

# The glossary

**Aisle:** passage alongside the nave or chancel, separated from it by piers or columns

**Apse:** (apsidal-adj.) semicircular extension, usually at the east end of the church

**Arcade:** row of arches supported by pier or columns

**Bays:** divisions of the interior of the church

**Beakhead:** Norman ornamental motif, with bird heads with beaks biting into a moulding

**Box-pews:** pews enclosed by high backs and ends with doors

**Chancel:** the eastern end of a church, where the altar is placed

**Gallery:** balcony, often with seats overlooking the nave of the church

**Long and short work:** corners with alternate upright and horizontal stones, usually Saxon

**Lychgate:** roofed wooden gate at the entrance to the churchyard

**Mausoleum:** monumental tomb

**Nave:** the western arm of the church, where the congregation stood

**Pilaster strip:** column in flat relief against a wall

**Piscina:** stone basin for washing communion or mass vessels

**Reredos:** painted or carved screen behind and above the altar

**Rood:** cross or crucifix, usually over the entry to the chancel

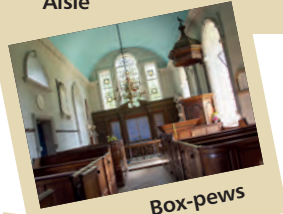
**Table-tomb:** chest shaped stone coffin

**Screen:** structure, usually at the entrance to the chancel

**Sedilia:** seats for the priests on the south side of the chancel



Aisle



Box-pews



Gallery



Lychgate



Piscina



Screen

## Local accommodation

**Bull Farm Studios,**  
Kings Worthy, SO21 1AQ,  
07762 928 771

**Cheriton Wood Studio,**  
Alresford, SO24 0HR,  
01962 734 840

**Dairy Cottage,**  
Ropley, SO24 OEJ,  
01962 773 348

**Highfield Cottage,**  
Twyford, SO21 1NR,  
01962 712 921

**Holiday Inn Winchester,**  
Winchester, SO21 1HZ,  
0871 942 9188

**Marwell Hotel,**  
Colden Common,  
SO21 1JY,  
01962 777 681

**Old Alresford Place,**  
Alresford SO24 9DH,  
01962 732 518

**Orchard House,**  
Twyford, SO21 1RJ,  
01962 712 087

**The Swan Hotel,**  
Alresford, SO24 9AD,  
01962 732 302

**Two Hoots,**  
Bighton, SO24 9SG,  
01962 772 242

This is just a sample of places to stay. For further information go to [www.visitwinchester.co.uk](http://www.visitwinchester.co.uk) or contact Winchester Tourist Information Centre on 01962 840 500.

## Public transport



For detailed information contact My Journey Hampshire [www.myjourneyhampshire.com](http://www.myjourneyhampshire.com)

## Refreshments

The route is well served by pubs, cafés and restaurants - a few to mention are:

**Caracoli,** Alresford,  
SO24 9AR, 01962 738 730

**Horse and Groom,** Alresford,  
SO24 9AQ, 01962 734 809

**Long Barn Home and Garden Store,**  
Alresford,  
SO24 9EJ, 01962 738 684

**The Alresford Cricketers,**  
Alresford,  
SO24 9LW, 01962 732 463

**The Bell,** Alresford,  
SO24 9AT, 01962 732 429

**The Bush Inn,** Ovington,  
SO24 0RE, 01962 732 764

**The Chestnut Horse,** Easton,  
SO21 1EG, 01962 779 257

**The Globe,** Alresford,  
SO24 9DB, 01962 733 118

**The Swan Hotel,** Alresford,  
SO24 9AD, 01962 732 302

**Tiffin Tea Rooms,** Alresford,  
SO24 9AU, 01962 734 394

**White House,** Otterbourne,  
SO21 2EQ 01962 712 830

# CHURCHES

Discover the historic churches in the **Itchen Valley** on self-guided walks and cycle rides



The River Itchen rises in the chalk downs around New Alresford, flows west in a broad valley to Kings Worthy, turns south through Winchester and eventually joins the River Test at Southampton.

The landscapes of the valley are mainly broad grassy water meadows and pasture, together with rolling chalk downland mostly given over to farming. Set along the river are many attractive and unspoilt villages, each with its own distinctive church.

This self-guided trail combines the superb scenery of the valley with a discovery of some of the county's historically most important churches, offering the visitor an insight into the development of church architecture.

An additional trail of the Meon Valley churches is also available.



**Winchester**  
City Council

# The Itchen Valley

The River Itchen rises in the chalk downs around New Alresford, flows west in a broad valley to Kings Worthy, turns south through Winchester and eventually joins the River Test at Southampton. The landscapes of the valley are mainly broad grassy water meadows and pasture, together with rolling chalk downland mostly given over to farming. Set along the river are many attractive and unspoilt villages, each with its own distinctive church.



Winchester City Council has worked with the South Downs National Park to develop this trail. Further information can be found on [www.southdowns.gov.uk](http://www.southdowns.gov.uk)

Survey material has been reproduced with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. OS Licence No 00018301.

© Winchester City Council 2014

All details are believed to be correct at time of publication. No responsibility can be taken for errors, omissions or subsequent alterations. Assessments for accommodation are undertaken throughout the year, so some ratings may have changed since this leaflet went to press. Winchester City Council cannot be held responsible for the quality of the establishments mentioned, although the rating awarded for food hygiene inspections can be found on [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk)

Winchester City Council would like to acknowledge the assistance given by Hampshire County Council Rights of Way Office in preparing this publication.

Images: © Joe Low and Winchester City Council



These self-guided trails combine the wonderful landscapes and scenery of the valley with the discovery of some of the county's most important churches. They exhibit a wide range of architectural styles: Saxon at Headbourne Worthy; Norman at Bishop's Sutton, Easton and St Cross; Georgian at Avington; late Victorian at Itchen Stoke. The churches are briefly described individually inside this leaflet.



## The trails

The churches of the Lower Itchen Valley stretch from St Cross to Otterbourne, those of the Middle Itchen extend from Headbourne Worthy eastwards to Itchen Abbas and the churches of the Upper Itchen form a group centred on New Alresford. A number of circular walks and cycle trails are suggested for each group of churches. Public transport information has been included and all routes can be found on 1:25,000 OS Explorer Map 132 Winchester, New Alresford and East Meon.

## Church information

With the exceptions of Otterbourne and Compton (details inside), the churches in this leaflet are generally open during daylight hours. Remember to leave the building as you find it, by closing doors and gates, and be sensitive to services taking place. Wheelchair access to some churches may be restricted.

## Making the most of the Itchen Valley

To enhance your trip, suggested refreshment stops and overnight accommodation in the area have been included on the back panel of this leaflet.

## Further information

If you enjoy discovering the churches of the Itchen Valley, you may also like to try the partner to this leaflet – Meon Valley Churches – which offers similar walks

and cycle rides linking the churches along the River Meon. Available from Winchester Tourist Information Centre 01962 840 500, email [tourism@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@winchester.gov.uk).

More detailed information about the Itchen Valley including local attractions, places to stay and refreshments is available at [www.visitwinchester.co.uk](http://www.visitwinchester.co.uk)



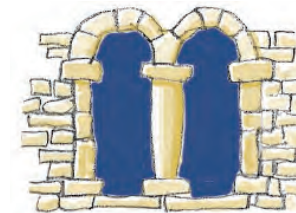
# The architecture

Parish churches, with their richly varied range of styles and sizes, reflect an architectural evolution. They are a record of local artistic skills and materials used by our forebears over past centuries, making the church both a place of worship and the centre of village life. The carvings, paintings, memorials and furnishings provide a record of how people lived, worked and worshipped.

The drawings show a range of round and pointed arches which are commonly found in our churches; their characteristic styles are useful dating aids. Below is a short glossary of useful ecclesiastical terms.



**Early English**  
13<sup>th</sup> century



**Anglo-Saxon**  
7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> century



**Decorated**  
late 13<sup>th</sup> – early 14<sup>th</sup> century



**Norman**  
11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> century



**Perpendicular**  
late 14<sup>th</sup> – early 16<sup>th</sup> century



# The Lower Itchen

## Lower Itchen churches

The following churches can be visited by taking the walks or cycle rides described right.



### St Matthew's Church, Otterbourne SU 4566 2280

This church of striking blue brick, by O B Carter, was built between 1837 and 1839.

The eastern apse was added in 1873. Inside is a late 17<sup>th</sup> century screen, probably from Flanders. In the churchyard is a memorial cross to John Keble, rector for 30 years. The lych-gate was given by Charlotte Yonge.

*The church is open to visitors on Wednesdays 10.30 – 11.30am and Thursdays 2.30 – 3.30pm*

### Otterbourne Old Church (St Matthew's) SU 4653 2267

The site of the 13<sup>th</sup> century church of St Matthew's now only has a few headstones and table tombs. The walls of the church are marked out in gravel. The nave was demolished in 1842 but the chancel survived as a burial chapel until 1971.



### St Mary's Church, Twyford SU 4809 2508

Mentioned in the Domesday Book, the medieval building was replaced by the present church in 1878. Designed by Alfred Waterhouse, the building is a mixture of flint and brick with stone dressings. The bell tower, apparently resting on a ring of 12 sarsen stones, is a local landmark.

### All Saint's Church, Compton SU 4679 2564

The church is 12<sup>th</sup> century, with later medieval additions. The southern chancel and nave were added in 1905. The north door, with its zigzag mouldings, dates to about 1160. There are fragments of a 13<sup>th</sup> century wall painting in the splay of the north-east window.

*The church is open to visitors on Tuesdays 2.30 – 3.30pm and Thursdays 10.30 – 11.30am*

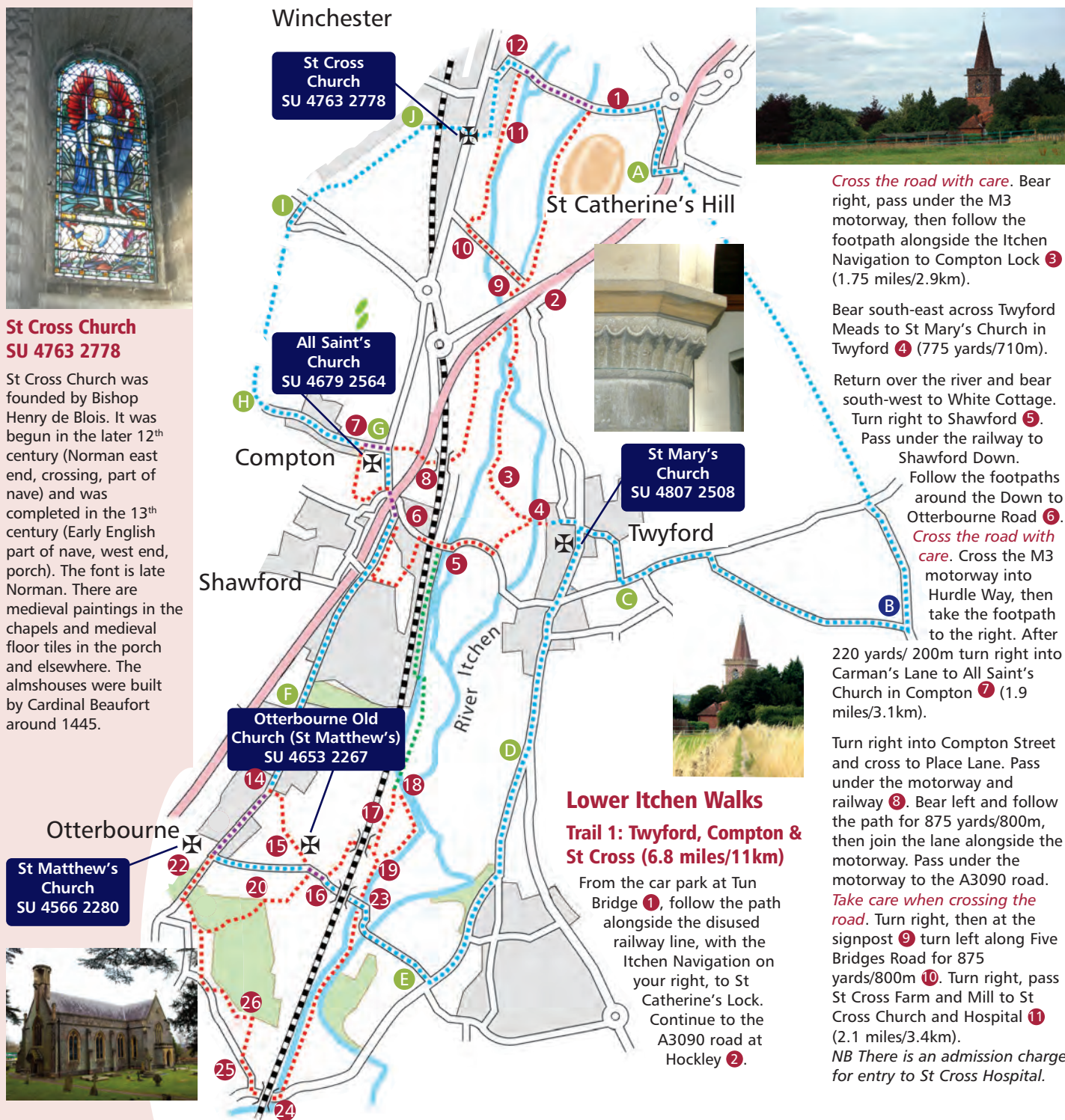


### St Cross Church SU 4763 2778

St Cross Church was founded by Bishop Henry de Blois. It was begun in the later 12<sup>th</sup> century (Norman east end, crossing, part of nave) and was completed in the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Early English part of nave, west end, porch). The font is late Norman. There are medieval paintings in the chapels and medieval floor tiles in the porch and elsewhere. The almshouses were built by Cardinal Beaufort around 1445.



Winchester



*Cross the road with care.* Bear right, pass under the M3 motorway, then follow the footpath alongside the Itchen Navigation to Compton Lock 3 (1.75 miles/2.9km).

Bear south-east across Twyford Meads to St Mary's Church in Twyford 4 (775 yards/710m).

Return over the river and bear south-west to White Cottage.

Turn right to Shawford 5. Pass under the railway to Shawford Down.

Follow the footpaths around the Down to Otterbourne Road 6. *Cross the road with care.* Cross the M3 motorway into Hurdle Way, then take the footpath to the right. After

220 yards/ 200m turn right into Carman's Lane to All Saint's Church in Compton 7 (1.9 miles/3.1km).

Turn right into Compton Street and cross to Place Lane. Pass under the motorway and railway 8. Bear left and follow the path for 875 yards/800m, then join the lane alongside the motorway. Pass under the motorway to the A3090 road.

*Take care when crossing the road.* Turn right, then at the signpost 9 turn left along Five Bridges Road for 875 yards/800m 10. Turn right, pass St Cross Farm and Mill to St Cross Church and Hospital 11 (2.1 miles/3.4km).

*NB There is an admission charge for entry to St Cross Hospital.*

## Lower Itchen Walks

### Trail 1: Twyford, Compton & St Cross (6.8 miles/11km)

From the car park at Tun Bridge 1, follow the path alongside the disused railway line, with the Itchen Navigation on your right, to St Catherine's Lock. Continue to the A3090 road at Hockley 2.



Follow the path to Garnier Road 12, then return to the car park at Tun Bridge 1 (0.7 miles/1.1km).

## Trail 2: Otterbourne and College Mead (3.5 miles/5.7km)

From the car park in Cranbourne Drive 13, turn right and then left into Otterbourne Road. Walk to The Old Forge pub & restaurant 14. From the pub car park, take the footpath across the meadows



to Kiln Lane 15. *Take great care on the road.* Turn right to the old churchyard of St Matthew's 16 (0.9 miles/1.4km).

From the graveyard, cross the field to a railway arch 17, then turn left to the waterworks at College Mead Lock 18. Turn sharp right along the canal to 19. Turn right and return to the railway arch 17 and the old graveyard 16 (4 miles /2.2km).

Turn right along Kiln Lane 15. *Take great care on the road.* Take the footpath uphill to Otterbourne Park Wood 20 and follow the path uphill to the entrance 22. Bear right into Chapel Lane, and then turn right downhill to St Matthew's Church in Otterbourne 22. Return to the car park 13 (1.1 miles/1.8km).

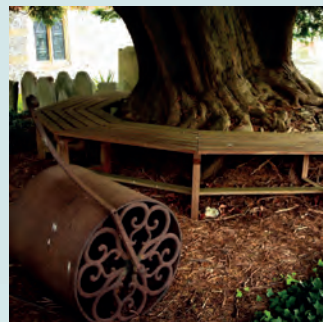


## Trail 2a: Otterbourne, College Mead and Allbrook (4.7 miles/7.5km)

From 19, continue along the west bank of the Itchen Navigation to Brambridge 23. *Cross Kiln Lane with great care.* Follow the east bank to Allbrook 24. Turn right and right again into Pitmore Road 25. Turn right along Park Lane 26 and continue to the entrance to Otterbourne Park Wood 21. Rejoin the main trail to St Matthew's Church 22 and the car park 13 (2.4 miles/3.9km).

## The Cycle Route (13.7 miles/22km)

At the car park at Tun Bridge 1 turn right along Bull Drove. Opposite the Park & Ride car park, turn right up the hill to the footbridge over the M3 motorway A. Join the off-road cycle track along the Pilgrim's Way, across Twyford Down and



Hazeley Down. At Hazeley Road cross into Mare Lane. At B turn sharp right on the track towards Twyford Waterworks. Turn left, and then right into Bourne Lane C. At Twyford High Street, turn right then left into Berry Lane and St Mary's Church 4 (4.9 miles/7.8km).

Return to Twyford High Street and taking great care pass through the village then fork

right into Highbridge Road (B3336) D. After 1.2 miles/2km, turn right into Kiln Lane E. *Taking great care, follow the lane to Brambridge 23* and on to Otterbourne Old Church 16. Continue along Kiln Lane towards Otterbourne. At the mini-roundabout, St Matthew's Church is directly ahead 22 (3.5 miles/5.6km).

Turn left into Main Road. Continue to Otterbourne Road F, pass Shawford Down 6 on the right, cross the M3 motorway, and descend to Compton G. Turn left into Compton Street and All Saints' Church 7 (2.1 miles/3.3km).



Proceed along Back Street and St Faith's Road. Turn into Kingsgate Road K, and then into Garnier Road. Follow Garnier Road back to the car park at Tun Bridge 1 (0.8 miles/1.3km).

For more information about places to stay, eating and shops see [www.visitwinchester.co.uk](http://www.visitwinchester.co.uk)



Turn left to Compton End H. Take the track over Compton Down to Oliver's Battery and Whiteshute Lane I. Cross Badger Farm Road, rejoin Whiteshute Lane and continue to the railway J. Cross over the railway into Mead Road. At St Cross Road, turn right then left at The Bell public house, to St Cross Church 11 (2.4 miles/3.8km).

## The Countryside Code Respect. Protect. Enjoy

### Respect other people

- consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

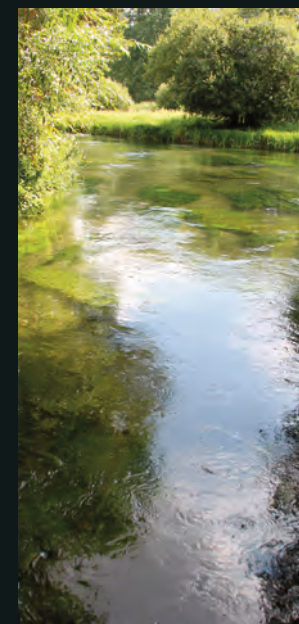
### Protect the natural environment

- leave no trace of your visit and take home litter
- keep dogs under effective control

### Enjoy the outdoors

- plan ahead and be prepared
- follow advice and local signs

For more information visit [www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside)



### Did you know?

You can find out about the Hazeley Down Memorial by following the Military Trail ...



If you would like this leaflet in a larger please email [tourism@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@winchester.gov.uk) or call 01962 840 500 to discuss your requirement.



# The Middle Itchen

## Middle Itchen churches

### St Gertrude's Chapel, Headbourne Worthy (site) SU 4906 3143

Nothing of the chapel survives above ground but early excavations and casual discoveries suggest a 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century date.

### St Swithun's Church, Headbourne Worthy SU 4874 3199

This late Saxon church contains a life-size sculptured rood\* of the crucified Christ, the Virgin and St John in the vestry. In the west doorway long-and-short quoin (brick edging) work and stone pilaster\* strips can also be found. The tower dates to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. In the chancel are a 13<sup>th</sup> century sedilia\* (stone seats for the clergy) and a 15<sup>th</sup> century brass to a Winchester College scholar. \*See glossary

### St Mary's Church, Kings Worthy SU 4928 3233

Of 12<sup>th</sup> century origin, St Mary's was much restored and extended in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The original tower and nave roof survive. There is a 14<sup>th</sup> century font, 19<sup>th</sup> century stained glass – some set-in medieval stonework – and an early glass roundel of Saints Birinus and Swithun. 'Free' pews in the south aisle are a reminder that some pews used to be rented.



### St Swithun's Church, Martyr Worthy SU 5156 3277

The 12<sup>th</sup> century nave with fine Norman doorways originally incorporated the chancel. In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the apsidal (see glossary) chancel was added, the gated pews installed and the belfry restored. In the nave are an 18<sup>th</sup> century coat of arms of Winchester's Bishop Hoadly and a memorial brass to the first Principal of Royal Holloway College.



### St Mary's Church, Easton SU 5092 3226

The church is late Norman although it was restored in the 1860 and 70s. In the nave is a Jacobean pulpit with the doors to the rood loft nearby in the north wall. Most striking are the horseshoe shaped chancel arch and the vaulted chancel. There is a memorial to Agatha Barlow (d.1595), each of whose five daughters was married to a bishop.

### St Mary the Virgin's Church, Avington SU 5328 3225

This red brick church with tower, mock battlements and Portland Stone dressings is virtually unaltered since its completion in 1771. The exceptional Georgian interior is furnished in Spanish mahogany with triple decker pulpit, west gallery with barrel organ and George III coat of arms, and shoulder-high box pews with wig/hat pegs.



Memorials include one to Margaret Brydges of Avington House, who paid for the church, and another to Sir John Shelley, brother of the Romantic poet.

### St John the Baptist's Church, Itchen Abbas SU 5345 3273

The Norman church was rebuilt between 1860 and 1880s in knapped flint and stone, incorporating the original north doorway and chancel arch. In the porch are some original floor tiles and the complicated barrel-vaulted roof structure includes some oak struts from the old church. The last man to be hanged for horse stealing in England, John Hughes, is buried near the ancient yew in the churchyard.



### Trail 1: Avington, Itchen Abbas, Martyr Worthy, Kings Worthy, Headbourne Worthy, Easton (8 miles/12.9km)

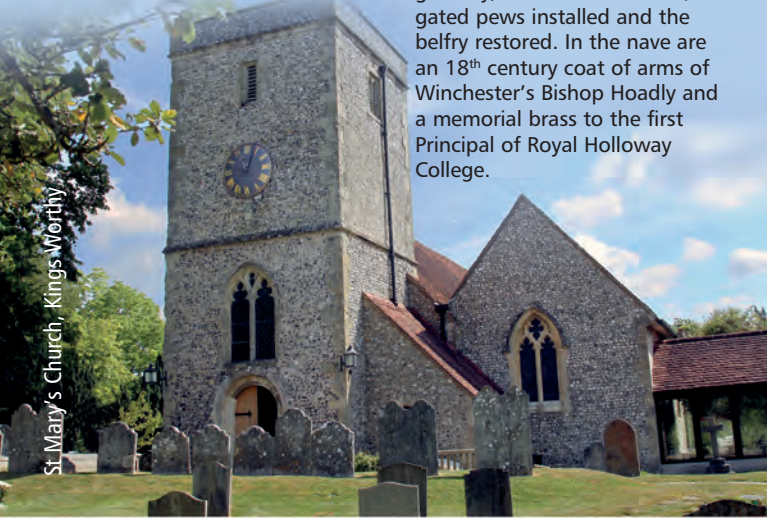
From the car park in Avington Park ①, walk uphill to Avington. Turn left and, taking care, follow the road to St Mary's Church ② (730 yards/670m).

From the church, join the footpath to the road junction. Turn left, passing Avington House, to St John's Church in Itchen Abbas ③ (0.7 miles/1.2km).

At the lych-gate, turn sharp left and take the Itchen Way to Chilland Lane ④.

#### Did you know?

The River Itchen is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) due to its high quality habitats which support a range of protected species including the water vole.





## Middle Itchen Walks

Cross the lane and continue on the Itchen Way to St Swithun's Church in Martyr Worthy 5 (940 yards/860m).

Follow the path from the south side of the churchyard to reach Easton Lane (670 yards/610m). Continue to the motorway underpass 6 (830 yards/760m). Keep to the path to the B3047 road, turn left and then rejoin the footpath to Mill Lane in Abbots Worthy 7 (720 yards/660m). Follow the path and, *taking great care, cross the A33 to St Mary's Close and St Mary's Church at Kings Worthy* 8 (625 yards/570m).

Turn left along the road and walk to St Swithun's Church at Headbourne Worthy 9 (765 yards/700m).

Retrace your steps to Kings Worthy 8 and Abbots Worthy 7 (0.8 miles/1.3km). At Mill Lane turn right, cross the bridges and follow the path across the meadows to the Fulling Mill and Long Walk 10 longer trail rejoins (570 yards/520m).

Turn right to the subway under the M3 motorway 11 (490 yards/450m).

Follow the path to Easton and St Mary's Church 12 (0.6 miles/1km).

Turn left and at the junction left again. After 90 yards/80m, take the footpath to the Chestnut Horse public house 13 (670 yards/615m). *Turn left and, taking care, return to the car park in Avington Park (1 mile/1.6 km).*

### Trail 1a: Alternative, shorter walking route (4.75 miles/7.6km)

From St Swithun's Church 5 proceed down Church Lane and cross the valley to Easton. Turn right to the Chestnut Horse public house 13, on to St Mary's Church 12 and then return to the car park in Avington Park (4.8 miles/7.6km).

### Trail 1b: Alternative, longer, walking route (11.3 miles/18km)

Return to Kings Worthy and turn right after the village hall. Follow the road between the houses and the offices and pick up the footpath 14. Pass under the A34, turn left for 320 yards/290m 15.

Turn right and follow the path past St Gertrude's Chapel (site only), to Abbots Barton 16. Continue along Nuns Walk to Nuns Road 17. Turn left, cross the stream and follow the footpaths, past Hyde Abbey Garden, across the recreation grounds to Park Avenue 18 (2.4 miles/ 3.8km).

Turn left, cross Durngate Bridge into Wales Street 19. Just beyond Nickel Close, join the path past Dykes Farm, to a subway beneath the A34 20. Cross Easton Down to Long Walk 10. Rejoin the main route (1.9 miles/ 3.1km).



### The Cycle Route (10 miles/16.2km)

From the car park in Avington Park 1, cycle up the hill towards Avington. Turn left, and follow the road to St Mary's Church 2 (730 yards/670m).



Turn left, then left again at the next junction. Pass Avington House, to St John's Church in Itchen Abbas 3 (0.7 miles/1.2km).

Turn left and left again to Station Hill. Stay on the B3047 to Martyr Worthy.



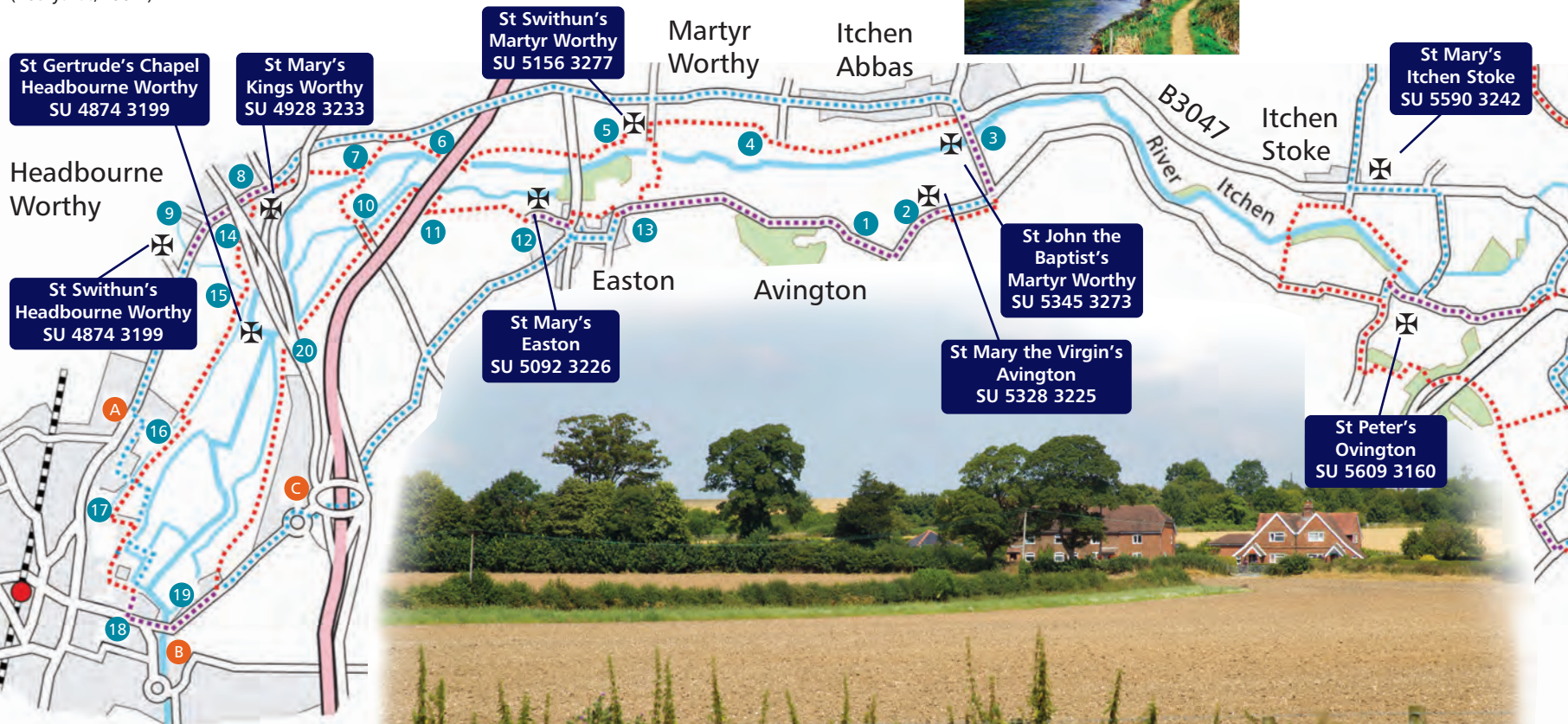
At the memorial, turn left to St Swithun's Church 5 (1.4 miles/2.2km).

Return to the B3047, turn left to Abbots Worthy. *Taking great care, cross the A33 to Kings Worthy* and St Mary's Church 8 (1.7 miles/2.7km).

Continue on the B3047 towards Winchester. St Swithun's Church in Headbourne Worthy 9 is on the right (765 yards/700m).

Stay on the B3047 into Winchester. After 0.7 miles/1.1km, turn left into Dyson Drive A and follow the cycle paths past Hyde Abbey Garden to the leisure centre and then to Park Avenue and North Walls 18. Turn left down North Walls and then bear left over Durngate Bridge B. Cycle up Easton Lane to the M3 motorway interchange C. *Cross the interchange with great care*, then follow Easton Lane north-east to Easton village (4.2 miles/6.7km).

At The Cricketers public house, turn left to St Mary's Church 12. Return to The Cricketers, turn left, pass the Chestnut Horse public house 13, and return to the car park in Avington Park 1 (1.6 miles/2.5km).



Countryside near Easton



# The Upper Itchen Churches

## St John the Baptist's Church, New Alresford SU 5884 3265

This medieval church, largely rebuilt in 1898, has a tower



with 14<sup>th</sup> century lower stages and a 17<sup>th</sup> century upper stage. The small crucifixion carving above the west door is late Saxon. In the churchyard are five gravestones dated 1810–12, inscribed in French to Napoleonic prisoners of war.

## St Mary's Church, Old Alresford SU 5880 3365

This flint and red brick church was built in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century, with further 19<sup>th</sup> century additions. Fine 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century memorials include one to Mary Sumner, the founder of the Mothers' Union.

## St Martin's Church, Abbotstone (site) SU 5668 3445

The site of St Martin's Church lies within a rectangular enclosure on the western side of the deserted medieval village.

## St Mary's Church, Itchen Stoke SU 5590 3242



This 1866 church is based on the 13<sup>th</sup> century La Sainte Chapelle in Paris. Inside are a circular chancel floor with glazed tiles, an elaborate font, a pulpit and pew ends with decorative cast iron panels, and two small Tudor brasses.

*The church is in the care of the Redundant Churches Fund; access from two nearby keyholders.*



## St Peter's Church, Ovington SU 5609 3160

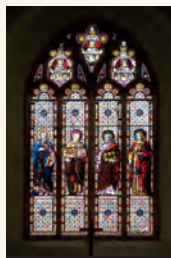
Completed in 1866, the church replaces a Norman building. The exterior includes a bell tower over the south porch, wide bands of fish scale tiles and decorative ridge tiles. Inside, the organ and chancel are richly decorated; the carved reredos (see glossary) is of Caen stone. The square font comes from the original church whose entrance arch stands in the churchyard.

## St Andrew's Church, Tichborne SU 5687 3026

St Andrew's is of mid-11<sup>th</sup> century origin, the aisles are late 12<sup>th</sup> century. The tower was rebuilt in 1703. There are Saxon stone plaster strips and windows in the chancel, and a 16<sup>th</sup> century box pew and panelled Jacobean pews in the nave. In the north aisle is a Roman Catholic chapel with memorials to the Tichborne family.

## St Michael's Church, Cheriton SU 5819 2843

Built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, and with 15<sup>th</sup> century additions, the church was damaged by fire in 1744. It was further restored in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The tower was faced with flint and brick work in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

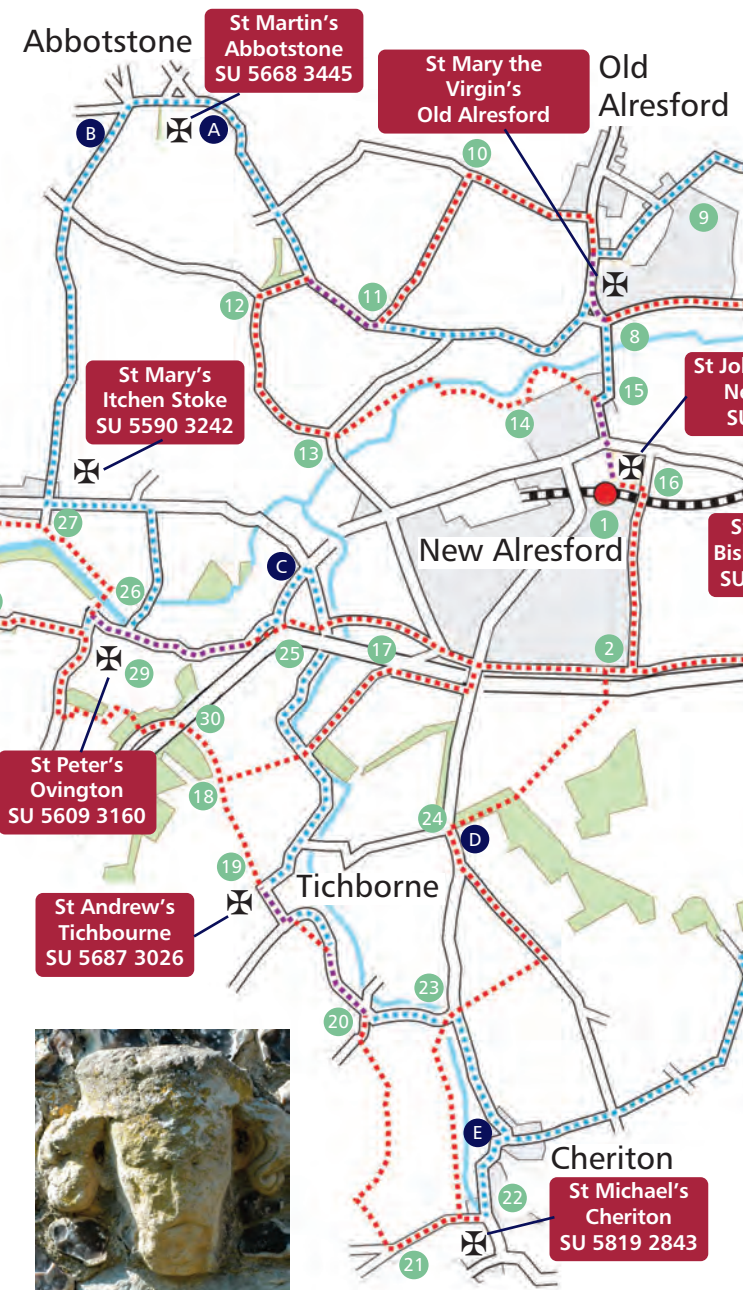


## St Nicholas' Church, Bishop's Sutton SU 6059 3201

The flint and stone church dates from 1150, and the chancel is late 13<sup>th</sup> century. The belfry is supported on massive internal timbers. In the nave are four original windows and two fine doorways. There are two 14<sup>th</sup> century crosses, and an interesting memorial to William Cowper (d 1709), a leading surgeon.



# Upper Itchen Walks



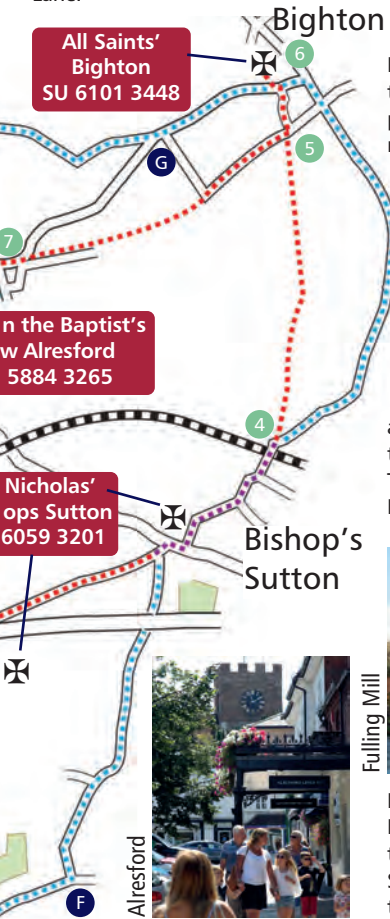
## All Saints' Church, Bighton SU 6101 3448

The church is mainly 12<sup>th</sup> century with later additions. The simple nave and chancel have late 12<sup>th</sup> century aisles, each of which has a chapel to the east. The font is of Purbeck marble. The rich decoration on the ceilings is early 20<sup>th</sup> century, by Sir Ninian Comper.



**Trail 1: Bishop's Sutton, Bighton, Old Alresford, New Alresford (9.3 miles/15km)**

From New Alresford station car park 1, take the path to Sun Lane.



St John the Baptist's

Return to Malthouse Lane 5, turn right to Drayton Farm and pass the watercress beds to the road 7. At the crossroads 8 turn right to St Mary's Church at Old Alresford 9 (2.1 miles/3.3km).

Turn right towards Old Alresford, then left past the green. Follow the Oxdrove Way for 1085 yards/990m, then turn left 10. Continue to the road 11. Turn right, then after 490 yards/450m, turn left then join the Wayfarer's Walk 12. Turn left to Drove Lane 13, cross Fob Down past the ponds to the



Fulling Mill

Dean (14). Turn right, pass the Fulling Mill, and follow the lane to Mill Hill, Broad Street (15) and St John's Church (16). Turn left to the station car park (1) (3.7 miles/5.9km).

**Trail 2: Tichborne, Cheriton (8.2 miles/13.2km)**

From New Alresford Station car park 1, take the path to Sun Lane and Whitehill Lane 2. Turn right into Tichborne Down, to The Cricketers public house (alternative trail 2a starts here). Turn left over the bridge then immediately right 1 and join the Itchen Way past Vernal Farm to

Trodd's Copse 18. Turn left along the Kings Way to Tichborne. At The Old Rectory, turn right to St Andrew's Church 19 (2.8 miles/4.5km).



Turn right to Grange Farm, cross the field and rejoin the lane to Sevington Farm 20. Turn right and follow the path to Hill Houses 21. Turn left into Hill Houses Lane, to St Michael's Church in Cheriton 22 (1.2 miles/1.9km).

Return to Hill Houses Lane, turn left along the Wayfarer's Walk to Cheriton Mill 23. Turn right, and follow the Wayfarer's Walk along Prite Lane and Hinton Lane to the Crooked Billet. Join the B3046, then turn right 24. Cross the golf course to Tichborne Down, turn right and return via Sun Lane 2 to the station car park 1 (3.4 miles/5.4km).

**Trail 2a: Alternative route to include Ovington and Itchen Stoke (12 miles/19km)**

From The Cricketers public house, continue along Spring Gardens (St Swithun's Way) to Alresford Road 25 and follow East Lane to The Bush public house at Ovington 26. Turn right alongside the river to Itchen Stoke and St Mary's Church (1.75 miles/2.8km).

Return to Water Lane, then turn right across the fields. Turn left to Lovington Lane 28 left again to Ovington, then right to St Peter's Church 29 (1.1 miles/1.8km).

Turn left, pass Ovington House, turn left and follow the footpath to the lay-by 30. *Cross the A32 dual carriageway with great care.* Take the King's Way past Trodd's Copse 18 (1 mile/1.5km). (Rejoin Trail 2).



A member of Cheriton's duck population

**The Cycle Route (17.2 miles/27.7km)**



From the car park at Alresford Station 1 go towards the town centre. Turn right for St John's Church 16 (220 yards/200m).

*Cross with care* into Broad Street, and then bear right into The Soke. Cross the Great Weir to Old Alresford and St Mary's Church 9 (0.7 miles/1.1km).

Return to the junction 8 and follow the lane to Abbotstone A (2 miles/3.1km). The remains of St Martin's Church are in the raised area on the left.



At the next junction B bear left to St Mary's Church at Itchen Stoke 27 (1.6 miles/2.6km).

Turn left, then right, cross the ford and turn right to Ovington and St Peter's Church 29 (1.1 miles/1.7km).

Return to East Lane. At Alresford Road turn left to the crossroads. *Take great care at this point C.* Follow the lane to Tichborne and St Andrew's Church 19 (2.4 miles/3.9km).

Turn right, pass Grange Farm and Sevington Farm to the T-junction D. Turn right to Cheriton and St Michael's Church 22 (1.9 miles/3.1km).

Return towards Alresford and turn right into North End Lane E. Follow the lanes to a T-junction F, then turn left along Scrubbs Lane to Bishop's Sutton and St Nicholas' Church 3 (2.8 miles/4.4km).

Follow Church Lane to Bighton 5 and All Saints' Church 6 (2.1 miles/3.4km).

Turn right and at G, take the narrow lane to Old Alresford. From the village, return to the station car park 1 (2.6 miles/4.2km).

