








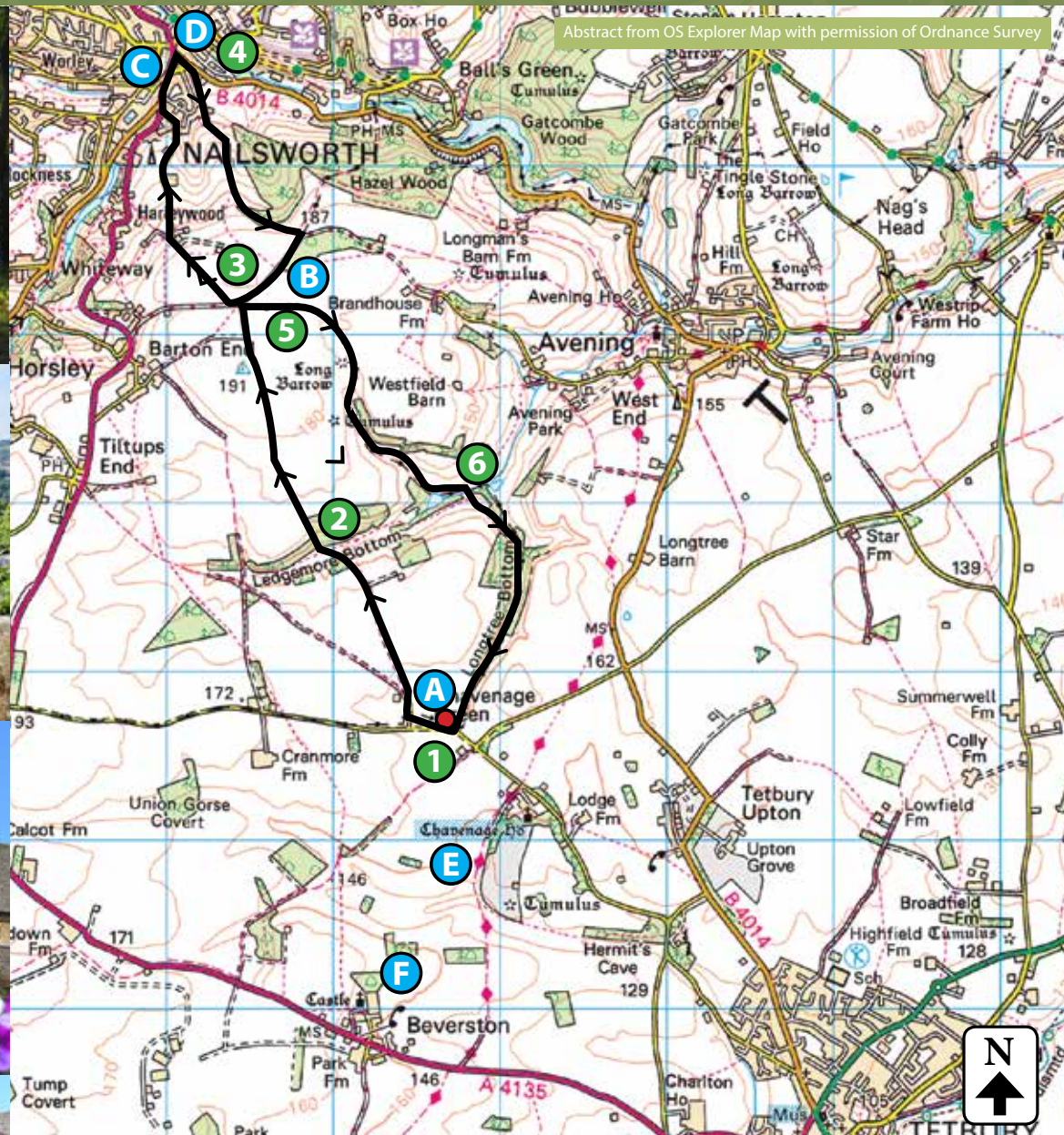
 Walk Route

 Points of Interest

 Route Instructions

Walks around Tetbury





Abstract from OS Explorer Map with permission of Ordnance Survey



Lark Rise to Nailsworth

Starting at Chavenage Green, pass through wolds and woodland to Nailsworth and back.

Distance - 10.5 km (6.5 m)

Walking Time – 3 hrs

Starts and finishes at Chavenage Green

Grade B/C on a scale where A is easy and D is difficult.

Description

Distance – 10.5 km (6.5 miles)

Starting Point - This walk involves a 4 km drive to the starting point at **Chavenage Green** **A** (GR 866,956). Take the B4014 (Avening) road out of Tetbury. In 400 metres, branch left down a minor road, sign-posted Chavenage House. Pass Chavenage House and continue for a further 800 metres, passing a road joining from the right and park in the lane which forks right.

1 Start the walk by continuing down the lane, bear round to the right and, after 100 metres, when the track divides take the right hand fork. Continue for about 800 metres to a wooden gate, ignoring a farm track turning right.

2 Pass through the gate and follow the sunken path veering left into the valley below and pass through a wide metal gate into Ledgemore Wood. Continue climbing up through the wood and after emerging from the wood proceed along the open track for 1.5 km with the field boundaries always on your right. Towards the end of this open stretch the track becomes enclosed by hedges on both sides and eventually runs onto **Shipton's Grave Lane**. **B**

3 Turn left and, after 50 metres, turn right into Tetbury Lane, which drops down to Hilltop Cottage and bears right. Ignore two lanes on the left and one lane on the right and continue down to the A46. Turn right into Nailsworth passing the church of **St. George** **C**. Take time to explore this attractive Cotswold village and have a comfort break. Perhaps also have a look at Eygpt Mill, **D** an attractive old mill on the right just beyond the central mini roundabout, which is further down the hill.

4 The return journey starts from Lloyds Bank. Take the road to Avening (Tabram's Pitch). A few metres after passing Church Street look on the right for Wood Lane. Take this bridleway and climb upwards, passing a children's play area and playing fields on your left. The path continues upwards and becomes rougher. Go through a wooden gate and, ignoring a path to your left, carry on along a sunken pathway to reach open rough pastures. As you climb upwards towards the far wooded boundary straight ahead, look backwards to enjoy fine views of typical Cotswold countryside. At the top of this pasture, when you reach the wooded boundary, aim for the gate in the right hand corner which gives access into the woods. Ignoring a path immediately left, continue upwards to a field. Go through the gate and keep to the right hand boundary until you reach the top right hand corner. Here turn right onto Shipton's Grave Lane until you reach the crossroads you passed on your outward journey.

5 At this junction a footpath sign on your left indicates your route for the return journey. Pass by the side of a gate, and keep alongside the right-hand edge of the field to a stile. Continue, still keeping close to the right-hand stone wall boundary, through two further fields and then into a fourth. The path now bears slightly right and descends gently into the valley. Continue, keeping fairly close to the boundary on the right until you eventually arrive at a wooden stile that stands out from the wooded field edge (before the large wooden gates that can be seen straight ahead).

6 Go over the stile and through the gate ahead into the pasture beyond. Turn left and keeping to the lower ground, head for the far left corner where a gate and stile give you access into Longtree Bottom. A path now leads through the woods for a little more than 1 km. When it leaves the wood keep close to the field boundary on your left and go through a gate in the corner. Now cross the field bearing left and upwards to reach the road. Turn right to return shortly to your car. Before returning to Tetbury take time to look at **Chavenage House** **E** and explore its connection with the nearby **Beverston Castle** **F**.



POINTS OF INTEREST

A CHAVENAGE GREEN

Records show that Chavenage Green was the meeting place of the Saxon Hundred Court early in the 9th century, being on land owned by Princess Goda (the sister of Edward the Confessor and wife of Earl Godwin). At this time Godwin and his sons (one of them being Harold, who was killed at the Battle of Hastings) controlled much of Southern England. It was near here that some of the filming took place for the TV series Lark Rise to Candleford.

B SHIPTON'S GRAVE LANE

This old coach road gets its name from a local man buried at the crossroads following his hanging for sheep stealing to feed his starving family

POINTS OF INTEREST

C ST GEORGES CHURCH, NAILSWORTH

The parish church was built in the Early English style and consecrated in 1900. It consisted originally only of a nave, aisles and south porch because the new building fund was insufficient to cover the provision of a chancel and a tower. In 1939 the chancel, Lady Chapel and vestries were added in memory of those who died in the First World War, but the tower was never built because of the continuing shortage of money.

The name Nailsworth derives from an old English word meaning 'Wool Market'. There was very little chance of any other occupation because of the settlement's position in a deep and marshy valley surrounded by forests

D EGYPT MILL

Its unusual name is said to refer to one of its wealthy clothier owners 'Pharaoh Webb'. Built in the 16th Century on the banks of the River Frome as a cloth mill, which was normal for this area, but later it changed to a corn mill. It is now a very attractively situated Hotel and Restaurant.

E CHAVENAGE HOUSE

Originally built as the steward's residence for the Monastic Estate of Horsley between 1390/1410. When the Estate was taken by the Crown during the Dissolution of the Monasteries, the wealthy Stephens family bought it in 1551. It was Edward Stephens who oversaw a major reconstruction of the medieval hall making it into the classic 'E' shaped Elizabethan Manor House of today. It regularly features in TV and Film productions, such as Poirot, Wolf Hall and Poldark.

It was the home of Nathaniel Stephens MP during the English Civil War and was used as a base for Cromwell's roundhead troops who raided and sacked the nearby Royalist stronghold (Beverston Castle) when, it is said, the Commander recklessly left his post to court a serving girl at the House. The house is open to the Public, normally on Thursdays and Sundays from 2 to 5 pm (last admissions at 4.00pm) from 1st May – 30th September, although pre-arranged groups are welcome at any time of the year.

F BEVERSTON CASTLE

After the 1066 invasion Beverston was granted to the Berkeley family who in the early 13th Century added a fortified farmhouse. This castle was held for King Charles 1 in the early part of the English Civil War, was besieged twice but eventually fell to the Roundheads in 1664. It was later ravaged by fire and in 1842 was purchased by R.J. Holford of Westonbirt. It is now a private residence and is not open to the public although the ruined walls, crooked roofs and battlemented towers make an intriguing picture viewed through the opening of the Gate House.