

## Plumpton Bostall, Ashcombe Bottom and Warmingore Farm

A figure of eight walk to the south east of Plumpton, starting and finishing at the Half Moon pub. Largely on the South Downs and passing Blackcap, this is a hilly walk, with steep climbs and descents, wonderful views and lovely stretches of woodland and downland.



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](http://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](http://www.countryliner-coaches.co.uk) For train times telephone **0845 127 2920** or visit [www.southernrailway.com](http://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 Chilmington. 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



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15

Go through the gate, cross the small road and go over the stile into the next field. Follow the path heading diagonally to your left.

16

When you reach a driveway, cross it and continue straight ahead on the wide track, keeping the hedgerow on your right. The path turns sharp right, around the boundary of the gardens on your right and then a wood.

17

Keep following this well marked path towards a house and farm buildings ahead. Where the wood turns away right, cross a small stile to the left of the track and head diagonally left across the field, towards a large stile on the far side.

18

Go over this next stile onto a farm track. Turn left along the track and after about 10 yards cross a stile on your right into a small paddock. Continue through the paddock, with the wall on your left, and go through a gate into a second paddock.

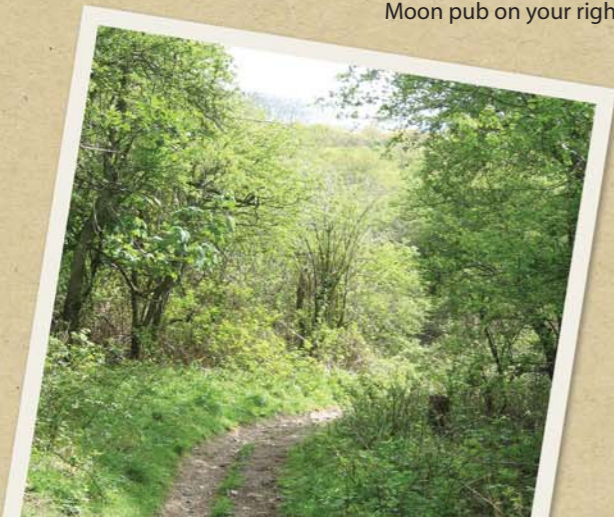
19

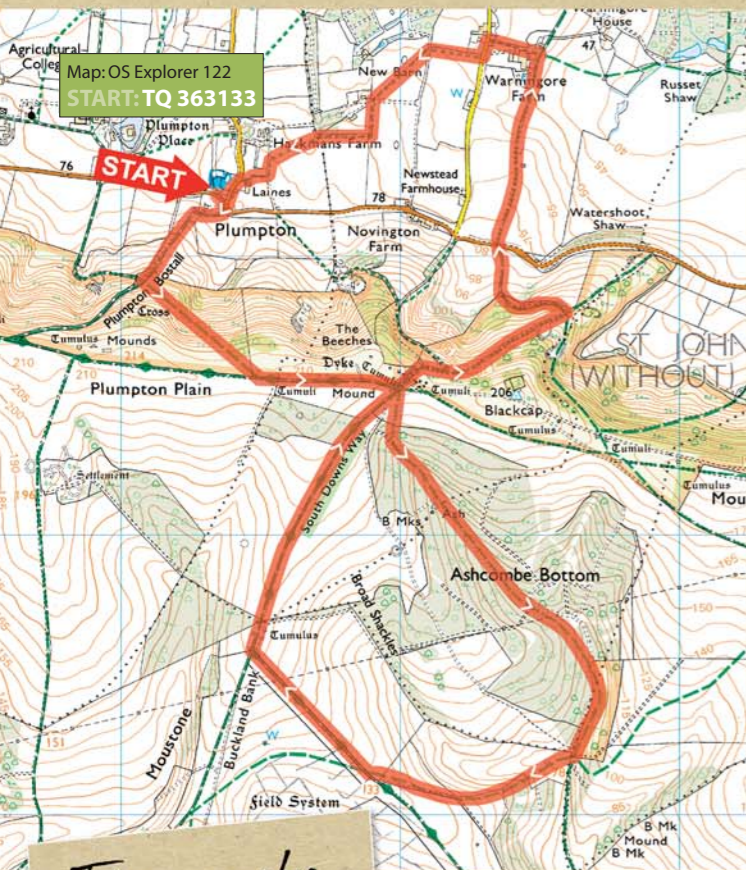
Continue through this paddock, over another stile and into Plumpton Lane. Turn left and you come very shortly to the road junction with the B2116 and the Half Moon pub on your right.



## Wildlife notes

*Look out for white admiral butterflies at point 4 with their characteristic white-banded black wings. They lay their eggs in shady spots on honeysuckle and the adults are often found on bramble flowers in dappled shade.*





## The route

**1** With the Half Moon pub behind you, turn left and walk along the road for a few yards to the junction where Plumpton Lane joins the B2116 Lewes road from your left. Immediately opposite, on your right, is a bridleway. Cross the road carefully as this is a blind bend and follow the well marked track, known as Plumpton Bostall, climbing steeply upwards.



**2** After a while you will see a path marked 'Access Land' to your left, through a wooden gate. Go through the gate and follow the steeply climbing path curving upwards around the base of the hill and along until you reach the South Downs Way.

**3** Pass through the gate onto the South Downs Way, and turn left, continuing in an easterly direction until you come to a meeting of several paths and the National Trust sign for Blackcap.

**4** The South Downs Way turns right here. Do not take this path, but go through the gate and take the track half right heading south easterly across the field towards a gate that you will only see as you go over the brow of the hill.

**5** Go through the gate into the woods, following the bridleway that descends gently into Ashcombe Bottom, and continue straight on, in time passing under some overhead power lines, following the blue waymarks.

**6** Pass through another wooden gate and continue to follow the path. As you emerge from the woods, you come to a point where a number of waymarked paths converge. Ignore the first waymarked path to your right through a set of field gates and continue just a few steps further to take the second waymarked path on the right, through a single wooden gate, which heads diagonally up to your left, to a copse on the brow of the hill.

**7** Walk into the copse and follow the path through. The path curves to the right and emerges into a field, where it continues straight ahead towards a waymark post in the distance at the far corner of a post and wire fence.



**8** When you reach the waymark, continue straight on, following the direction of the blue arrow with the post and wire fence on your left. At the end of this path you rejoin the South Downs Way, which crosses your path diagonally at a set of gates. Turn right, through the gate on your right.



**9** At another set of gates, again turn right and keep following the track until you reach the point at which you first turned off the South Downs Way to head down into Ashcombe Bottom.

**10** Go through the gates on your right and turn immediately left. Follow the path, ignoring a footpath to your left, and descend the slope of the hill until you come to a clearly marked crossing of paths.



**11** Take the bridleway to your left, down through a wooded stretch. Pass through a gate and continue down to meet the B2116.

**12** Cross the road and continue straight ahead, through a small wooden gate, along the bridleway, towards Warningore Farm.

**13** When you reach the farm, turn left along the farm track, passing through the farmyard with cattle sheds and barns to your left. Where the track forks, keep to the right fork, eventually arriving at Novington Lane.



**14** Turn left along the lane, and then take the footpath on your right, over a stile, and continue straight on into the next field, following the marked path with the hedge on your right. You will see a kissing gate ahead at the far end of the field.