



The Watercress Way Walks

South Wonston to Sutton Scotney and back



The Watercress Way charity was registered 2016 after locals campaigned to open up a mile section of the abandoned Watercress Line for walkers and cyclists at Itchen Abbas. The aim is to increase access for

walkers, cyclists and horse riders to the 7-mile old Watercress Line between Alresford-Kings Worthy, and the 4 miles Didcot-Southampton line between Kings Worthy-Sutton Scotney.

Over 5 miles of railway track is now open. Other rights of way, including historic livestock droves, are used to make a way marked circular 26 mile route. The route may alter slightly if we can open up more disused railway line for public use.

		Guidance and some points of interest	
		This Circular Walk is about 8 miles (2 to 3 hours)	
		There are waymarkers for walkers and several interpretation boards to help along the way. Distances below are approximate. We recommend the use of an OS map/app with this guide	
1.	South Wonston to Sutton Scotney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Starting point is the South Wonston Pavilion and Recreation ground car park, Lower Rd, SO21 3HP. Turn right out of the car park and go along the footpath for ½ mile until you reach a height barrier Turn left up Drove Links Rd Turn left at the road and walk for 300m until a footpath going straight on to the right Follow the footpath until you reach a cross roads by the farm buildings then turn right 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenty of parking An unmade up road Footpath sign (may be obscured by foliage)
2.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After ½ mile follow the signed path on the right before the farm buildings When you reach a junction of two paths turn left following The Watercress Way sign When you reach the road carry on along it for a few hundred metres then at the road junction turn right then follow the path immediately on the left following The Watercress Way sign You will reach Sutton Scotney about an hour and a quarter after you started. To the left is the War Memorial and in front the Victoria Hall. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footpath Sign is hidden in the hedge but No Right of Way sign ahead. If you want refreshment The Coach and Horses is on the main road opposite

<p>3.</p>	<p style="color: red; text-align: center;">Sutton Scotney Loop</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross the road and go up the main street until you turn right at Taylor's Yard through the new housing estate • When you reach the Gratton turn left past the surgery until you reach the Interpretation Board and GWR bench • Turn right along the path towards the River Dever and the Children's play area. • Turn right behind a copse of trees onto the marked path for a few metres until you reach Carthagena • Turn left at the road and walk a few hundred metres until you reach Beggars Drove on the right. Follow this path back to meet the road • Turn left and walk along the road for ½ mile until you reach a footpath on the right • Follow the footpath which bears right until you reach a barn by the road. Turn LEFT back to the path you walked earlier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up the road to the right is Wonston Bridge which we cleared in 2018. It is not currently open to the public. The housing estate opposite is on the site of Sutton Scotney station. • Installed by us in 2019 • The Dever is one of the many chalk streams in Hampshire <p>NB The Gratton, SO21 3LG is an alternative starting point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A short cut is to turn right past the path into Sutton Scotney and then turn left up the road at the junction until you reach the footpath • The Wonston Arms is nearby if you continue on the road and turn right • A Right turn takes you back to Sutton Scotney
<p>4.</p>	<p style="color: red; text-align: center;">Sutton Scotney to South Wonston</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the junction you passed earlier carry straight on. You pass West Stoke Farm and then continue until you reach the Alresford Drove road • Turn right and follow the road for a few hundred metres until you turn left into Drovers Link Road on the left. • At the end of Drovers Link Road turn right on the Ox Drove until you arrive back at South Wonston Recreation ground on the left. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The alternative is to bear right and retrace your steps from earlier • The Waymarker pointing left is for those doing the whole route and follows the Drovers back towards Alresford