

WALKING IN THE NORTH WESSEX DOWNS

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The North Wessex Downs are an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty west of Reading and south of Swindon. This guidebook explores the Downs in 30 walks, that find the best of the wide range of landscapes, history and interest the Downs have to offer. Ranging between 7 to 20km in length, the routes in this guide are suitable for walkers of most abilities; from gentle rambles to more challenging day-long hikes.

History is engrained into the very earth of the Downs. The land of Alfred the Great is also home to ancient Neolithic and Iron age hillforts and white horses carved into the chalk. The Downs also teem with interest for wildlife and flora lovers, as walks amble along the long grassy escarpments, by winding rivers and into deep woodlands.

This guide also provides plenty of practical information to make the most out of exploring the North Wessex Downs on foot. Information on distance, timings, refreshments and public transport links are provided for every walk, alongside annotated OS maps and details on the many points of interest along the way.

Key marketing points

- Peaceful chalk downland easily accessible from most of south-east England
- Area includes important archaeological sites, including Avebury and the Ridgeway

About the author

Steve Davison is a writer and photographer who has lived in Berkshire for over 25 years. He has written a number of books as well as articles for magazines and national and local newspapers, specialising in hill-walking and UK and European travel, and counts nature, geology and the countryside among his particular interests. A keen hill-walker for many years, and a Mountain Leader, Steve has also worked as a part-time outdoor education instructor. He is also a member of the Outdoor Writers and Photographers Guild.

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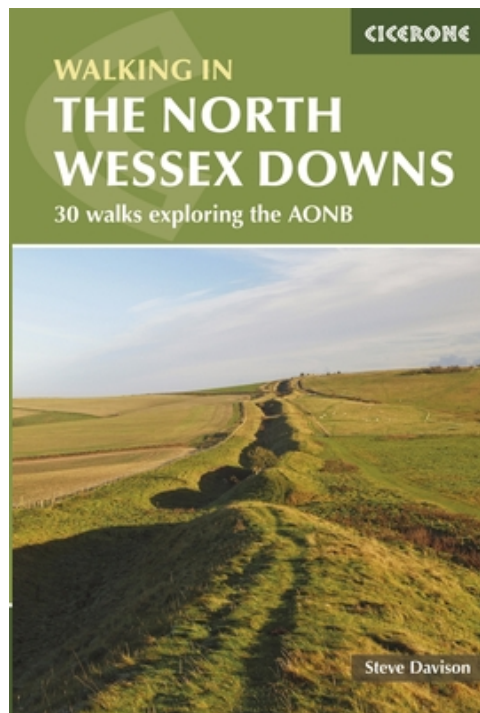
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