



# Walks around Tetbury



Thank you for your interest in our walk leaflets. We hope you enjoy the walks.

Please check our website [www.tetburywalkers.co.uk](http://www.tetburywalkers.co.uk) for any updates.

Please follow the Countryside Code and other safety and legal information overleaf.

## INTRODUCTION

The walks are intended to help those who enjoy walking in the countryside to get to know the area round Tetbury. They are all circular walks and vary in length between 2 and 13 kilometres. Some are old favourites, whilst others may be new even to long-standing residents of the town. They have been devised by members of Tetbury and District Footpath Group to introduce walkers to some of the great variety of paths available to them. Visitors to the town should also find them helpful in exploring the pleasant rural landscape in which the town is set. It is not intended for those who are primarily interested in the history of the ancient borough of Tetbury. They would be well advised to consult "Tetbury - A Cotswold Gem" which contains three excellent guided walks round the historic area of the town itself.

The Footpath Group wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of local farmers and landowners in keeping open the Footpaths and Bridleways described in these walks and in permitting them to be waymarked. For their part walkers are asked to be scrupulous in abiding by both the spirit and the letter of the Country Code.

In preparing these guided walks we are particularly indebted to the four authors, John Silvester, Ian Thomas, Chris French and Kevin Healy who have converted these walks from the original book "Country Walks around Tetbury" into the new individual leaflet format as well as writing 4 new walks to complement them.



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF TETBURY

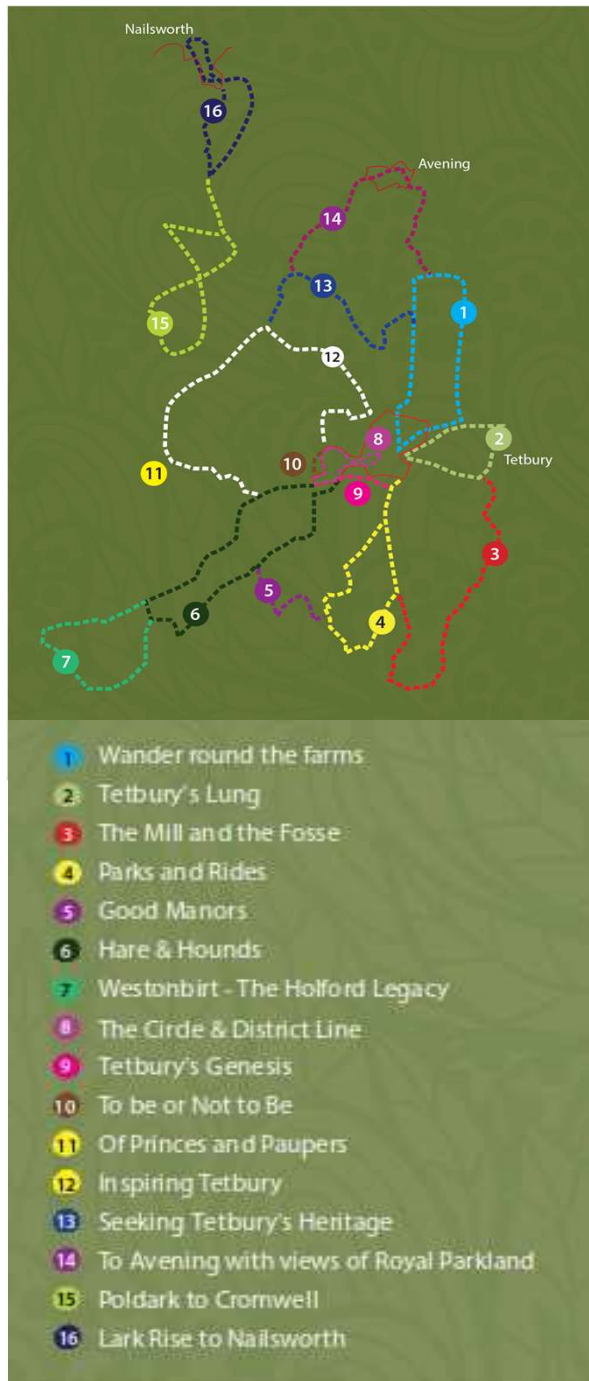
Tetbury came to life with the growth of the Cotswold wool trade, and celebrates over 1300 years of recorded history since Tetta's Monastery was mentioned in a charter by King Ethelred in 681 AD.

Tetbury is a small Cotswold hill-town of great architectural interest. The core of the modern town, the part known for centuries as "The Borough of Tetbury", remains substantially the same as it was in the 16th and 17th centuries, when it reached the height of its prosperity as a wool town. Most of the buildings that survive in this part of the town were there in Queen Elizabeth I's reign, and many are much older than that. Trading in wool, rather than its manufacture, was the original source of Tetbury's prosperity. It was the decline of cottage industry clothmaking in Tetbury during the 18th century that started the process that eventually killed off the wool trade in the town.

Tetbury is prosperous once again. It covers more than twice the area it occupied at the peak of its prosperity and nearly twice the population. Its curving streets match the contours; the shapes of its open spaces and the facades and complex roofscapes of the houses are a reflection of its organic growth. All these contribute to its skyline, which is dominated by the 1781 parish church of St Marys' (the Virgin and Magdalen), whose spire greets the visitor no matter which way they arrive. It is one of the tallest and most elegant spires in the UK.

Though picturesque, the town is no museum piece. Its prosperity today depends on a range of local shops, hotels, pubs and restaurants as well as service industries. The Tetbury Police Museum & Courtroom, in the Victorian police station and courthouse at 63 Long Street, and St Marys' Church both provide a fascinating insight into the social history of the town and its inhabitants.

## WALK LOCATIONS



**FOOTPATHS AND THE LAW** The walks all follow public rights of way. As such you have full right to walk along them freely. Footpaths are typically on private land, please respect this. Please remember that the local area is farmland and it is not uncommon for you to come across horses or other livestock in the fields. Dog owners are reminded they have a legal responsibility to keep their dog under close control, usually on a lead. In fields where crops are growing, follow the footpath wherever possible.

**SAFETY** At all times you are expected to use your own judgement regarding personal safety before proceeding along any of the given routes. Areas are often muddy, even in dry conditions, and the state of the footpath can change suddenly. So please ensure you wear appropriate footwear, with good grip and have waterproof clothing with you. Some walks have opportunities for refreshments but walkers should always ensure they have sufficient liquid drinks to keep them fully hydrated. Walkers are advised to take a mobile phone with them to ensure they can summon help in an emergency.

**REPORTING PROBLEMS** You may occasionally encounter obstructions or consider an area unsafe. Should this occur, you can report the nature and location of the obstruction or hazard online at <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/prow> or by telephone at 01452 425649. If you should find any of the information in this leaflet misleading or incorrect please report it to us at [tetburdyfootgp@gmail.com](mailto:tetburdyfootgp@gmail.com)

## COUNTRYSIDE CODE

Always abide by the Country Code.

- Guard against all risk of fire.
- Be sure to leave gates as you find them.
- Keep your dog under close control at all times.
- Keep to public paths across farm land.
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.
- Leave no litter.
- Safeguard water supplies.
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees. Don't pick flowers.
- Be careful on country roads. Walk on the right.
- Make no unnecessary noise.
- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work

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**A REMINDER** There are many springs in this area - and Cotswold mud is notably sticky - so walkers are well advised to wear strong shoes or walking boots in all but the driest weather.

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We wish to thank Tetbury Town Council, The Tetbury Lions Club and the South Gloucestershire Rotary Club for their support, and for their financial backing without which these walks could not have been produced.

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