

Around Church Hill

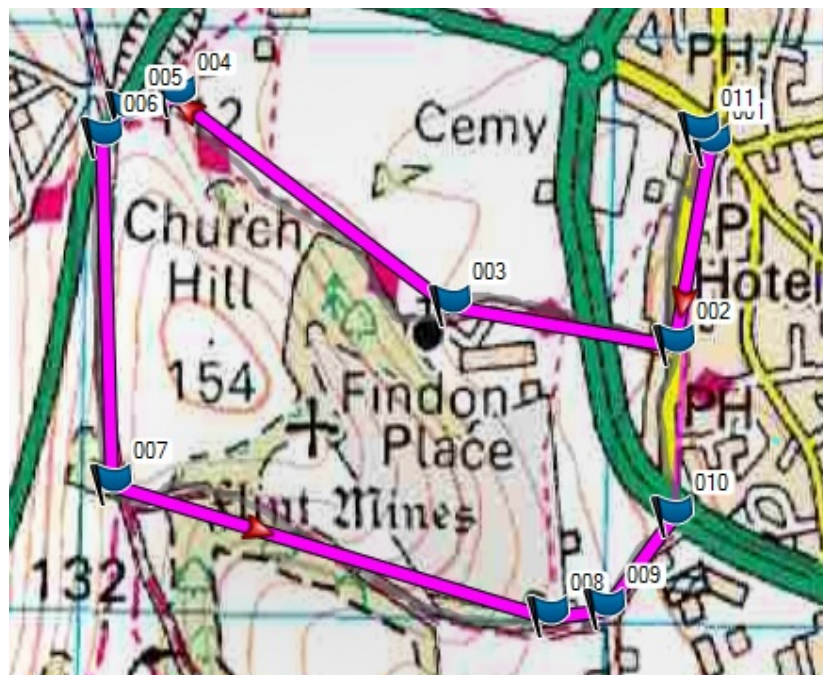
Distance: 2.5 miles or 4 km

Time: Allow 90 minutes

Walk Start: Village centre (TQ 122 088)

Parking: In the village

A relatively short walk around Church Hill, which lies to the west of the village. One of the highlights is the impressive Findon Place next door to the church of St John the Baptist. The manor, grade II listed and in an AONB, dates back to the Domesday Book and the house we see today was mainly built in the early 18th century. Further on, there are some impressive views of the sweeping downland of Long Furlong before a pleasant woodland path guides you back to the village.



From the centre of the village (TQ 122 088), with the butcher shop behind you and The Gun Inn on your right, walk down the residential High Street. Pass the village hall and the Findon Manor Hotel. Where the road bends to the right, turn right onto a track, between a flint wall and East Lodge (TQ 121 084 and 002) East Lodge was originally the lodge of Findon Place. This track used to form the drive to the main residence before the A24 Findon Bypass bisected it in 1938.





Take great care crossing the road and carry on straight ahead towards Findon Place and the Parish church beyond (003). Follow the track to the right of the church. Ignore the gate ahead and instead go through the iron kissing gate to take the path round the edge of the field. Note the views towards Chanctonbury and Cissbury Rings. Go over a stile and carry on straight ahead ignoring another stile to the right into the camp site and cricket ground.

Continue until the track naturally bears on a slight incline to the left (004). Look out for the Monarch's Way marker post (see right) as the path is a little indistinct.



Emerge at another field and cross straight over. At the other side take the path that forks left (004), then down past a gate to arrive at a track near the road (005). Turn left here and as you gain some height there are some lovely views of Long Furlong with Tolmare Farm on the right and, on clear days, down to the sea in the distance.



After half a mile, ignore the Bridleway to the right and instead turn left onto a track a short way after (007). Continue straight ahead onto a really pleasant woodland path. In the spring and summer the tree canopy and bird song is just sublime. Before a left hand bend the eagle eyed amongst you will spot a gate up to the left. From here the views towards the village give a different perspective (008)

At a house (009) continue straight ahead and then left a T junction to bring you back the A24 next door to the garden centre. Cross the road and bear left back into the High Street, passing The Black Horse on your left. Soon reach East Lodge and then retrace your steps to the end of the walk.