This circular walk is one of a number of walks produced by Kent County Council. If you liked this walk you can find more on the Explore Kent website at

www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent

We welcome any feedback about this walk or the content of the guide. If you know of a good walk and would like to share it, please let us know and we may feature it on our website.

If the route description or pictures are out-of-date please e-mail **explorekent@kent.gov.uk**

Please tell us about any problems concerning the paths using the Kent Report Line **0845 345 0210**. This guide is available in other formats on request.

FAMILY FUN!

Walking is not only a healthy activity but it can be fun and informative too. Free activity worksheets for children of all ages to take on the walk can be ordered by emailing

explorekent@kent.gov.uk or calling

08458 247600.



When you're out walking in the countryside, please respect the Countryside Code.

- Be safe plan ahead and follow any arrows or signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people









Walk Overview

Distance: 5 miles (8km) allow 2.5 hours



Start/Finish: Chartham Church



Stiles: 6



Gates: 3



Terrain: Field, orchard and woodland paths, some on-road sections. Moderate slopes



Views: Some good views



Toilets: At Recreation ground, near start/finish



Refreshments: Local shops in Chartham

How to get there...

Road Map:

Multimap website www.multimap.com. Search for "Chartham"

By Car: Chartham is just off the A28 between Ashford and Canterbury.



Parking: Some on-road parking is available in Chartham outside the church and in surrounding roads.

Train: Nearest station - Chartham (200m). National Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950

Bus: 652 (Canterbury – Ashford) Hourly service. Mon - Sat Traveline: 0870 6082608



Explore the Kent countryside Have fun, stay healthy! Walks in East Kent Chartham 5 miles (8km) approx. 10,000 steps Allow 2.5 hours About the walk... This walk starts along the River Stour following the Stour Valley Walk before heading through some beautiful orchards. The route then joins up with the North Downs Way winding along woodland paths and passing through No-Man's Orchard, the first community run orchard in the country, before returning back to Chartham. This route has several short on-road sections and care should be taken crossing busy roads.



Photo Guide



For guidance only, actual conditions encountered may be different to what is shown depending on weather and time of year.

Route Description

- 1 Starting at St. Mary's Church Chartham, facing the recreation ground, turn right to travel away from the level crossing. Take the surfaced riverside footpath on the left just before the bridge signposted as the Stour Valley Walk. Continue through gate to steps.
- 2 Use steps to cross over track and pass through kissing gate to continue ahead along path.
- 3 Upon reaching gate at road near bridge, cross over stile onto pavement. Beware road can be busy with lorries. Turn left to follow Stour Valley sign, along pavement across bridge (pavement is fairly narrow).
- 4 Beware of traffic. Cross over road to take first road on right near car dealership (Howfield Lane). Please note that there is no pavement so be careful walking down this road.
- 5 Follow waymarked footpath between EK Timber and Newmafruit buildings. Bear left to follow path round rear of buildings.
- Follow track, through orchard until you reach a road. Upon reaching road, turn left to walk along road passing under railway bridge.
- Pass road on left and continue ahead following waymarking to stile just off of road to the right. Cross stile into field and continue ahead to stile in corner.
- 8 Cross over stile and go down short slope to road. Beware of traffic. From here, cross over to follow North Downs Way signpost through motorcycle barrier and down surfaced track.

- Where path divides bear left to follow North Downs Way arrows through woods.
- Keep left at sign post as the path becomes enclosed by trees on either side.
- Go through gate at the end of enclosed path and in to No Man's Orchard and turn right. Follow arrows on path, keeping to boundary edge.
- Follow North Downs Way arrow out of the orchard along enclosed woodland path. Path emerges to run alongside recreation ground. Follow North Downs Way finger post to road.
- Cross road to follow narrow alleyway on other side signposted as North Downs Way. Come out of alleyway on to pavement and continue ahead to walk down New Town Street. Beware of traffic as you continue along road. Continue past Chapter Arms pub on the right until you come to a footpath signpost on the left.
- Cross over stile into orchard. Follow track straight ahead through orchard and through gap in treeline. Emerging into a field, bear right to head towards stile.
- 15 Cross over 2 stiles to go into another field. There are good views of Chartham from here.
 Follow path bearing left across field, exiting onto road.
- Beware of traffic. Turn left to follow road over level crossing until you reach junction with the A28. From here take extreme care crossing this road following road signs to Chartham, over another level crossing back to the church where you started.

Walk your way to a healthier lifestyle



"Walking for one mile burns virtually the same number of calories as jogging for one mile, it just takes a little longer!"

"Walking is FREE and requires no special equipment or clothing – as long as you are comfortable"

"Regular walking helps reduce the risk of heart disease, strokes, diabetes and high blood pressure"