

Percy's Patch, the Jolly Sportsman and the Old Mill House

A circular walk to the east and south of Plumpton Green, starting and finishing at the entrance to Plumpton Station. Leading to the Jolly Sportsman pub in East Chiltington, via Percy's Patch, and returning via the Old Mill House, this is a generally flat walk, with some gentle undulations, mostly on firm tracks.

FOOTPATH
TO PLUMPTON



PLUMPTON

This leaflet is one of 16 produced by the Plumpton Village Action Plan Footpaths Team. Copies can be downloaded free from www.plumptonvap.co.uk

Plumpton parish includes the villages of Plumpton and Plumpton Green. The parish lies at the foot of the South Downs, near Brighton and Lewes, in East Sussex. The southern part of the parish is within the South Downs National Park.

Public transport

Plumpton is served by two bus services (166 and 824, Monday to Saturday) and a frequent train service (London Victoria to Eastbourne, Hastings and Ore, daily including Sundays). There is also a daily train service from Brighton via Lewes.

For information about bus times telephone **0844 477 1623** or visit www.countryliner-coaches.co.uk For train times telephone **0845 127 2920** or visit www.southernrailway.com

Pubs and shop

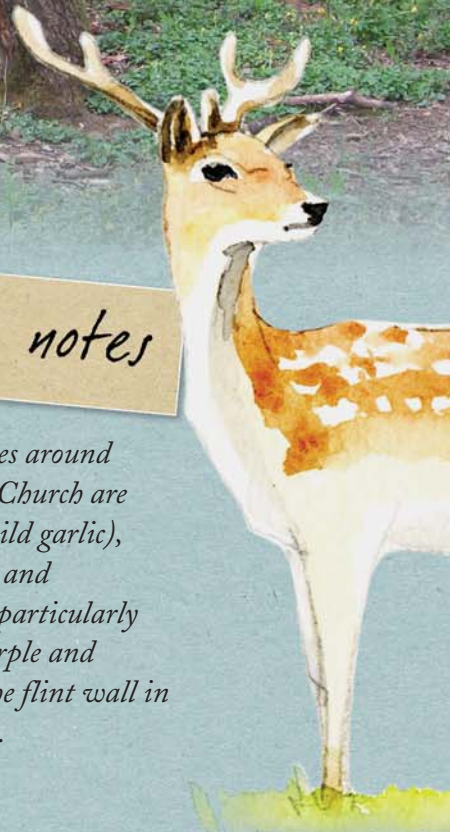
Plumpton has four pubs: the Half Moon at the south end of the village, beneath the Downs; the Winning Post and Fountain Inn, both in the centre of the village, and the Plough, at the north end of the village. There is also a pub, the Jolly Sportsman, in East Chiltington. The Plumpton village shop is open daily and has a delicatessen.

Please follow the Countryside Code

- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any 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



Wildlife notes



In spring the verges around East Chiltington Church are full of ransoms (wild garlic), celandines, violets and primroses, with a particularly good display of purple and white violets by the flint wall in front of the church.

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The route

1 From the front of Plumpton Station, cross the road to the George V Playing Fields. Continue along the concrete track with the playing fields on your left. Follow the track towards a stand of trees, known locally as Percy's Patch.

2 Pass through this small wood and emerge into a field, keeping the railway track to your right, with views to North Barnes Farm on your left.



3 Ignore the first railway crossing and continue to the corner of the field. Cross a footbridge over a stream with the railway track still to your right. Continue on the grassy track along the edge of the next field.

4 Cross another footbridge over a fast-flowing stream. On the right there is a brick culvert taking the water under the railway line. In the next field turn right and cross the railway through metal kissing gates, taking care.



5 Through the gate on the far side, turn right and follow the edge of the wood until it turns away to your right. Continue due south, towards the Downs, following a line of oaks across the field to a plank bridge and stile in the hedge.

6 In the next field, bear left to a metal kissing gate. Continue through a smallholding, with the post and rail fence to your right. Go through a field gate, then a pedestrian gate to the left of another field gate, and down a short section of track to emerge onto a lane opposite the Jolly Sportsman pub.

7 Turn right along the lane to East Chiltington Church. Continue left past the church and take the path through the field gate to the right of a single storey cottage, following the direction of the footpath sign (there is another path signed to the left. Don't take this one).



8 Continue along this path, keeping the large hedge on your right, until you come to brick and flint garden hut. There is another field gate, converted into a stile, on your left. Go over the stile, into the field and turn right, keeping to the flint wall on your right.

9 At the end of the flint wall head half left across the field, over the brow of the hill, towards trees and a high stile with a steep drop on the other side. Cross the stile, continue down a flight of steep steps, across two footbridges, up another flight of steps and out into a large field.

10 Continue ahead with woodland on the left to a squeeze stile in the far left corner of the field. Pass through and cross a footbridge onto Plumpton Lane, opposite the driveway to the Old Mill House. Take care as the road carries fast traffic.

11 Turn right along the lane for about 200 yards, over a white bridge on a sharp bend, taking care as this is an accident black spot. Just after the bridge, turn left along a path next to a field gate, with a hedge on the left and a stream on the right. Continue to a stile leading into the corner of a field.

12 Follow the field boundary on your right to a farm track leading up to the right. Turn right, passing a pond on the left as you cross a stream. Continue straight ahead on the path, with buildings on your left, until you reach an unmade road. Turn right, then soon after turn left along a concrete road signed to Plumpton Racecourse.

13 Follow the road to the racecourse gates, ignoring a left fork, following the signs to the public car park. At the gates to the racecourse, the route swings left, still following the public car park signs, and passes around the back of the grandstand and buildings until it comes out at the car park. Continue along the metalled footpath between the car park and the racecourse to Plumpton Station ahead.

14 At the station go right along the northbound (London) platform and cross the railway via the footbridge to return to your starting point.

