn R to main road and return bus.

Return bus to Salisbury: X3 or 44. Mon - Sat. ½ hrly.
Bus stop: opposite the Bull Inn

N Lover-Landford

Length: 4 miles **Est time:** 2 hrs
OS Explorer Maps No: 131 & OL22
Bus: 44 Blue Boar Row. Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: Lover Church.

- Walk straight on in the same direction and take the 2nd road R- Black Lane. Shortly after passing 'The Mount' turn L onto footpath signed to Langley Wood. Enter copse and follow path to footbridges across a stream, this section can be boggy in winter. Walk across a field to a minor road.
- Cross road and enter Langley Wood NNR. Follow well used path ahead then turn R onto path marked L13. At path junction turn L and continue to a T –junction, turn R and go through gate onto a small road, turn L, at next gate re-enter the wood. Continue straight ahead and at wooden fence take the R path. On reaching the golf course keep on a small path on L within the wood, following yellow dots on posts.
- Where a gravel track crosses the route turn R onto path 10, walk up slope in woods then down beside a field leading to a restricted Byway, continue to road at Golf Club. Turn L for ¼ mile to reach pub, then continue along road to reach Landford Village.

Return bus to Salisbury: X7 approx. 2 hrly.
Bus stop: Junction Hampworth/Landford Rd B3079

G South-Amesbury

Length: 3½ miles **Est. time:** 1½ hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus: X5 or Active 8 Blue Boar Row. Mon - Sun.
Bus stop for start of walk: Boscombe Down roundabout.

- Cross side road on left and almost immediately take bridleway L, go through gate and turn R. At bottom of hill turn L into field and follow grass path with hedge on your right, the path winds along the valley between fields.
- After about a mile turn R at signpost to Amesbury. Walk down to metal gate then uphill on gravel track with views over Amesbury and the upper Woodford Valley. At track junction go straight ahead down grass path to the River Avon and turn R to South Mill.
- The route follows the river bank along a gravel track which can be wet in winter. After reaching South Mill, the first house on the left, turn L onto footpath to Bonnymead-Amesbury. Cross weir and follow path beside river then through fields to a hard track.
- Where the track meets the road turn R into Amesbury where there are a number of pubs and cafes. Cross bridge over the river and R into Salisbury Street, then L at The Centre to reach the bus stop.

Return bus to Salisbury: X5 or Active 8 Mon - Sat appox ½ hrly, Sun hrly.
Bus stop: Amesbury Library.

H Larkhill-Durrington-Bulford

Length: 4 miles **Est. Time:** 2 hrs
OS Explorer Map No: 130
Bus: X5 Blue Boar Row. Mon - Sun.
Bus stop for start of walk: The Packway Garage, Larkhill, 2nd stop after roundabout. Please check the X5 you are on goes to Larkhill. If it is travelling north to Pewsey, you can alight at Hackthorn Road and join the walk there.

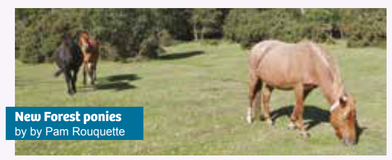
- Cross road, walk back along road and turn L. Keep straight on along gravel track or walk on the grass, where there are wildflowers and butterflies in summer. On reaching a small hut turn R onto a grass path, walk down to main road, cross with care to Hackthorne Road.
- After ¼ mile turn L onto a footpath beside the river. Follow path over bridges to kissing gates. Keep straight ahead through field with wire fence on left. Go through gate onto farm track. At road turn R to Milston church.
- After bend in road take footpath R, cross bridge over the river, turn L to next bridge. It is worth spending some time on this beautiful stretch of the River Avon. Go up a small road and turn R onto path through woods. Cross fields, with a number of stiles then go straight on with hedge on your right to reach a farm road.
- At the main road turn L into Water Street, continue beside the river, the path then bears right to meet the road. Turn R and walk towards petrol station.

Return bus to Salisbury: Active 8 or X5. Mon - Sat ½ hrly. Sun hrly.
Bus stop: Salisbury Road opposite garage.

O Woodfalls- Breamore

Length: 5½ miles **Est. Time:** 3 hrs
OS. Explorer Map No: OL22
Bus: 44 Mon - Sat.
Bus stop for start of walk: Woodfalls Cross.

- Walk south down Hale Lane past cattle grid, take L fork and then L into Tethering Drove. After passing a track on R look for two posts marking an easy access point onto the open forest.
- Walk R towards a band of trees then, keeping the trees on your right, follow a clearly defined path which bears R then crosses a small gravel path. Continue on the same path as it bends right and climbs gently to a more open area.



New Forest ponies
by by Pam Rouquette

- Turn L here and follow one of the many paths leading towards the power lines with open views over the forest. At the power lines turn R up slope to the road and go through metal gate opposite. Take track on R, keep straight ahead through woods, after a stream climb to meet a metal road, turn L.
- At T- junction turn R into Hale Lane, the road bears L, then comes to white gates on the left to Hale Park. Go through small gate marked Avon Valley Path, in front of the house the path turns R then bears L onto a path leading to the church.
- Continue down to the road and cross over a wide bridge across a beautiful section of the River Avon. Turn L, cross two wooden plank bridges then turn R at a footpath sign and walk across field to a hedge.
- Follow the hedge L to reach a bridge and stile. The narrow path crosses water meadow ditches to a gravel farm track. After a short distance turn L across fields to farm buildings. Follow footpath sign straight ahead through the farm yard, then through 3 kissing gates to reach the disused railway footpath.
- For a shorter walk turn R here to reach main road and bus stop opposite or, to walk to Breamore, turn L and follow the disused railway line. After a mile the path reaches the old Railway station of Breamore with information boards. Turn R to main road, pub and bus stop.

Return bus to Salisbury: X3 Mon – Sat. ½ hrly. Sundays hrly.
Bus stop: a short distance beyond the pub on the opposite side of the road.