

# Miles Without Stiles

## Charlton Kings Common & Hartley Hill



This walk on the Cotswold edge takes in some breathtaking limestone scenery with stunning views. It involves a gradual climb and a steep descent.

**Distance:** 4 kilometres/  
2½ miles (2 hours) with ups  
and downs of 156m or 511ft

**Start:** Daisy Bank car park off  
Leckhampton Hill SO 949/188

### Route:

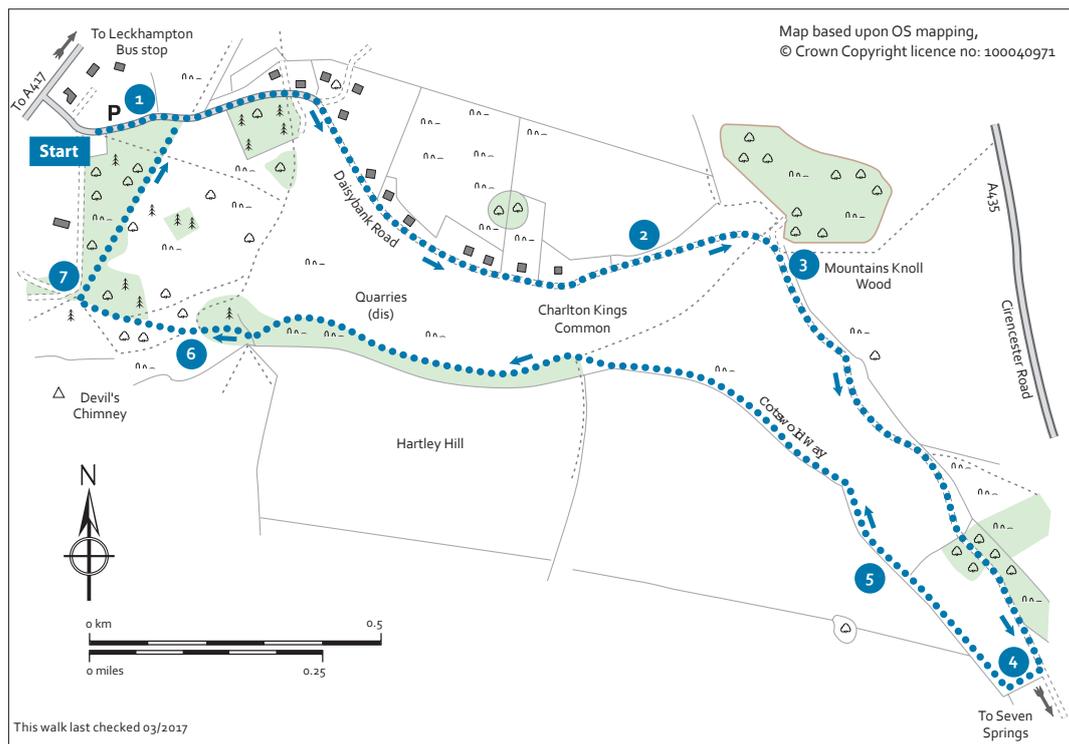
From the car park **1** turn right (east) along the road. Soon you will have views of Cleeve Hill to the north. Ignore drives off to the left and continue up the deteriorating road.

At the top of the rise, just after the last house (Shackleton) and a small wooden barn, go through a gate and take the right fork off the track onto a bridleway **2**. Follow the waymarkers, left at a T-junction and then right where paths cross.

A few metres further on go straight on, (where the Cheltenham Circular Path turns left downhill). **3**

Continue on this path along the bottom of the steep scarp slope to a gate. It is an old stage coach route from Cheltenham to Cirencester. Go through the gate.

After a ½ mile (0.8km) turn right through a gate onto the Cotswold Way **4** (yellow arrow/acorn) and follow it around the edge of a field to a gate with



a Cotswold dry-stone wall on the left. Climb up to Charlton Kings Common. **5** Continue on following the top of the escarpment.

After about a mile (1.6km) you reach Hartley Hill. Look for three benches to your left and a Cotswold Way sign. **6** Bear right and take the well-defined path that leads down through the woods; go through a gate and down to a small clearing **7**.

This clearing was the centre of the extensive Leckhampton Hill quarries and much of Cheltenham was built from their

stone. They ceased operating in 1925.

Turn right in the clearing down a wide path shortly passing a small concrete sign for Leckhampton Hill Walk 8.

This leads down to Daisy Bank Road. The path follows the route of the old railway from the quarry. Turn left on the road for the car park.

You can start the walk from Leckhampton bus stop.

To join the walk you will need to walk up Leckhampton Hill to Daisy Bank Road and turn left. This will add about ½ an

hour to the walk.