

4.6km – 2.9 miles Difficulty – Medium

Parking: Washington South Downs Way car park, near Washington Bostal

This walk starts just South of Washington and takes you on a circular loop up to Chanctonbury Ring, where there are breath-taking views for miles over Sussex, before heading back down through woodland. The climb up to Chanctonbury Ring is fairly steep, but not extremely strenuous. The descent down from Chanctonbury Ring is quite steep and can get a little slippery when wet, so walking shoes are recommended.

Walk Directions

1. This walk starts at the South Downs Way car park in Washington. From Washington village, follow the road past the Frankland Arms on your right and continue up this road until you can see the A24 on your right. Take the left-hand turn and continue up the short single lane track that takes you to the car park. Parking here is free and there is no time limit. From the car park follow the signpost in the car park up the path towards the River Adur.



2. Continue up the chalk path until you reach a metal gate on your left-hand side. Here the chalk path continues up to the top of the South Downs, but this walk takes you on the path that runs off from the main chalk path, slightly veering to the left through the wooden gate.

3. Continue up this path which eventually brings you into a large open field (note that there are often sheep in this field so please keep your dog on a lead). Here, if you turn around there are some great views across Washington village and further beyond.



4. Follow the path until it merges with the main South Downs Way, where there is a cattle grid.



5. Take the path to the left over the cattle grid. At this point you should be able to see Chanctonbury Ring straight ahead.

6. Continue up to Chanctonbury Ring – this walk takes you down the path that is just on the left before Chanctonbury Ring, however it is worth walking round the circle of trees and observing the views across Sussex. You can see across Washington, Wiston and can even see as far across as Truleigh Hill if you across to the right, a high point on the South Downs at 216m. Truleigh Hill was used for radar defences during WWII and can be spotted by the telecommunications towers that still stand there.



7. Once you have admired the view, follow the trees back round to the path you came in on, if you look to the right, there gate to the right that takes you down a fairly steep path (note this path can be a bit slippery in the rain). Follow this path through the woods, until you eventually pass through an open gate into a field. Walk across this field and this takes you to the metal gate from the beginning of the walk. Take a right back down the chalk path to return to the car park.

We hope you enjoyed this walk! If you have tried out this walk, we would love to hear your feedback – please send us an email to info@discoversussex.org you can drop us a message via the contact form on our website.

