

Little Cotswold Walks



1. Birdlip & Beyond 

RR Gordon

A series of short, circular walks around Cotswold villages – ending at pubs!
Covering Birdlip, Elkstone, Brimpsfield, Fostons Ash, Miserden

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4. Frome Valley, 5. The Falcon & The Oak - Painswick, 6. Stroud & Surrounds,
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Little Cotswold Walks
Book 1. Birdlip & Beyond 2019 Edition
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NEW

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Brewery in Birdlip



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Introduction.

Sometimes I like a long, strenuous hike up an imposing hill but occasionally it's nice to just potter round a lovely little Cotswold village looking at the nice houses. This book concerns itself with the latter.

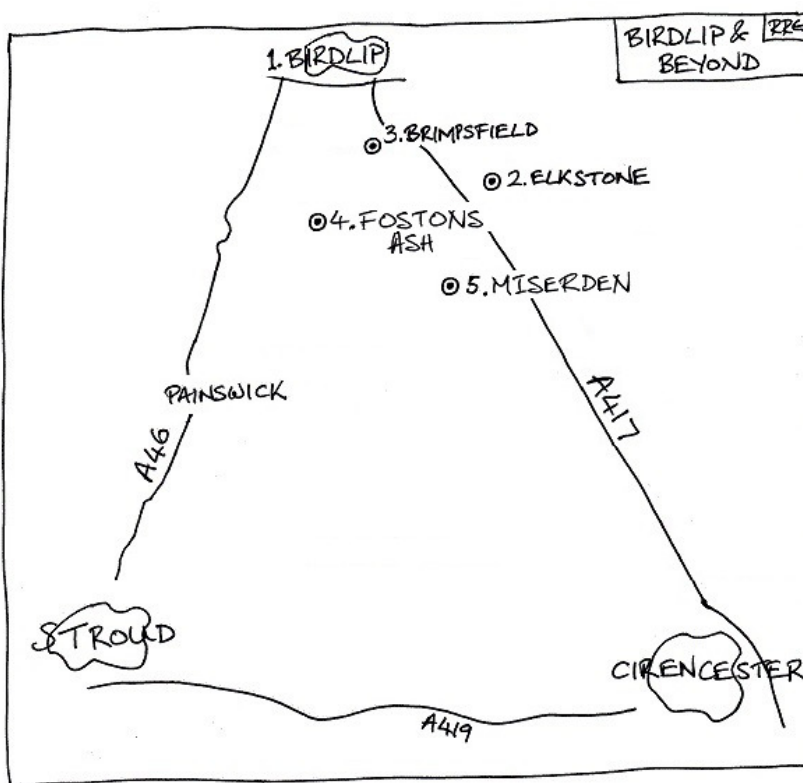
Each walk has been hand-crafted by me, my wife Nicky and our dog Daisy. Our combined objectives were:

- **A nice village:** it's always interesting to see how the other half lives and we've tried to select some places where you can look at some nice houses and discuss whether you would like to live there (by the way, one of the walks will take you past our house!)
- **Circular walks:** we've tried to come up with circular (ish) walks, but there might be some interesting side paths which we've suggested which require returning by the same route.
- **A good pub:** and why not? In my mind, each of these walks operates as follows: you wake up late on a Sunday morning, have an unhurried, indolent breakfast, drive over to the suggested parking spot, potter round for 30-45 minutes and then have lunch at the nearest pub. Beautiful. Where possible we've even suggested that you park at the pub.
- **Some exercise for Daisy:** uppermost in Daisy's mind was her desire that each walk should contain a stretch where she could be off the lead. This wasn't always possible with walks around villages but nevertheless she pronounced herself happy with every walk included in this book – and all the pubs are happy to have dogs (at time of printing!).


This first book, entitled *Birdlip & Beyond*, contains a number of walks in the Birdlip – Stroud – Cirencester triangle. Daisy absolutely insists that we regularly re-trace the walks in case anything has changed, but if you spot any errors then please let me know – we will both be mortified and will correct the error immediately and re-publish on www.rrgordon.com

Rod Gordon

rod@rrgordon.com



1. Birdlip – from the Clavell & Hind Brewery

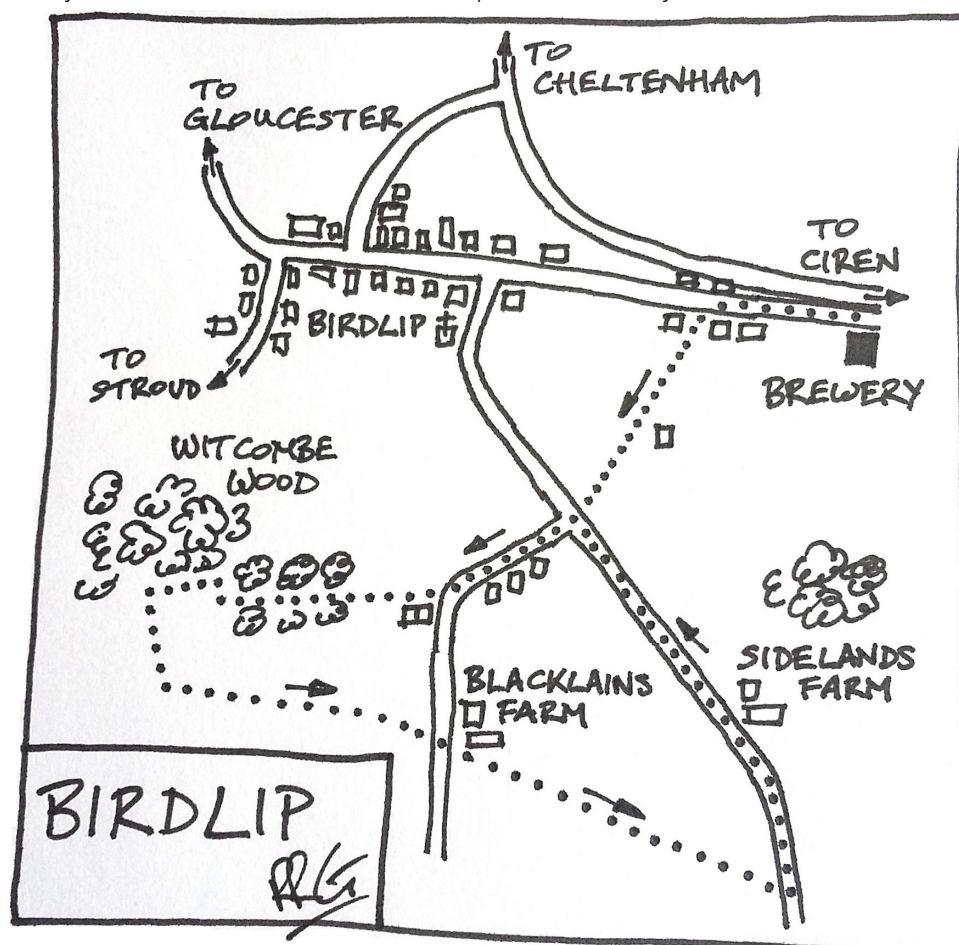
Rod's Rating	 <p>A lovely walk around the quiet lanes and footpaths to the south of Birdlip – then return to Clavell & Hind for a well-earned drink overlooking the undulating valley which you have just explored!</p>
Daisy's Rating	 <p>Plenty of stretches for Daisy to be off the lead and she enjoys foraging through the trees on this walk.</p>
Pub (well, Brewery actually)	<p>Clavell & Hind, The Old Haulage Yard, Birdlip, Gloucester, GL4 8JL</p> <p>See www.clavellandhind.co.uk for current opening times.</p>
How long did it take?	1 hour 15 mins 4.5km ie 3 miles 70m up/down

WHERE TO PARK:

At Clavell & Hind Brewery or on the (very quiet) road just outside. To find the brewery: turn left into Birdlip, head past the school and straight on along the Old Cirencester Road. The brewery is at the top of the rise.

THE WALK - In summary:

Down the slope from the brewery, turn left along a footpath; then do a loop around some fields and back along a quiet country road to finish on the same footpath on which you started.



THE WALK - In detail:

- > **Turn left** out of brewery & walk down the road
- > At the foot of the slope, turn left along a Public Bridleway between 2 houses Birdlip View, Hillcot
- > Follow farm track as it curves slightly to right
- > Ignore first Public Footpath sign on right
- > Take second Public Footpath **on the right** where the farm track bends to the left just after going under a telephone wire
- > Go through metal 7-bar gate and follow path between two wire fences and two fields
- > Go through metal gate
- > Follow road straight ahead signposted Caudle Green and Climperwell, after a little way you go past houses called Church View and Cranmore
- > Where road bends to left, **go straight on** past the houses following a Public Bridleway into trees
- > Follow the path for around 400-600 yards
- > Go through a metal 7-bar gate **on the left**, signposted as a Permissive Footpath and head slightly right across the field, heading for a small tree on the other side
- > Go through a small metal gate and **turn left**
- > Follow a farm track on the left side of a field, heading slightly uphill

- > Follow a farm track on the left side of a field, heading slightly uphill
- > Go through a metal gate, cross a road, & thru another metal gate (Blacklains Farm to your left)
- > Follow footpath along right edge of a large field
On your left, at the top of a small hill in the distance you will see 7 houses and 3 business units - one of these is Clavell & Hind
- > Go through metal gate at end of field, **turn left**
- > Follow the road back in the direction of the brewery, going past Sidelands Farm, then down
- > In the dip, where it widens for a second time, **turn right** up a farm track between two fields, marked by Public Footpath sign
- > Go thru a metal 5 bar gate at end of track then **left** over a stile under an old tree
- > Head straight up the field, bearing slightly left towards the hedge on the left
- > When you crest the rise, aim for telegraph pole at the far end (barn on your left)
- > Exit the field and **turn right** onto the farm track you were on at the start of the walk
- > Turn right on the road and walk up the slope
- > The brewery will be on your right; go in for a well-deserved pint!

SOMETHING INTERESTING:

In medieval times **Birdlip** was spelt 'Brydelep' which may have come from two Old English words 'bridd': a bird, and 'hleþ': a leap. Birdlip is well-known in archaeological circles for the Birdlip Mirror, which is now housed in Gloucester Museum. In 1879 workmen discovered three skeletons in a quarry between Crickley and Birdlip overlooking the Vale of Gloucester. With the bones, were some amazing Iron Age artefacts. The most important object is a handheld mirror of bronze. The front of this was originally highly polished for reflections, but the rear is decorated with flowing patterns worked into the metal. It is one of the finest items of Celtic art to survive in Britain and perhaps the finest example housed outside a national museum.


John Clavell was a 17th-century highwayman, author, lawyer, and doctor. He is known for his poem *A Recantation of an Ill Led Life*, and his play *The Soddered Citizen*. Clavell grew up in the Cotswolds and then went to Brasenose College, Oxford before turning to a life of crime. However his uncle Sir William Clavell eventually arranged his marriage to a Dublin heiress and John moved to Ireland where he worked as a doctor and author.

James Hind was a highwayman and Royalist rabble rouser during the English Civil War. He also came from Cotswolds and fought in the English Civil War for the Royalist cause. Some reports tell of him assisting the escape of King Charles II after his defeat at the Battle of Worcester. After the war he took up highway robbery against the Commonwealth forces, with his exploits both real and embellished printed in numerous pamphlets that made him into a Royalist folk hero of the Robin Hood mould. He refused to rob cavaliers and even gave money to poor royalists. He is reputed to have robbed Oliver Cromwell.

2. Elkstone.

A delightful circular walk around a quiet little Cotswold village with a splendid Norman church.

See www.elkstonevillage.com for details of their annual Garden Open Day (normally in June).

Rod's Rating	 An interesting footpath and a nice quiet road through the village.
Daisy's Rating	 Daisy loves every walk, of course, and this one had some great smells (of pheasants!) but she had to stay on the lead the whole time. There were a couple of stiles which might be tricky for older dogs. However instead of following the footpath on the first stage of the walk, you could simply go up the road, which isn't too busy.
Is it a circular walk?	Yes
Pub	The Highwayman, two minutes drive from the end of the walk Beech Pike, Elkstone, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL53 9PH http://www.the-highwayman-inn.co.uk <i>Alternative: The Green Dragon, Cockleford Nr Cowley GL53 9NW</i>
How long did it take?	40 minutes; plus 5-10 minutes looking at the church and the churchyard, 2km, 45m up and down,
What shoes should I wear?	No need for walking boots unless it's raining; only 5 minutes across fields and it wasn't muddy

WHERE TO PARK:

Elkstone Church car park, Elkstone, Gloucestershire, GL53 9PD

(room for four cars; alternative parking is on the road outside Elkstone village hall; this is halfway round the walk – look for "village hall" below and follow instructions from there)

QUICK DIRECTIONS TO THE PARKING SPOT:

(From the roundabout at the Birdlip end of the A417 dual carriageway)

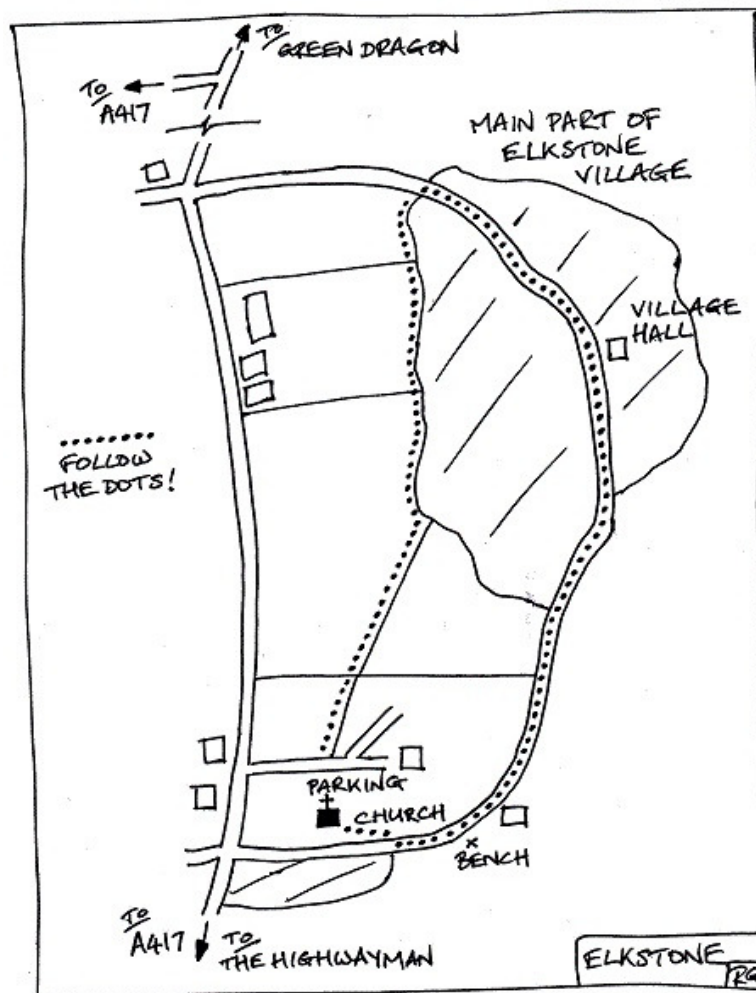
- > Take the exit from the roundabout signposted Brimpsfield
- > Go down the slope, to a T-junction
- > **Turn left**
- > Go under bridge (under the A417)
- > **Turn immediately right** and drive parallel to Swindon-bound carriageway of A417 for a few hundred yards
- > Road then leaves A417 and goes past a couple of farm buildings on the right
- > Ignore small turning on the right
- > Go past a couple of houses to a T-junction
- > **Turn right**
- > Ignore turning on left into Elkstone village
- > After another few hundred yards **turn left** into Church car park



This is a gravel drive leading to a large house in front of you. After thirty yards there is parking on the right for about four cars.

THE WALK - In summary:

Follow the public footpath over a few stiles until you reach the road running through Elkstone village. Turn right, follow the road through the village for a good way, circling back towards the church. Go through a small gate, through the churchyard and back to the small car park.



THE WALK - In detail:

- > Assuming you parked facing the church, the walk starts behind you, ie with the big house on your right
- > Walk a few steps along the gravel drive
- > **Go over the stile** over the iron fence on the left (you can also open the farm gate next to the stile)
- > Walk along the edge of the field with the iron fence on your right
- > **Go over weird stone stile**, with steps and fence-like construction, into next field
- > Walk along the edge of the field with the dry stone wall on your right
- > Climb over high wooden stile straight ahead (with dog gate on the right) to stay on footpath (*do not go down the wide restricted by-way on your right*)
- > Walk along public footpath between a link fence on left (with conifers) and a dry stone wall on your right
- > **Go straight across** a gravel drive which leads to a house on the left (Elysian House)
- > Walk along between the two dry stone walls and over a stile made from a single large stone:
- > **Continue** along the footpath with dry stone wall on the right and metal link fence on the left:



- > Climb over another large stone stile and turn left to walk alongside a hedge around a garden
- > **Turn right** around the same garden
- > Go through an iron gate and turn right onto the road

- > **Follow the road** all the way through the village as it slowly circles back round to the church
- > At the village hall, don't be tempted to turn left, **keep to the road** with the hall on your left hand side
- > About 30-40 yards after the village hall there is a Public Footpath to the left running across the front of a house up a grass track; at the end of the track there is an old metal gate leading into a field
- > Walk diagonally left across the field to a stone stile
- > **Turn left onto a stone track** and continue along it towards some woods ignoring a track to the right
- > **Turn right** before the woods following the farm track back towards the village (do not go straight on)
- > **Follow the track** all the way down to the road
- > Just before the road, you come to a **BENCH** in a grassy area
- > **Go straight across the road** and up short grassy path on the opposite side to enter the churchyard via small back gate:



- > The church is open during the day and you are welcome to look around
- > Return to the car park through the main gate

OK, HOW DO I GET TO THE PUB?

Simply turn left out of the Church car park.

After two minutes the road ducks under the A417 and The Highwayman is on your left.

SOMETHING INTERESTING:

The Legend of the Green Dragon

From www.elkstonevillage.com

Elkstone church is the Church of St John the Evangelist.

At nearly 1000 feet above sea level, it is the highest church in the Cotswolds. Described as 'a prayer in stone', it is famed for its Norman architecture, stone carvings and golden light.

In the stained glass windows, John is shown holding a cup. According to the 'Acts of John' (not in the Bible) John was challenged by the High Priest of the goddess Diana at Ephesus to drink from a poisoned cup as a test of his faith. The potency of the poison was tried out on two condemned criminals, who promptly died. John prayed over the cup, drank & survived unharmed, then restored the two dead men to life.

Down the centuries, artists have solved the problem of how to represent the poisonous liquid by showing a serpent or a dragon, nearly always green, emerging from the cup. This is perhaps what inspired the name of the local pub, The Green Dragon in Cowley.

The original church, begun in 1160, consisted of a nave and chancel, with a central tower above the chancel. This tower either collapsed or was taken down in the 13th century. When re-roofing the chancel, the builders also raised the height of the chancel walls, forming a chamber, reached by a north staircase and used as a columbarium or dovecote, a very rare feature in a church.

The great west tower was built in the early 15th century and the porch is from the 14th century.

The stained glass window in south wall of the chancel was fitted in 1959, the work of W T Carter Shapland.



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3. Brimpsfield.

A wiggly walk around a quiet village near Birdlip.

Rod's Rating	 Through the heart of the village, a nice lane between some lovely houses, topped off with a walk up to one of the oldest churches in England past the earthworks of a fort mentioned in the Domesday Book.
Daisy's Rating	 Thumbs up from Daisy – a good couple of sections off the lead.
Is it a circular walk?	In the main, but a there-and-back stretch up to the church
Pub	No pub in the village but three to choose from within 2 miles drive: The Golden Heart, Nettleton Bottom http://www.thegoldenheart.co.uk The Royal George, Birdlip www.greeneking-pubs.co.uk/pubs/gloucestershire/royal-george-hotel The Fostons Ash, on the road from Birdlip to Stroud www.fostonsash.co.uk All really good and I choose a different one each time.
How long did it take?	30 minutes 2km ie 1.5 miles
What shoes should I wear?	No need for walking boots most of the time. One stretch across a small field and then back along a grassy lane but you only need boots in the middle of winter. The rest of the walk is through the village – or on a concrete footpath up to the church.

WHERE TO PARK:

The local parish council very kindly advertises free parking at:

Brimpsfield Village Hall, GL4 8LD

<http://www.grcc.org.uk/village-hall-database/village-hall/brimpsfield-village-hall>

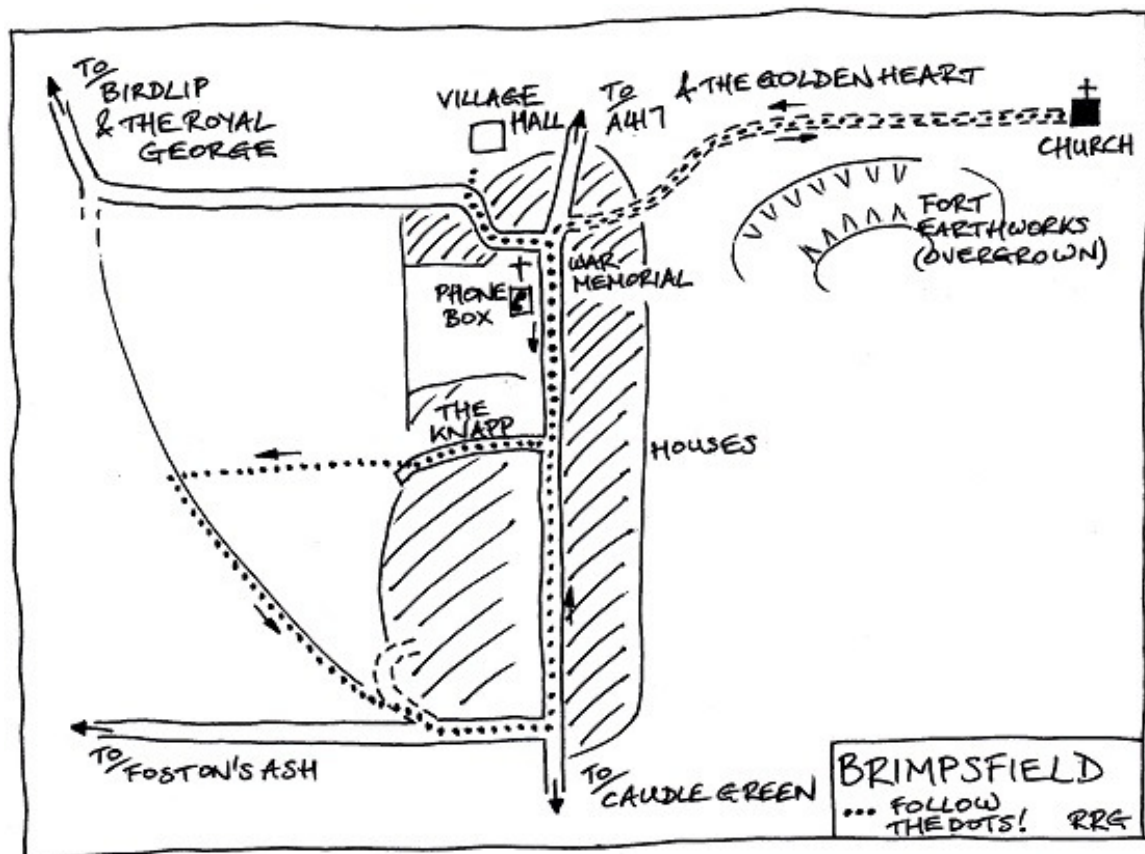
QUICK DIRECTIONS TO THE PARKING SPOT:

(From the Air Balloon roundabout)

- > Turn right off the A417 towards Birdlip
- > When in Birdlip, turn left and go through the main part of the village (towards the school)
- > Just before the school, follow the road round to the right
- > Brimpsfield is 1.5 miles along this road, the village hall is on your left as you enter the village

THE WALK - In summary:

Left out of village hall car park, up main village street, off to the right on a nice loop around the back of the houses on the western side of the village, back down the main village street and up to the church.



In detail:

- > Turn left out of the village hall car park onto the road
 - > Follow the road left and then right, keep the phone box on your right
 - > Turn right up The Knapp, after small field with pigs, donkeys and chickens opposite Brimpsfield House
 - > At the top of The Knapp, fork right along a small footpath between two dry stone walls
 - > Go through a wooden gate into a field, go directly across the field
 - > Go through the wooden gate at the other side of the field and turn left
 - > Walk along grassy footpath as it curves left between hedge on your left and wooden fence on your right
- (There are sometimes horses in this field from the nearby polo farm which stables horses for the Sultan of Brunei amongst others; Prince William and Prince Harry have played in polo matches in the next field to the west)*
- > At the end of the lane, go forward across a short stretch of gravel drive and turn left onto the road

- > At the T junction turn left, to go down the main village street
- > When you get back to war memorial, turn right and go through a wooden gate, signposted to church
- > Follow the concrete footpath straight across a small private field
(normally marked as a golf hole by the enthusiastic owner who can hit the green from the tee every time)
- > Look to the right and you will see the overgrown earthworks and remains of Brimpsfield fort
- > At the end of the small field go through a small wooden gate next to a cattle grid and into the church grounds
- > You are welcome to enter the church and look around *(one of the oldest churches in the country and its history is shown on a board inside; a relatively recent addition is the small stained glass window in honour of our former neighbour who fought in the war)*
- > Return to the road along the same concrete footpath
- > Turn right to return to the village hall

OK, HOW DO I GET TO THE PUB?

As I write this, I'm in the mood to go to The Golden Heart, but we frequently go to the Foston's Ash (a bit fancier!) and the George (better parking, extensive menu).

The Golden Heart has won many awards including CAMRA Gloucester Best Country Pub 2014. Nice range of beers and excellent country pub menu.

Turn left out of Brimpsfield village hall car park, left again at the war memorial just round the corner, wiggle along the road for about a mile to the roundabout at the end of the dual carriageway stretch on the A417, turn left and The Golden Heart is on your left after a few hundred yards.

SOMETHING INTERESTING:

There is a small field in the middle of Brimpsfield village, owned by the residents of Brimpsfield House and they keep pigs, donkeys and chickens in the field. The two pigs are big, fat Gloucester Old Spots!

Brimpsfield is mentioned in the Domesday Book as belonging to Osbern Giffard, one of William the Conqueror's "proven companions" who fought with him at Hastings. However the Giffards were a maverick family who chose the wrong side at the battle of Boroughbridge in 1322, after which their castle at Brimpsfield was demolished on the orders of Edward II, although its impressive earthworks remain visible close to the church (on private land).

It was a Giffard who began building Brimpsfield Church and gave it to the Abbot of a Benedictine Convent at Fontenay in Normandy, who established a small priory here. As an alien priory, it was frequently seized by the King in time of war with France and eventually was bestowed on Eton College, which remains one of the Church's patrons to this day.

Brimpsfield Church is located on the edge of a promontory and reached by means of a long footpath across a field. Like many others in lofty locations it is dedicated to St Michael and All Angels.



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4. Fostons Ash.

Rod's Rating	 <p>This is meant to be a booklet of walks around Cotswold villages and, as there are no villages on this walk, I can't really give a score higher than three. However I wanted to include a circuit from the Fostons Ash and this is part of a route I've done on my mountain bike a few times – down into the valley behind the pub and back up again. The undulating wolds curve in perfect mathematical arcs and the stream that runs down through the woods at the bottom of the valley, the beginnings of the river Frome, is a picture of Cotswold loveliness.</p>
Daisy's Rating	 <p>Daisy was off the lead for the whole of the walk, hunting through the woods and running along the stream bed.</p>
Is it a circular walk?	Yes; actually in my mind it's rectangular!
Pub	The Fostons Ash, on the road from Birdlip to Stroud http://www.food-club.com/fostons-ash.htm Fostons Ash, Slad Road, The Camp, Near Birdlip, Gloucestershire, GL6 7ES More of a bistro than a pub these days, but they certainly do nice food.
How long did it take?	40-45 minutes – and quite strenuous (down into the valley and back up)

QUICK DIRECTIONS TO THE PARKING SPOT (ie to the pub):

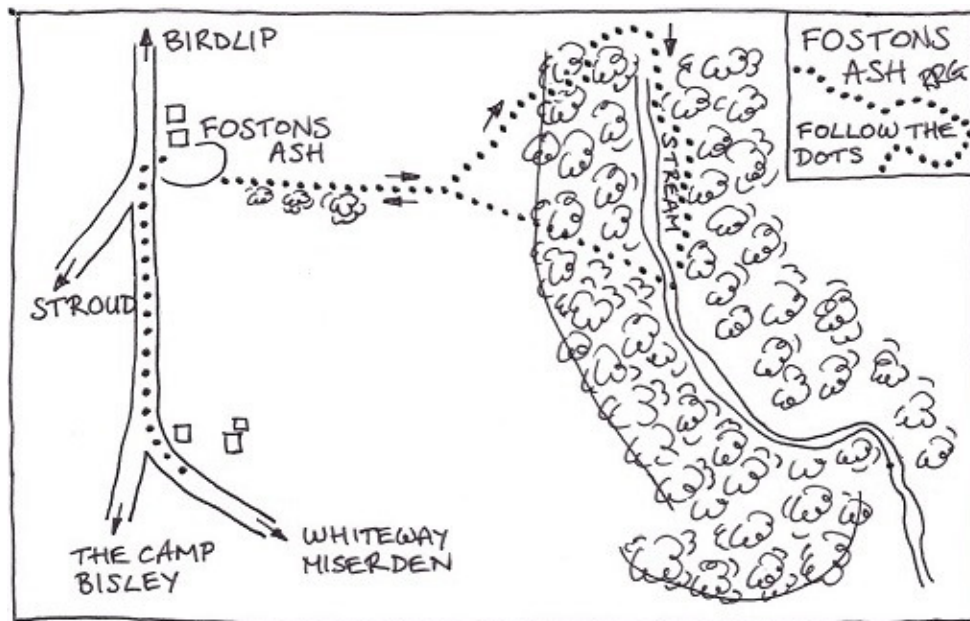
Leave Birdlip in the direction of Stroud along the B4070. The Fostons Ash is on left after a couple of miles.

THE WALK - In summary:

This walk goes into the valley *behind* the pub, along one of the branches of the River Frome. Walk out of the back of the car park, down into the valley, walk along the valley and then climb back up to the pub.

Miserden Stores and Post Office is open 8.30am-5pm Mon-Sat and 9am-11am Sundays. As well as the expected convenience goods, hot and cold food is also served. So come and visit us and say "hello"!

THE
VILLAGE SHOP
& POST OFFICE
AT MISERDEN

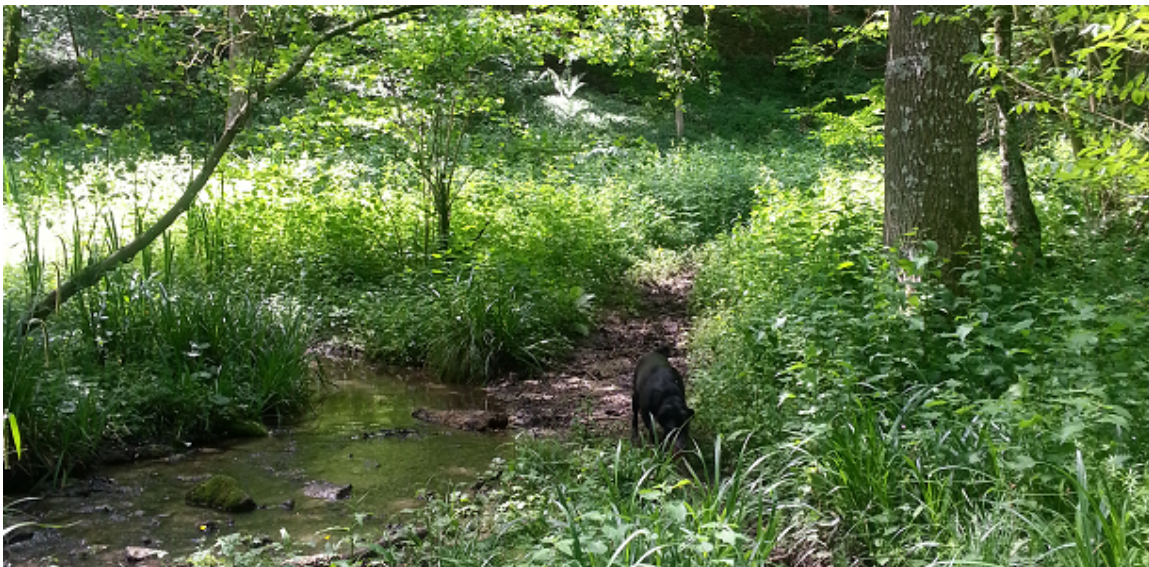


In detail:

- > The public footpath is out of the back of the car park, ie behind the pub. Imagine you had just walked into the pub car park from the road, you should now continue straight ahead, with the pub garden on your left, past the wooden climbing frame at the end.
- > Follow the grass track through the first field with the hedge on your right
- > At the next field, which opens out in front of you on both sides and slopes away into the valley,

you should **fork left**; technically the public footpath goes diagonally left *across* the field to the far left corner; normally the farmer cuts a path through any crops, but if not you could walk around the edge of the field

- > Go through a gateway which leads into the woods and turn left; follow the wide dirt & stone pathway which leads along the top of the woods; valley to your right and hedge & field to your left
- > After a while the pathway bends slightly to the right and starts to head downhill



- > Near the bottom go across a small stream coming from a spring in the bank on your left (this is the source of one of the branches of the River Frome)
- > At the bottom of the valley, **turn right** onto another wide stone track (often muddy in places)
- > This is the start of the Frome Valley (with the Cranham to Brimpsfield road behind you); the woods are called Climperwell Woods; walk along

the track past a lake on your right to follow the River Frome (just a stream) as it heads downstream; continue for 400-600 yards

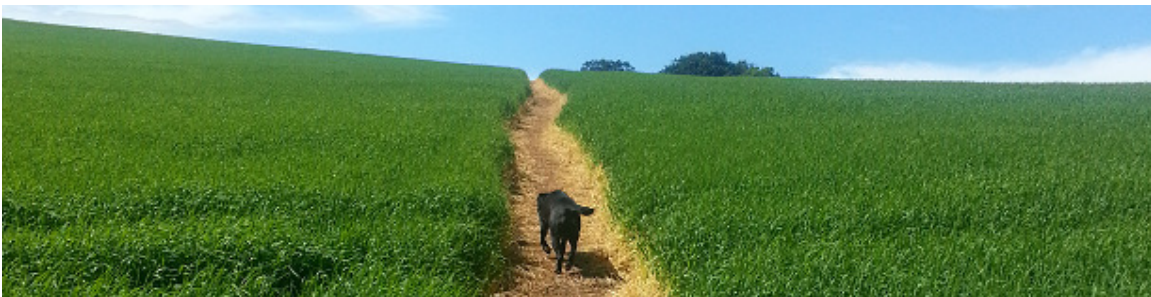
- > **Fork right** down a short track (10 yards) leading to a wooden footbridge over the stream; **be careful** as it's easy to miss the turning; look out for this bridge over the stream:

- > Cross the bridge



- > The footpath then goes up and to the right
- > Climb back up out of the valley – up, up, up!
- > When you emerge from the woods, the path leads across a field, veering slightly to the right

I like this area, where the land rises up on either side like the wings of a bird.



- > Head to the other side of the field, aiming for three or four large trees (the pub is just the other side!)
- > On the other side of the field there is a gateway in the hedge leading through to another field
- > Walk along the track keeping the hedge on your left

- > After a few yards you should see the pub emerge on the other side of the trees

The End. Any problems with these directions?

Email me at rod@rrgordon.com (also if you liked the walk!)



SOMETHING INTERESTING:

When I was researching the origin of the name of the Fostons Ash I kept coming across references to the fact that it was named after a former turnpike keeper ... and, whilst I'd heard of these things, I wondered *exactly* what a turnpike was ... so here is the explanation in a nutshell:

A network of well-maintained roads was one of the major achievements of 18th century England until they were wound up under General Acts of Parliament between 1873 and 1878.

A turnpike is literally a defensive frame of pikes that can be turned to allow passage of horses, but in this context it refers to a gate set across the road to stop carts until a toll was paid. Turnpikes linked the major centres of population and were normally independently financed (often by trusts) and operated for the benefit of long distance commercial traffic. See <http://www.turnpikes.org.uk> for more information.

A road of some importance, known in its northern part as the Calf Way, is mentioned in documents as far back as the 13th century and it carried traffic from Tetbury through Bisley towards Birdlip. The road was turnpiked between Chalford and Foston's Ash in 1800.

So there you have it. Mr Foston was obviously the gatekeeper of this stretch of toll road – and presumably there was an ash tree here, which is understandable as they are commonplace in this area. Did Mr Foston then start selling beer on the side, I wonder ...?

RR Gordon is the best-selling author of **Gull Rock**

#1 in Crime, Thrillers & Mystery bestseller list on Amazon


We hope you enjoyed this book of Cotswolds walks - you may also wish to read the novels by RR Gordon:

All books are *only* available as e-books for the Kindle or other e-readers.

For further details go to www.rrgordon.com or search for "RR Gordon" on Amazon.

5. Miserden.

* This walk connects to Caudle Green walk in booklet 4 to make a longer walk – see * in instructions below

Rod's Rating	 Another classic Cotswold village – if you haven't been here before then you really should visit – and a great pub with a lovely outside seating area. We've been doing parts of this walk for years and we love the beautiful landscape of Miserden Park – you can also buy plants at Miserden Park nursery. NB. The park is spelled Miserden but the village is Miserden.
Daisy's Rating	 Daisy always gives high marks for long walks, but didn't go for the maximum as she had to be on the lead most of the time (sheep in most of the fields in Miserden Park). However a couple of dips in the stream on the way round made for a nice refreshing break.
Is it a circular walk?	Yes.
Pub/Café	The Nursery at Miserden, Miserden, Birdlip Gloucs GL6 www.miserdennursery.co.uk 01285 821638 Open Tues – Sun 10-5 (including Bank Holiday Mondays) The Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Birdlip, Gloucs GL6 7JA http://www.thecarps-miserden.co.uk/ The friendly Miserden Stores provides hot refreshments and drinks - tea or coffee and bacon sandwiches!
How long did it take?	1 hour 10 minutes – with some steep climbs!
What shoes?	Trainers were fine in summer; walking boots in the winter

WHERE TO PARK: At Miserden Nursery (address above)

QUICK DIRECTIONS TO THE PARKING SPOT (From Birdlip):

Leave Birdlip on the B4070, heading in the direction of Stroud. Just after Fostons Ash turn left (signposted Whiteway/Miserden and Camp/Bisley). Then turn left after 200 yds (signposted Whiteway/Miserden). The pub is in the centre of the village.

BONUS WALK (SHORTER):

If you just fancy a quick 15-minute walk then opposite the pub, between two houses, is a Public Footpath sign. Follow this footpath for a few hundred yards, turn right when you get to the road, then turn right again to walk back along the tree-lined road back into the village. You can also walk along the raised grass bank, under the trees on the right – the local villagers very kindly mow this stretch.

SOMETHING INTERESTING:

Misarden Park extends to almost 3,000 acres and includes the majority of the village of Miserden. The Estate has been owned by the Wills family (of tobacco fame) since 1913 and includes Achnashellach Estate in Scotland. Miserden Nursery is open from March to October and specialises in hardy perennial plants.

<http://www.misardenpark.co.uk>

THE (MAIN) WALK - In summary:

Left out of the nursery carpark, right at the pub, walk to the edge of the village, down into the valley and along a stream, then climb back up to the other end of the village.



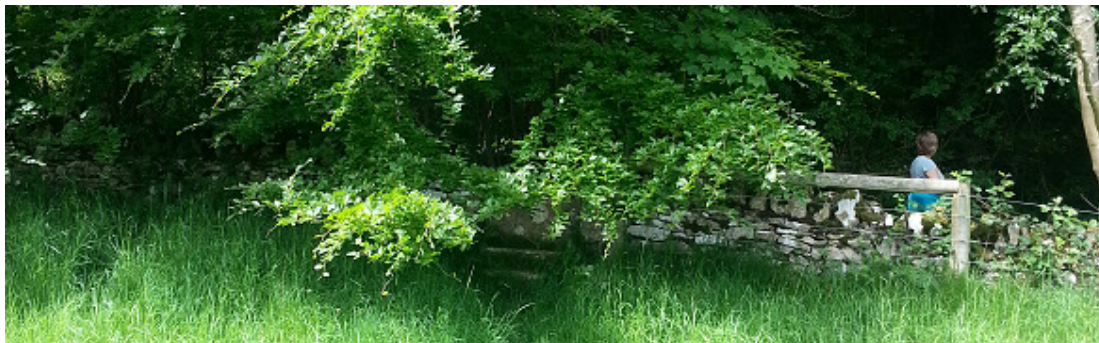
In detail:

- > Turn left out of the nursery car park and follow the lane to the road
- > Turn right at the covered circular bench around a huge tree
- > After a hundred yards you walk past the village church

The church is a mixture of Saxon and Norman architecture. A priest was recorded at Miserden in 1086 and architectural evidence shows that the church there is of pre-Conquest origin. The nave is believed to be of the 11th century and retains the outlines of the original round-headed north and south doorways. The chancel is 12th-century. Anglo-Saxon remains clearly visible are the rounded arch and carved imposts of the doorway. The War Memorial opposite the Lychgate is by Sir Edwin Lutyens (1869-1944) who is often referred to as the greatest British architect, originally making

- his name designing country houses (including Castle Drogo in Cornwall and the re-design of Lindisfarne Castle – and also The Cenotaph in Whitehall) before becoming chief architect of New Delhi when it was to be the seat of the British government in India. He designed some aspects of Miserden Park. See <http://www.lutyenstrust.org.uk>*
- > After visiting church, go back onto the road and continue in the original direction
 - > Continue past the shop, village hall and school
 - > **Turn right** at Public Footpath sign at edge of the village, opposite school car park; climb over stone stile
 - > **Follow the path along the right side of the field** following the line of the woods
 - > **At the end of the woods, go through a wooden gate on your right**

- > Turn left and follow the fence on your left, the valley drops away to your right
- > Climb over a stile by a wide gate
- > The track then goes through the middle of the field, some woods are on your right now



- > Follow path straight ahead (2 paces to right), do not follow the track that leads left or right along the line of the wall
- > The path goes uphill steeply through the trees and then after 50-100 yds you emerge from the woods
- > Turn right onto the farm track
- > Go through a gateway and **continue straight on**, the track becomes a concrete surface for a while
- > A little way further on, the track becomes a tarmac road (this is one of the roads through Miserden Park and is only used by park vehicles);
- > The road goes downhill & then around to the left behind some farm buildings (dog kennels) to a house
- > Shortly after/behind the kennels, **fork right off the road**, following the Public Footpath sign down a narrow path across the grass to the valley and the woods
- > Go through a gate (actually a drag fence) & then **turn right** to follow stream down valley along farm track
- > The path diverges from the stream slightly and goes up a little; **just after cresting the rise, fork right**
- > After 25yds there is a waist-high wooden Public Footpath post with 3 signs (opposite a sign for Calley Wood), you should **turn right** here and follow a narrow footpath through the woods
- * *At this post with three signs you can connect to*

> **TAKE CARE AT THIS POINT:** Halfway down the slope after the rise, where the track swings back left to run alongside hedge on left, the **footpath heads to right & down** (forking right away from farm track) leading to a stone stile in a Cotswold stone wall under some low hanging branches (difficult to see from top of rise)

the Caudle Green walk in booklet 4 if you want a longer walk

- > Follow the path downhill, **cross the bridge over the stream** (built from two railway sleepers)
- > **Clamber up the steep bank straight ahead** (there is a yellow arrow painted on a tree)
- > At the top of the bank there is another yellow arrow painted on a big fat tree – **go to the right of the tree, continue straight ahead and then veer right**
- > **Go over wooden stile and head diagonally left** across an undulating field, aiming for a telegraph pole (with yellow sign) on the far side; the path is not clear, but just continue across the grassy field
- > Ahead and to the left is a plantation of younger pine trees – follow the boundary fence up to the corner of the field where it meets a more mature wood
- > **Turn left** onto one of the tarmac park roads, the road starts to go downhill
- > **Go straight on** over the stream, through a gate in a Cotswold stone wall and start climbing back up to Miserden village; you are still on the tarmac road which bends to the left and then to the right; up, up, up (think of the pub which is at the top of the hill)
- > **Go through the kissing gate** at top of the hill
- > Turn left back along the lane to Miserden Nursery carpark and café

The End



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