

LOWER WOODFORD VALLEY



VISITWILTSHIRE

This is a short walk with two river crossings, capturing some of the best river and architectural views of the Woodford Valley.

The walk

1 Start

With the Wheatsheaf Inn behind you, turn L and walk north through the village. After 500 yds turn L into a road opposite a thatched wall and walk up towards the farm buildings.

2 0.9km/½ mile

By a farm cottage turn L over a stile and follow the fence line on the L. Pass over two more stiles with a wooden fence on your R. Where the wood fence ends, continue straight on across an open field. Cross over a farm track and continue on to the far hedge.

Turn R and walk up the line of a new hedge.

3 2km/1¼ miles

After 50 yds, by a wildlife information board and footpath sign, turn L and drop down and across the main road. Follow the earth track opposite past Bays House. Turn L over a stile and then R along the field edge parallel with the stream. Cross over two more stiles turning L over a third stile and then R and head up towards a white gate leading to a private road.

4 2.5km/1½ miles

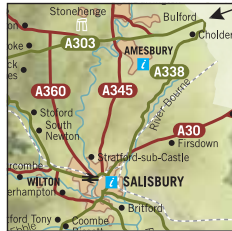
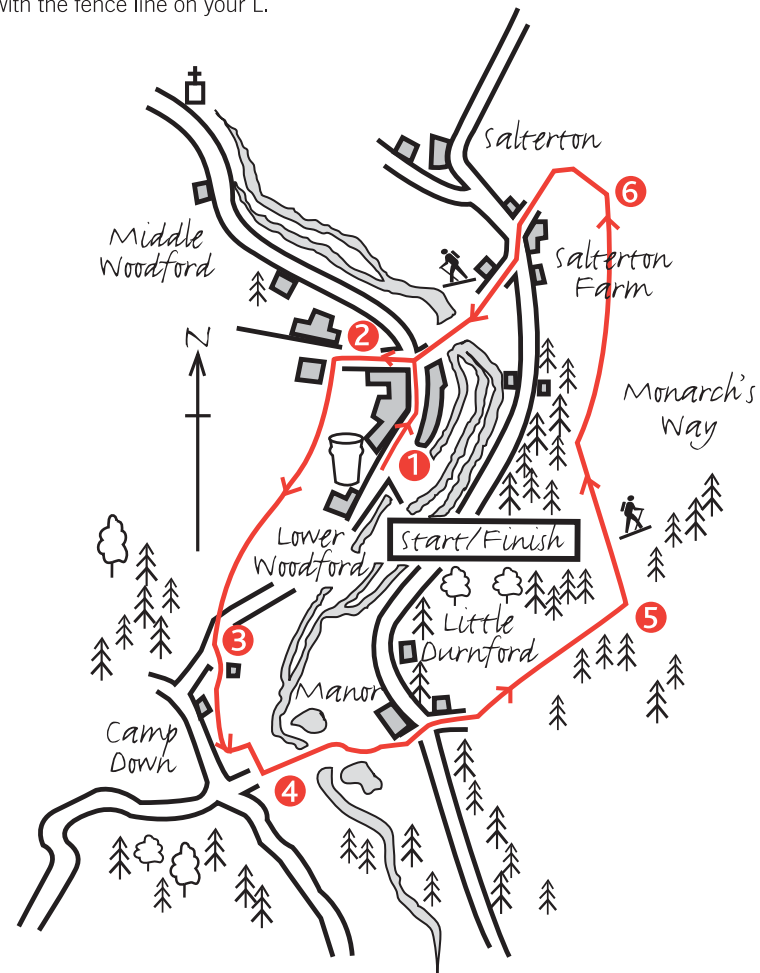
Turn L onto the tarmac private road and head towards Little Durnford Manor. Cross over the river bridge and follow the road round to the R and then turn L by a barn. Pass the manor house on your L, watching out for the camel and alpacas in the fields to your R. As you approach some estate cottages you will see a white door ahead - pass through it and continue across the main road leading up a private road signed to Keepers Cottage.

5 4.8km/3 miles

Walk up the tree-lined avenue until the road intersects a bridleway at Keepers Cottage. Turn L and head up hill. After ½ mile the track narrows to a path through a small section of wood and crosses over the Monarch's Way (a long-distance trail of 610 miles which closely follows the meandering route taken by Charles II after his defeat at the Battle of Worcester in 1651). On emerging from the wood, follow the blue (bridleway) arrow and head north with the fence line on your L.

6 6km/3¾ miles

After ¼ mile you will come to a farm track leading to Salterton Farm. Turn L and head down hill through the farmyard. Turn L onto the main road and after 50 yds turn R by a post box and head down the tarmac path towards the River Avon. Cross over three small footbridges and pass by a large house on your L. Cross over the cattle grid ahead and turn L on the main road, heading back to the start.



IS THIS WALK FOR YOU?

Terrain: Field paths, bridleways and tracks, interspersed with two gentle hills

Stiles: 7

Suitable for: Novice & occasional walkers

PLANNING

Start/Parking: Lower Woodford SU125349. Park along the roadside or at the local pub (please ask the Landlord first)

Nearest town: Salisbury

Refreshments: Wheatsheaf Inn (food all day), Lower Woodford (Start)

Public toilets: None. But toilets at facilities mentioned above

Public transport: Bus No.1 Salisbury to Amesbury via the Woodford Valley offers a very limited service. For further details contact Traveline, tel 0871 200 2233

MAPS

Landranger 184, Salisbury & The Plain. Explorer 130, Salisbury & Stonehenge

ACCOMMODATION

If you would like to find somewhere to stay in Wiltshire, please go to www.visitwiltshire.co.uk, Where to Stay.