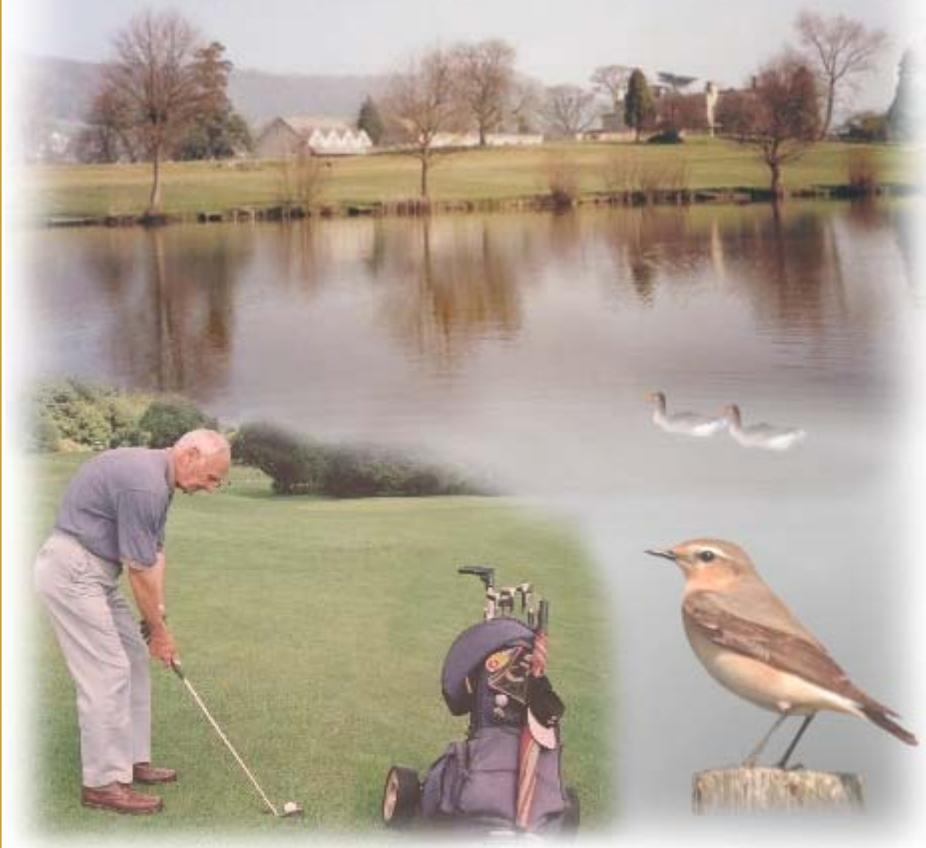




Stouts Hill
Cotswold Holiday Resort

Themed Breaks



Stout Hill

Visit our website: www.stouthill.co.uk

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Stouts Hill

Foreword

First, let me welcome you to Stouts Hill Club Ltd., which is our owner-controlled resort. The freehold of the property is held by the timeshare owners with no developer involvement. This means that the Directors, who are also owners, and the staff, are intimately involved in the operation of Stouts Hill Club and are very keen to ensure that high standards are maintained for the benefit of guests and owners alike.

Over the past few years a number of guests and owners have suggested that we introduce Special Interest Breaks to enable them to enjoy even more time at Stouts Hill Club. We are indeed very fortunate to be situated in an area of great natural beauty and there are many things around which we could have designed our breaks. However we are particularly keen to promote the Club during October through to March which can be a very rewarding time. Visit our resort and see the late autumn, winter and early spring scenarios. After taking soundings from our owners we decided that Fishing, Rambling, Golfing and Bird Watching would be the most popular interest breaks to start with. However should any guest or owner wish to suggest another type of break then please do not hesitate to mention this to a member of our staff.

We are particularly well placed with regard to Fishing Breaks as we have our own well stocked three acre coarse fishing lake and hold 14 rod licences at the resort.

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Included within this booklet you will find specific information relevant to Rambling, Golf and Bird Watching as well as information on local Towns, Villages and Historic Sites, all of which are well worth a visit. There is also a section detailing Pubs and Restaurants in the vicinity, many of which have been visited and are recommended by guests and owners.

Please be assured that your comfort and enjoyment are uppermost in our minds and we will do all we can to ensure that you have an interesting and pleasant stay with us.

Should you have any questions or require any assistance please do not hesitate to contact Reception where a member of staff will be only too pleased to assist you. Likewise, if you have a problem or are dissatisfied with any aspect of the resort please let us know immediately.

George Stewart
Director

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A Short History of Stouts Hill

It is known that properties on Stouts Hill already existed in the 15th century. The present house was built about 1743 to a design by William Halfpenny.

In 1776 the house was purchased by the Reverend William Lloyd-Baker, who with his wife lived here until 1830. The next owner was Colonel Browne who with his family resided at Stouts Hill for a number of years.

The year 1935 saw the house change its character when it was leased to the Stouts Hill Boys' Preparatory School. The school prospered and in 1970 purchased the property and continued to occupy it until 1980 when it was bought for timeshare development and converted, as it exists today.

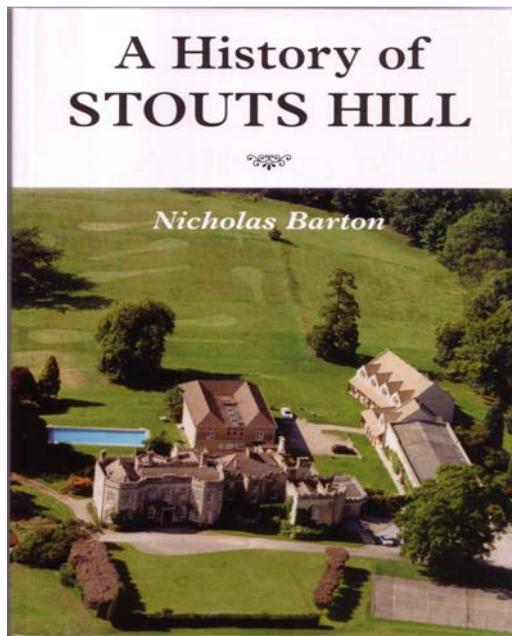
For those interested in learning more about the history of Stouts Hill there are various items of information contained within the folder "Stouts Hill in Uley" which is available from Reception.

We have been presented with a copy of Nicholas Barton's "History of Stouts Hill", which is available for borrowing from the office. This is a very full history. There is now available a shorter version in paperback (illustrated) which is for sale from the office at £10.

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A History of Stouts Hill

This new book describes in detail the history of Stouts Hill and the lives of its occupants from the earliest times until now. Published in Paperback with 126 pages including 15 illustrations – 9 of which are in colour.



Obtainable from:

The Office, Stouts Hill Club Ltd, Uley, Dursley, GL11 5BT.

£10.00 (plus £1.50 postage and packing)

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Directions From Stouts Hill to Local Towns

Dursley – Turn left at the bottom of the drive, down the hill and follow the right hand bend around to the crossroads. Turn left at the crossroads and follow the road until you reach a mini-roundabout and turn right into town.

Cam – As above, through Dursley town. Stay on the A4135 road.

Slimbridge – As above, follow the A4135 through Cam until you reach a roundabout. Go straight across to the beginning of Slimbridge.

Owlpen Manor – Turn right at the bottom of the drive. Continue up the hill to junction. Turn left and follow the road, which bends sharply to the right. Go straight on. Turn left at the signpost for Owlpen and follow the road down through the woods.

Woodchester Park – Turn left at the bottom of the drive, down the hill and follow the right hand bend around to the crossroads. Turn right at the crossroads and follow the road through Uley, continuing up the hill. Where the road levels, take the second turning on the right. Coaley Peak picnic area is on the left.

Tetbury – Turn right at the bottom of the drive and continue up the hill until you reach the crossroads. Go straight across turning left at the next junction. Follow the A4135 to Tetbury.

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Stroud – Turn left at the bottom of the drive, down the hill and follow the right hand bend around to the crossroads. At the crossroads turn right, follow the B4066 road to Stroud.

Gloucester – Turn left at the bottom of the drive, down the hill and follow the right hand bend around to the crossroads and turn right. Continue through Uley. Take a left turn down Frocester Hill. Travel through Frocester towards Eastington roundabout. Follow signposts to either M5 or A38. Gloucester is signposted from here onwards.

Cheltenham – The same as Gloucester but only follow the signposts to the M5. Cheltenham is signposted from here.

Bristol – Turn left at the bottom of the drive, down the hill and follow the right hand bend around to the crossroads. At the crossroads, turn left and continue through Dursley until you come to the Police Station on left. Turn left at mini roundabout and follow the signposts to Bristol (A38).

Bath – Turn right at the bottom of the drive, continue up the hill until you reach the crossroads. Go straight across turning left at the next junction. Continue along the road until you reach the next junction and turn right. Stay on the A46 until you reach Bath.

Moreton in the Marsh – Follow directions as for Tetbury. At the next T-junction turn left. Follow the signposts to Cirencester. At Cirencester, look for signs for the A429. Continue along this road until you reach Moreton in the Marsh.

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Local Shopping

Uley – There is a small shop (Post Office and General Stores) on the left hand side of the main road in Uley village. You will find a good selection of items available. Opening hours are normally:

Monday – Saturday: 8.00am – 5.30pm

Closed for lunch: 1.00pm – 2.pm

Sunday: 9.00am – 1.00pm

POST OFFICE

Monday – Friday: 9.00am – 5.30pm

Closed for lunch: 1.00pm – 2.pm

Saturday: 9.00am – 12 noon

Dursley – One and a half miles away, has a wide selection of shops and a Somerfield supermarket. Opening hours are:

Monday – Saturday: 9.00am – 5.30pm

Sunday: 10.00am – 4.00pm

There is also a Co-op convenience store in Roseberry Road (turn left just after The Carpenters Arms pub on the way to Dursley).

Cam – About 3 miles away, has a large Tesco supermarket. Opening hours are:

Monday – Saturday: 8.00am – 10.pm

Sunday: 10.00am – 4.00pm

In addition – Sainsbury's, Waitrose and a 24 hour Tesco in Stroud. Somerfield in Nailsworth.

Stouts Hill

What to Do – Where to Eat

Places to Visit

We are within easy driving distance of Cheltenham, Bath and Gloucester. Wales is easily accessible. Many places of interest are nearby – stately homes – the world renowned Slimbridge bird sanctuary – ancient churches etc, the list is extensive. On the table outside the reception office you will find brochures with full details.

Places to Eat

Most “pubs” in the area offer bar meals. Many also have a separate dining room. A list follows of the local inns and restaurants from which you may like to make your choice. More information and a selection of sample menus are available on the table outside the reception office.

Pub Meals

Uley – The Old Crown. Turn left at the end of the drive. Turn right at the main road – drive through the village until you reach the Church on the left. The Old Crown is across the road on the right.

Frocester – The George. Turn left at the end of the drive. Turn right at the main road – drive through the village of Uley and to the top of Crawley Hill – continue to the crossroads – turn left – follow signs for Eastington and Frocester. After going down the hill, Frocester is the first village, with The George on the left hand side of the road.

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Nymphsfield – The Rose & Crown. Turn left at the end of the drive. Turn right at the main road – drive through the village of Uley and to the top of Crawley Hill – continue to the crossroads – turn right – follow signs for Nymphsfield and the Rose and Crown.

Kingscote – Hunters Hall. Turn right at the end of the drive. Proceed up Lampern Hill – go straight on at the crossroads, then turn left at the next junction. At Kingscote, Hunters Hall is on the right hand side of the road.

Tipputs Inn – On the A46. Follow directions for Hunters Hall, but continue along the road towards Tetbury. At the A46 crossroads (traffic lights) turn left towards Nailsworth and Stroud – Tipputs Inn is about a mile beyond the crossroads and stands on the left hand side of the road.

Gumstool Inn – On the A4135. Follow instructions for Hunters Hall, but continue along the road towards Tetbury. At the A46 crossroads (traffic lights) continue straight on towards Tetbury, but after 100 metres turn left into the driveway of Calcot Manor where you will see The Gumstool Inn. You may also eat at Calcot Manor, but it is more expensive.

Dursley – Old Spot Inn. Turn left at the bottom of the drive, down the hill and follow the right hand bend around to the crossroads. Turn left at the crossroads and follow the road until you reach a mini roundabout and turn right into the town. Drive past the Market Place following the main road, over the pedestrian crossing, and straight on at the next set of traffic lights into May Lane. The Old Spot Inn will be found on the left.

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Restaurants/Hotels

Calcot Manor Crossroads A46/A4135	Hotel Restaurant 01666 890391 Children welcome	7 days: 12.30 – 1.45 Mon – Sat: 7.30 – 9.30
Cross Hands Hotel Bath Rd (A46)	Hotel Restaurant 01454 313000	7 days: 12.00 – 2.30 Mon–Thur: 6.30 – 10.00 Fri – Sat: 6.30 – 10.30 Sunday: 7.00 – 10.00
Cyderhouse Owlpen Manor	Restaurant 01453 860816	Telephone for times etc
Egypt Mill A46 Nailsworth	Restaurant/Bistro 01453 833449	7 days: 12.00 – 1.30 7.00 – 9.45
Hare & Hounds Westonbirt	Hotel Restaurant 01666 880233	7 days: 12.30 – 2.00 7.30 – 9.30
Hunters Hall Kingscote	Hotel Restaurant 01453 860393	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 6.30 – 9.00
Mad Hatters Cossack Square Nailsworth	Organic Restaurant 01453 832615	Wed – Sat: 12.30 – 2.00 7.30 – 9.00 Last order: 9.00pm
Oldstone Nailsworth	Restaurant/Bar 01453 832808	Wed – Sat: 12.00 – 2.30 Tue – Sat: 7.00 – 9.45 12.00 – 3.00
Passage to India Old Market Nailsworth	Indian Restaurant 01453 834063	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 7.00 – 10.00
Snooty Fox Market Place Tetbury	Hotel Restaurant 01666 502436	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 Mon – Sat: 7.00 – 9.30 Sunday: 7.00 – 9.00

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Some nearby Pubs and Restaurants

These have been recommended by our guests:

Bell & Castle Horsley	Pub meals 01453 832155	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 Tue – Sat: 6.30 – 10.00 Sun: 7.00 – 9.00
Black Horse Inn North Nibley	Pub Restaurant 01453 546841 Children welcome	Mon – Sun: 12.00 – 2.00 6.30 – 9.00
Britannia Nailsworth	Pub Restaurant 01453 832501	7 days: 11am – 11pm
Fromebridge Mill A38	Pub Restaurant 01452 741796	Mon – Sat: 11.00 – 11.00 Sunday: 12.00 – 10.30
George Inn Cambridge	Pub Restaurant 01453 890270 Children welcome	7 days: 12.00 – 9.00
George Inn Frocester	Pub Restaurant 01453 822302	Mon – Sun: 12.00 – 2.00 6.30 – 9.30 Sunday: Lunch Carvery
Gumstool Calcot Manor Crossroads A46/A4135	Pub Restaurant 01666 890391	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 7.00 – 9.30
Half Way Inn Box	Pub Restaurant 01453 832631	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 7.00 – 9.30
Harvester Quedgeley Nr Gloucester	Pub Restaurant 01452 725062	7 days: 12.00 – 10.00 Sunday: 12.00 – 9.00
Hunters Hall Kingscote	Pub Restaurant 01453 860393 Children welcome	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 7.00 – 9.45

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New Inn Waterley Bottom	Pub meals 01453 543659	Tues – Sat: 12.00 – 2.00 Sun: 12.00 – 1.30
New Inn Woodmancote Dursley	Pub Restaurant 01453 543001	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 7.00 – 9.00
Old Crown Uley	Pub meals 01453 860502	Mon–Thurs: 12.00 – 3.00 5.00 – 11.00 Fri – Sun: 11.30 – 11.00
Old Lodge Minchinhampton	Pub Restaurant 01453 832047 Children welcome	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 6.00 – 9.00
Old Passage Inn Arlingham	Pub Restaurant 01452 740547 Children welcome	Tues – Sat: 12.00 – 2.00 8.00 – 11.00 Sun: 12.00 – 2.00
Pickwick Inn Lower Wick Nr Berkeley	Pub Restaurant 01453 810259	7 days: 12.00 – 2.30 6.30 – 10.00
Rose & Crown Nympsfield	Pub/Restaurant 01453 860240	Mon – Fri: 12.00 – 2.30 6.00 – 9.30 Weekend: 12.00 – 9.30
Salmon Inn Nr Berkeley	Pub Restaurant 01453 811306	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 7.00 – 9.30
Stagecoach A38 near Berkeley	Pub Restaurant 01453 810385 Children welcome	7 days: 12.00 – 2.00 6.00 – 10.00
Trouble House Tetbury	Pub/Restaurant 01666 502206	6 days: 12.00 – 2.00 (Tue – Sun) 7.00 – 9.30
Weighbridge Inn (Nr Nailsworth on the B4014 Avening Road)	Pub Restaurant 01453 832520	7 days: 12.00 – 11.00 Sundays: 12.00 – 10.30

SPECIAL INTEREST BREAKS

FISHING

RAMBLING

GOLF

BIRD WATCHING

LOCAL GARDENS

Stouts Hill

Fishing Breaks

Uley Fishing Club:

- In order to fish, you must hold a fishing licence and a fishing permit
- Fishing permits are available from the office
- You may only fish on the Stouts Hill side of the lake
- Stands 1 - 17
- Carp, bream, skimmer bream, tench, roach, perch

Mike Hanney, Secretary, Uley Fishing Club, 9 Bath Road, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire. GL10 2JD 01453 825166

Other fishing venues in the area are:

Harescombe: 07831 127699 Peg fees £7 per day

Staumton: 01452 840230 Peg fees £6 per day

Turley: 01452 780208 Peg fees £6 per day

Watersmeet, Hartbury: 01452 700358

Fishing supplies can be obtained from:

Bait Box: 01453 519619

Lobby's Tackle: 01453 791417

For directions to any of the above venues please enquire at the reception office.

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Rambling Breaks

The Cotswold Way:

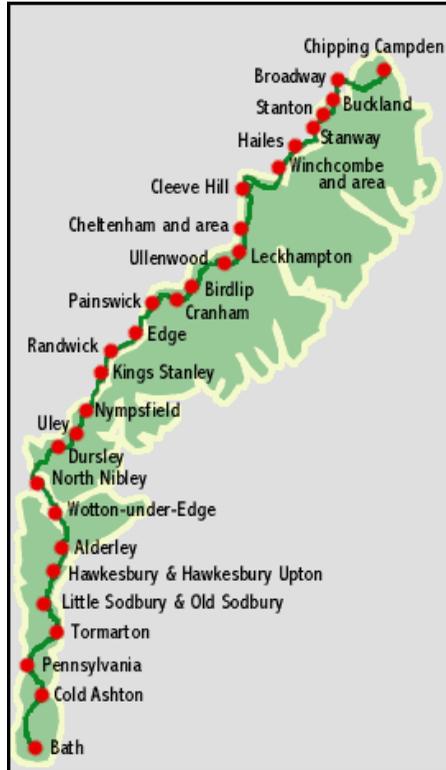
The Cotswold Way, is a 103 mile Long Distance Path from Chipping Campden to the Roman city of Bath. It is claimed to be the best marked trail in England.

Duration of walk: 6–8 days according to choice

Season: April to October

Starting point: Chipping Campden (or Bath)

End of walk: Bath (or Chipping Campden)



The trail will appeal to those who want a very gentle introduction to walking in the English countryside; the Cotswolds are hilly rather than mountainous – the highest point being little more than 1000 feet above sea level. Officially designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Cotswold landscape is an entrancing mixture of parkland, cultivated fields with dry-stone walls of Jurassic limestone, and patches of unspoiled woodland. Almost all the cottages & farmhouses, villages and small towns that our route passes

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are stone built. The way is also a walk through English history, passing prehistoric hill forts and ancient burial barrows, Saxon and Civil War battle sites, as well as fine stately homes.

The Cotswolds became wealthy during the 17th Century, due to the wool trade. The fine stone houses and churches are a symbol of that era. The industrial revolution seemed to bypass the region, and the Cotswolds today is still a very affluent part of Britain.

Typical Itinerary

Stage 1: Chipping Campden to Winchcombe
28km (17.5 miles), 835m (2740 feet). Ascent:

The Cotswold Way begins in one of the area's finest villages and then embarks on probably its most challenging section. Impressive views from the top of the escarpment are interspersed with delightful villages at its foot and there is a wealth of history and interest throughout. Refreshments are readily available with plenty of tea rooms and inns in Broadway, a fine village inn in Stanton serving lunch from 12 till 2pm and a farm shop tea room at Hailes. There are also several shops in Chipping Campden where you can get the ingredients for a picnic site at Fish Hill and other good places to stop, on each hilltop in fine weather.

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Stage 2: Winchcombe to Dowdeswell

22km (13.7 miles), (1770 feet). Ascent:

A day of contrasts that takes you across the wildest part of the Way on Cleeve Common then skirts around the largest town on the route, Cheltenham. After a long climb from Winchcombe, the Way stays mostly at high level before crossing the valley of the River Chelt. Refreshments are served at the golf club on Cleeve Hill and at two inns nearby. Winchcombe has plenty of shops for picnic supplies and there are numerous pleasant places to stop in fine weather. There is a good selection of accommodation available on the outskirts of Cheltenham a short distance from the Way throughout the last part of this section.

Stage 3: Dowdeswell to Painswick

30km (18.6 miles), 550m (1800 feet). Ascent:

This section follows the top of the escarpment with regular shorter hills replacing the long climbs of the earlier stages. It takes you across open grass and farmland and through glorious beech woods passing an amazing collection of archaeological sites along the way. For lunch the Air Balloon Inn near Barrow Wake serves food all day as does the Royal William on the way to Painswick Beacon. The Royal Grange at Birdlip serves lunch from 12 till 2.30 and there is also a small village shop. At Coopers Hill the Haven Tea Garden is a wonderful place to swap tales with fellow walkers. You will find picnic tables at Crickley Hill and other pleasant spots on Leckhampton Hill, Barrow Wake and in Cranham Woods.

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Stage 4: Painswick to Uley

23km (14.3 miles), 590m (1930 feet). Ascent:

More wide views and longer hills again today as the Way crosses the valley of the River Frome. This, unusually for the Cotswolds, breaks through the escarpment to flow west into the Severn, creating impressive slopes of hanging beech woods. The hills above are rich with hill forts and burial mounds but refreshment stops are rather scarce with just one inn on the route at Edge and others just off it in Westrip, Kings Stanley and Nymphsfield. There are shops for packed lunch supplies in Painswick or, with a short diversion, in Ebley near Ryeford and Kings Stanley. The only official picnic site is at Coaley Peak but you will find other nice places at Haresfield Beacon, Standish Wood and Stanley Wood.

Stage 5: Uley to Wotton under Edge

15km (9.3 miles), 430m (1415 feet). Ascent:

A short day and a chance for a bit of a breather though you still have a few hills to negotiate. You can use the extra time to explore the ramparts of Uley Bury and the old cloth weaving town of Dursley or pause for thought at the Tyndale Monument. Refreshments and shops are readily available in Dursley and you can get lunch between 12 and 2pm at the Black Horse in North Nibley where there is also a village post office. You can get supplies at the start in the Uley Stores and there are plenty of scenic (though rather exposed) spots to stop for a picnic around Stinchcombe Hill.

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Stage 6: Wotton under Edge to Tormarton

23km (14.3 miles), 570m (1865 feet). Ascent:

After the climb out of Wotton it is generally easier gradients on this stage. There are no inns actually on the Way before Old Sodbury but short detours will take you to village pubs in Hillesley, just beyond Alderley, and in Hawkesbury Upton. There is also little open ground along this section with the Way following tracks, lanes and field paths so opportunities for picnic stops are limited. The best places are probably the woods along Long Combe on the way to Hawkesbury or by the attractive pond in the village. Old Sodbury hill fort is a scenic stop later on in the walk. There are plenty of shops in Wotton at the start, which are a better bet than the few village shops along the route that have less regular opening hours. It may be worth getting two days' supplies, as the opportunities are also limited tomorrow.

Stage 7: Tormarton to Bath

26km (16.2 miles), 410m (1345 feet). Ascent:

Shorter climbs are followed by the long descent into Bath. The first part crosses the A46 several times and the M5 but also takes you off on pleasant field walks along the hillsides below Dryham Park. The second half takes you up onto Lansdown, site of a Civil War battle and one of the country's highest racecourses, offering wide views over the World Heritage City of Bath. As you walk into the city beautiful parks and the sweep of Georgian crescents replace the open countryside. After an official picnic site before Dyrham there are inns at Pennsylvania (where you can also get provisions from the petrol station shop) and Cold Ashton and other nice spots to stop at, such as Little Down and Penn Hill.

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Getting to the start of the walk

Arriving by train and bus:

Communications into and out of the Cotswolds are very good including train, or National Express coach services to Oxford, Cheltenham and Evesham. You can then take a local bus to Chipping Campden. For the latest information on train departure and arrival times there is a 24 hour British Rail information line service: Tel: 08457 484950, or you can visit the website www.railtrack.co.uk. National Express Coach information can be obtained on 08705 808080 or look at www.gobycoach.com. You can even book up “Open Jaw” tickets for coaches now, which means that you can travel into Oxford or Cheltenham and then out of Bath at the end of the walk!

Most Convenient International Airport:

Heathrow. There are direct connections via the coach station at Heathrow all the way to Bath, Cheltenham and Oxford. Cardiff and Bristol airports are also useful.

Arrival by car:

Chipping Campden is north of the A44 between Evesham and Oxford, 12 miles south of Stratford upon Avon.

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A Selection of other walks close by:

Woodchester and Selsey Common:

4.75 miles taking approximately 2 hours 30 minutes

Maps: Explorer 168, Landranger 162, grid ref. SO 840026

On a clear day this walk has wonderful views of the River Severn, Forest of Dean, Welsh mountains, Malvern Hills and Marlborough Downs. A steady climb through North Woodchester up to Selsey common, then down across farmland past quaint cottages of the conservation area in South Woodchester, then back across the valley through Woodchester to the church.

Start:

Turn off A46 Stroud – Bath signed from North Woodchester, up Selsey Road to telephone box on right. Turn left, then first right. Park on road between St Mary’s Church and houses.

Food and drink:

The Royal Oak, North Woodchester: 01453 872735

The Ram Inn, South Woodchester: 01453 873329

A. Follow churchyard boundary up road, then bend R to go past church gates. After 30 yards turn L up drive. When drive bears L to a house, go straight up a path, and after 50 yards turn R up steps with handrail (way marked). Go along Green Lane to road. Turn R and go down the road for 70 yards. At Selsey Lodge turn L along a narrow road between the stone walls. Shortly after R wall ends, go through a metal squeeze stile on the L into a field. Climb field keeping fence on your L and enter wood over a stile by a gate.

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B. Follow path round to R. When you near the end of the wood you have a choice. The right of way forks L steeply up slope and steps to drive, turns R for 10 yards then goes down more steps into field below house, or use the very clear permissive path if still open to avoid steps. Cross the hillside and go through a copse for 20 yards. Cross a stile, and then go ahead up to a stile in the fence. Cross the next field and aim for an electricity pole between houses and walls. Cross a stile to the L of the pole and emerge on to Selsey Common with Teasel Cottage on your L. Follow track to cross road, then climb steeply (at almost a right angle to the road) past a wall with conifers, with ascending wall on your R and ignoring sunken track rising half L. Cross a track and climb to a bench. Take in the views from May Hill to Rodborough. This open area is covered with tracks and hollows from stone quarrying. Keep going up in same direction. Gradually bear L keeping main quarry on your L to reach the top.

C. Just before the “Toot”, site of a long barrow, is a Millennium Stone Topograph. Enjoy views as far as the Sugar Loaf near Abergavenny, weather permitting. Head across the common, aim towards farmhouse and pass fenced top of quarry and pylon to reach road. [Alternative start point] Cross to two signposts by another pylon and cattle grid with a sign for Bownhill Farm. Walk up drive signposted Inchbrook for 600 yards to a junction.

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D. Go R over another drive and cross stile. Follow path with wind turbine ahead at Nymphsfield. After 200 yards go through metal gate by stile on L. Follow path down to fields with wall and later fence on L. When path bends to R, slightly uphill, look for slab stile on L 10 yards after passing under power cable. Cross the middle of field following line of power cables to stile in corner. Cross and bear L to cross a slab stile. In third field, head to lowest corner, then over stile, down through copse to lane. Cross stile opposite and go downhill to gate. Now go down steps, along level path overlooking Crystal Fountain housing on R and look for kissing gate on L prior to more steps. Go through: climb diagonally to stile in top corner. Turn R along lane. At crossroads turn L up Convent Lane, passing Convent of Poor Clares on R.

E. Now look for Atcombe Court Farmhouse on L and after a further 100 yards go L over stile near gate to path with fence on L leading between two ponds. Go through wooden kissing gate and over drive to metal kissing gate. Climb up field and bear L to near top corner by an elegant metal squeeze stile. Turn L. then, after 10 yards R. Walk through attractive village until you see a half-timbered house. At crossroads perhaps visit the Ram Inn downhill. [Alternative start point if using the pub] Bear L up steep lane, then R up Lagger Lane. In front of last house's garage ahead, turn R down steps to go down through garden, over stile into field past beautiful oak tree to stream. Cross footbridge and climb towards church. Go over stile and through kissing gate to finish.

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Dursley Woods and Waterley Bottom

4.5 miles approximately 2 hours 30 minutes

Maps: Explorer 167, Landranger 162, grid ref. ST 754981

This walk is particularly attractive in early spring, with carpets of wood anemones and bluebells. Steep ascents with excellent views on a clear day.

Start:

Park in Dursley May Lane car park (3 hour limit). From A38 into Dursley turn R at traffic lights into May Lane. From Stroud via Uley or from Tetbury go round the Market Hall roundabout and swing L into Castle Street. Pass swimming pool on R and at next lights go forward into May Lane. In May Lane pass the library and bus station on R and car park entrance is just round the next corner to R (Hill Road).

Food and drink:

The Old Spot Inn, May Lane, Dursley: 01453 542870

The New Inn, Waterley Bottom: 01453 543659

A. On leaving the car park turn R up the next part of May Lane (south) and continue to far end. Now turn L steeply up Hunger Hill and at far end turn R up a bridleway into the woods. Keep to L track at junctions but continue to climb (avoid path going down to L). You will reach a semi-clearing. Bear R along main track. At bridleway crossroads, by posts and chain, go straight across to reach a road.

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B. Continue L along road to a junction (signposted North Nibley), and after another 100 yards cross over a stile on R. Now go straight ahead into Breakheart Quarry and turn R at a low footpath sign. Now circle to L within quarry area, noting floral surprises. Here you can obtain a view of the William Tyndale monument. Join access road and pass between Nuclear Electric buildings. Leave road where it swings to L and go forward past information board (Sunny Scrubland) and through trees to reach a stile. Cross this one, ignoring stile on R and soon cross another into open area. Go in same direction (L of first electricity pole). Enjoy the view over Waterley Bottom. Keep on to gate which comes into view in far corner.

C. Enter lane over fence next to gate and turn R down steep winding woodland path to a stile. Go straight down field, and at the end of fencing, turn L to reach a kissing gate under trees. Descend to road. You should emerge by the New Inn, Waterley Bottom. Go down to the junction and follow road sign L to Wotton-under Edge. Go L again at the next junction towards Whiteway. Pass cottages and bear L opposite barn up to gate.

D. Head straight up field to a small gap in line of trees just to L of slight hump. Climb up passing coppiced trees and in 30 yards you should reach a stile. Now climb two flights of steps until you reach a wide track. Ignore steep path opposite and turn R along the track. Follow this through the woods as it gets steeper until it curves L up to gates. Go through kissing gate turning L on to road and L again at fast main road (A4135). Walk **carefully** along L verge and at next junction cross over to walk downhill on R facing oncoming traffic.

Stouts Hill

Round L bend you will spot an escape ahead. Just before the bend cross to L **with great care** and walk up escape lane bridleway. Follow the bridleway over a vehicle barrier on a small track passing quarry on L. Climb up a little way and bear L through woods following any occasional painted blue bridleway arrows later converging towards level road on L.

E. At timber posts turn R. Proceed down steeply winding sunken path (locally called Crooked Mustard) avoiding tracks off to L. At bottom of wood turn L on to track and continue for 200 yards. There are usually good views of Cam Peak and Long Down from here. Swing R to reach metalled road. At junction turn L up Nunnery Lane. Soon join a track up into the wood. On entering the wood turn R along the track near woodland edge (muddy in places). Go R at signpost down another sunken lane to a road – if visibility is good watch for surprise view of May Hill and the distant Malverns over Dursley Church. Go down beyond a row of cottages and turn L on paved path. This wiggles between hedges and fences and emerges at a junction. Go straight on across and cross another junction. Now continue along The Slade to reach May Lane and the car park. Over the road is the Old Spot Inn. Perhaps visit the town centre. The Market Hall and Parish Church are well worth seeing.

Stouts Hill

Leighterton and Westonbirt

5 miles approximately 2 hours 30 minutes

Maps; Explorer 168. Landranger 162, grid ref. ST 823912

An open level walk across ancient fields with dry stone walls. The edge of Westonbirt Arboretum is reached before the route leads back to Leighterton. Numerous meadow birds including the rare corn buntings can be seen, and hares are often sighted on the grassy slopes near the end of the walk. For a small village, Leighterton has much to interest the visitor and the walk ends with a short tour not on the walk, but near to the school, where trees mark the largest Neolithic Burial Chamber in the Cotswolds.

Start:

Travel via the A46 (Bath to Stroud road). Three turnings off the A46 lead to Leighterton. The middle one leads past the school. Turn R at the next junction to park at (if planning to visit) or near the Royal Oak in Leighterton.

Food and Drink:

The Royal Oak, Leighterton, or within the Arboretum.

A. With your back towards the Royal Oak main car park entrance (by large tree), turn R along road and at junction R again to pass a red post box on L. After 100 yards turn L onto footpath after a house called "The Cuillins". After crossing three wooden stiles by gates close together, follow the path diagonally across several fields surrounded by dry stone walls. Keep on course by checking back to previous stile at each crossing and refer to the map, which follows this text. After a field adjacent to a group of barns, cross stile and follow the

Stouts Hill

wall on your L to stiles. Now bear L to reach a drinking trough set in the stone wall opposite.

B. Cross the stile by the trough and climb half R to the top of the rise, when the next stile will be visible. Bear slightly R but still go diagonally, to reach a gate near far end of R hand wall. The trees of Bowldown Wood are a useful guide. (For the far-sighted, Tetbury Spire in the distance is a good marker) Go through the gate and cut across the corner of the next field to another gate. Continue in the same direction near the edge of the wood. Go through another gate and then in a similar direction to the road.

C. Turn R, walk on the wide verge to the crossroads in the dip. Turn R. to continue along this minor road until a R bend is reached just before an uphill section. (Those who wish to do so can follow the road back to Leighterton and point F). The walk continues through the metal farm gate on the L. Follow the grassy track in the valley bottom with the field boundary on the R, eventually passing through a farm gate into a wood.

D. This track (sometimes very muddy) ends in a clearing where another track meets it from the R. (The gate at this point leads you to a stile on the R into Westonbirt Arboretum, where you may choose to extend your walk. There is a shop, café and public convenience there. If you decide to go there, return to this point to continue the walk). The walk now turns R along the track through the wood westwards towards Leighterton. Do not be tempted along side tracks, but go through a farm gate and ahead on a grassy route between a wall on the L and ancient small trees on the R. Reach a wooden stile on the R of a metal gate.

Stouts Hill

E. Cross the stile and go half R up the slope. At the top of the rise take care to aim for the jutting angle of the wall and continue keeping this wall on your R (see map). Cross a stile. Further on go over another stile near a farm gate and continue with wall on R to a stone stile in the wall. Cross and head gradually away from the wall towards a distant metal gate near the village onto the lane. At gate, go straight on along the lane into the village. Look out for the small cemetery on the R, where you may find the time to spend a moment. Part contains well-tended graves of young Australian Flying Corps airmen from a nearby airfield who died during the 1914–18 war and some sadly in training in 1919. There is a memorial stone here dedicated by the Prince of Wales in 1994. The airmen are also remembered in the village church which you may wish to visit a little later.

F. Continue along the lane, and turn L at The Mead to take a short tour of the village (you could short cut back to the Royal Oak by keeping straight on). Pass a minute Chapel with ‘Doll’s House’ porch and then the 13th century Church, which has an incongruous half-timbered tower, an economy measure when the Victorians ran out of cash and could not afford to replace the original castellated tower. Turn L at the next junction, passing mellow Cotswold houses to reach the village duck pond with its noisy inhabitants. Go R at the crossroads (signed Bath Road) and then R at T-junction. Pass Church Farm Barn (1733), which is now converted to a dwelling house amidst the building development, but happily still retaining a huge pigeon loft and dovecote. Continue back to the Royal Oak.

Stouts Hill

The Slad Valley

5 miles approximately 2 hours 45 minutes

Maps: Explorer 179. Landranger 162, grid ref. SO878088

An interesting and varied walk around the beautiful Slad Valley.

Start :

From Stroud take the B4070 towards Birdlip for 3 miles passing through Slad village to Bulls Cross, where there is good parking adjacent to the crossroads. A milestone/mounting block on the R marks the start point.

Food and Drink:

The Woolpack Inn, Slad

A: Start from the milestone southwards towards Stroud. After a few yards turn L down a drive to Trilgate Farm. When approaching the farm a hidden stile by a gate on the L leads to a permissive path descending to the infant Slad Brook. Alternatively use the Public Right of Way through the farmyard, turning L near the dovecote and out into a field through a farm gate. At the bottom, go over a stile by gate and keep R up steep field to a gate on to a track. Turn L bearing R at fork to reach a surfaced lane. Turn L and walk up to fork. Bear R signed No Through Road. Follow lane passing Down Court (originally farm cottages) through gate to Snow's Farm. Go over stile next to gate near farm house and descend half left to small packhorse bridge, many centuries old, crossing Dillay Brook.

Slouts Hill

B: Bear R from bridge over stile and enter field. Keep R and approach feeder stream, crossing this on wooden footbridge into another field. Continue across to climb stile into larger steep field. The path is indistinct at first but go half L up towards distant wood. Go through metal gate which comes into view on opposite boundary and follow path in same direction to a high stile leading into Catswood. Turn R along woodland track until a steel gate across track is reached. Continue on main track and soon go around L bend. Note coming up on the R the ancient sunken route from Painswick to Bisley. After a few more yards fork R downhill, soon admiring views of Slad. Keep on level straight ahead to join a road and bear R. After 200 yards follow signpost L on level track to visit hamlet of Elcombe. At end of track go down by handrail, then turn R down between cottages to reach the road.

C: Turn L and walk along road to cattle grid at bottom of Swift's Hill. Turn sharp L and follow steep track skirting wood on L and passing old quarrying on R. Where the wood ends go ahead to enjoy the views and rest awhile. This is a nature reserve to be respected accordingly. Now follow a clear path down the west side of the hill towards houses to rejoin the road at another cattle grid. Go downhill and turn L and immediately R at the corner junction, signposted The Vatch cottage on the R. Climb stile on R and follow fence on R up a path to go over another stile and up again to the main Slad road. Turn R.

Slouts Hill

D: [Alternative start for bus users] From Woodside House on L follow the main road up towards Slad to the end of the wall on L. Look for a signpost on R pointing L. Before turning off note one of the best views of lower Slad village and swift's hill. (If you wish to visit The Woolpack Inn and the churchyard with Laurie Lee's grave, they are a further 600 yards up the road. Then return to this point.) Take the steep surfaced path on L and through a gate to a track leading to a gate into a field. Keep to path at side of Worgan's Wood on your R to the old quarry, and pass over a stile to follow an enclosed path with wood on the right, to reach the ridge road (the original Painswick to Stroud road for many centuries).

E: Turn R along ridge road passing Worgan's Farm. At T junction of tracks go straight ahead through gap by metal gate onto enclosed path leading onto Frith Wood. This is a nature reserve owned by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust. At the end of the wood, pass two gates and enjoy the scenery as you cross the common to reach the milestone at the start.

Stouts Hill

Nailsworth, Ruskin Mill, Horsley.

3 miles, approximately 1 hour, 45 minutes

Maps: Explore 168, Landranger 162, grid ref. ST 848995

A short walk over moderate terrain, which passes many fish ponds with occasional herons, until it reaches peaceful Horsley village.

Start:

In Nailsworth, try Newmarket Road car park (23 hour limit), or possibly further up the road for on – street parking. Walk back towards the centre and start just past the Britannia Inn at the junction of Old Market and Market Street.

Food and drink:

Britannia Inn , Nailsworth: 01453 832501.

Bell and Castle, Horsley: 01453 832155.

A: At its junction with Old Market Street, take first on R Brewery Lane and after 50 yards fork L uphill on a surfaced footpath. Follow this ignoring fork L and continue ahead to road, crossing carefully. Follow footpath opposite, and after 50 yards fork R. You reach Ruskin Mill (coffee shop here). Note undershot waterwheel and mill race. Keep L and go straight on beside large mill pond (sometimes drained). Keep on path near to pond as it climbs up steeply and down again to pass houses. Turn R down steps to cross footbridge.

Stouts Hill

B: EITHER On the L is the entrance to Ruskin Mill grounds with a wooden arched bridge, and it is a delight to walk through the grounds on one of the permissive paths up the valley passing the main building to reach a level drive (now see letter C), OR The public footpath goes up steeply to steps to reach the road near old toll house, Pike Cottage. Turn L along road until 100 yards after Horsley sign, bear L down drive into the former fishery.

C: Pass ponds to reach a gate and stile. Leaving Ruskin Mill land you now enter Willow Fishery and walk past lakes and then Mill House. Bear L along enclosed path and through gate. Turn R past tall conifer hedge on R to reach a lane. Turn L with stream on L. Pass cottages on R to reach a road (Washpool), and go across. Continue along valley to junction of paths and go uphill a short way to the R, keeping stream and pond on L. Carry on along the level path to reach the road (Hartley Bridge), and then turn sharply R up the hill to reach the Bell and Castle in Horsley.

D: Go uphill past the Bell and Castle, Church and school on L. Cross here and look for a footpath signpost on R. Turn R along track, which becomes a downhill footpath. After steps, go over stile and turn R through meadow and over stile onto lane in the hamlet of Downend. Go L along lane and follow round to R. At next junction, look for concrete footpath marker, to go up path ahead behind cottages. After next stile bear half R (see waymark) up meadow to go through gateway. Continue in same direction with fence on L to an old metal gate in corner. This has stone pillar. Go through and along the top of next field to top L hand corner stile. Head across

Stouts Hill

middle of next field keeping level. Just below top of far hedge, go up a few steps to cross 2 stiles. Shortly cross high stile on L into paddock and head half L to another high stile out again into field. Continue up field to far corner with house and stone wall on R. Cross stile by stone slab and turn R along lane.

E: Walk downhill past house called “Cleeves” to stone stile on R. Go diagonally down field to gap near corner. Continue in next small field to stile by gate, then, keep L in next field to reach a stile down in corner. Cross and go down steps to track. Turn R down track to road. Cross over and go down another track to another road. Turn R for 20 yards, then, bear L down surfaced path. Halfway down at cross paths continue down to reach Newmarket Road. Turn R past a chapel to reach car park.

Stouts Hill

Wotton-under-Edge circular

5.5 miles, approximately 2 hours 45 minutes.

Maps: Explorer 167, Landranger 162, grid ref.ST 755932

This walk goes through the historic town and then follows a meandering stream before a steep climb up Coombe Hill, with impressive views. Later the walk levels out, before climbing back to Wotton.

Start:

Five miles from junction 14 of M5. From Nailsworth take B4058. Park in the well-signposted main car park in The Chipping (please note there are long and short stay sections).

Food and drink:

White Lion: 01453 842054, Falcon Inn: 01453 521005

A: Leave the car park at the lowest corner along Rope Walk. Turn R down past the shops (Long Street), following it as it bends L into Church Street. Perhaps have a look at the Perry and Dawes Almshouses through the archway on the R (lovely stained glass window in chapel). Continue to junction by War Memorial and cross straight over to go past the Parish Church. Take the first R (Manor Lane). At the bottom, turn L along narrow path and after a few yards turn R into a factory yard. Cross this and go over footbridge. Turn L on the path alongside the stream.

Stouts Hill

B: On meeting road turn R and follow Cotswold Way along the stream path. Upon reaching lane, turn R and immediately left, again following the stream, alongside a field and on to a lane. Turn L and then bear L along lane. As the lane bends up to the R, at the end of houses go straight into field through small gate and follow L boundary to far corner. Turn R up field to corner and cross over stile to road. Perhaps sit on very old (1902) bench for a good view. Turn L along main road to corner.

C: Listen out as you cross over very carefully. Go up enclosed lane and after a few yards cross stile on R into field. Head up field, keeping old tree line on L, and climb up passing strip Lynchets (ledges made by ancient ploughing) to stile in the top fence. Cross second stile and turn L, and after a short way bear R up a narrow path, which climbs steadily around and up the hill. Where it opens out climb to electricity pole on skyline. Follow hedge on R to gate and stile. Continue through wood ignoring path down to L and where track bears R, fork L along footpath to reach Old London Road.

D: Turn sharp L downhill, and at L bend go up steps on R to a gate. Follow a delightful path through Conygre Weed. After a while you will pass a building up on the R and after a similar distance as path goes up a bit, look for a stile and signpost on R to leave the wood. Turn L along road, and soon turn R up bridleway. At junction of paths, turn sharp L and follow Cotswold Way along field edge to a gate on the R. Walk down to the walled clump of trees on Wotton Hill (first planted in 1815 in honour of the Battle of Waterloo). After enjoying the wide views, circle L and look for Cotswold Way leaving the hill.

Stouts Hill

Follow this down until you reach the main B4060. You could short-cut back to the centre by turning L from here (see map).

E: Carefully cross the road, then turn R for a few yards, and take the footpath L between the cottages (just after number 26). Turn R down road, then just before bollards go L. At the bottom of this path cross Bradley Green, following footpath sign for Bushford Bridge. Follow the L hand hedge to a stile, then cross the next field diagonally to a gate. Continue along boundary on R to a stile onto road. Turn L and walk down to the junction. Note the castellated creeper-clad former toll house.

F: Cross road and follow farm drive opposite. This path goes over a stile by gate and along over stile into Hopyard farmyard. Go out through gate on to track. Continue via a series of gates/stiles. Nearing Kingswood, you should spot a stile to L of gate onto the Kingswood Road opposite large house.

G: Turn R then L into Vineyard Lane. After a quarter of a mile, as lane turns R by houses, turn L onto track. Go over stile into field and cross to stile and gate on far side. Continue across next field keeping to the R of Haw Park Farm. Go over the next stile, keeping to the R of the field, and turn R over a stile, halfway up hill. Immediately turn L uphill, through a gap in the old hedge. Go straight across the next field and over a stile onto a wide grassy path near a school playing field. When you reach the road, opposite and up to the L is the car park.

Stouts Hill

Golf Breaks

Local Course Information

Chipping Sodbury Golf Course	
Address:	Chipping Sodbury, Bristol BS37 6PU
Tel:	01454 319042
Visitor Options:	No restriction on old course; must have a handicap certificate and may only play until afternoon at weekends on new course
Facilities:	Lunch, dinner, bar snacks, tea and coffee; bar open midday and evenings, changing rooms, well-stocked pro shop, clubs for hire, professional at Club, motorised carts for hire, buggies for hire, trolleys for hire, putting green and practice area
Green Fee:	£25 18 holes – fairly flat course

Stouts Hill

Cirencester Golf Club	
Address:	Cheltenham Road, Bagendon, Cirencester. GL7 7BH 15 north of Cirencester on A435.
Tel:	01285 652465 and 656124 (pro shop)
Visitor Options:	Restricted play at weekends; contact pro shop in advance. Suits all standards of players. The prevailing wind can make the long par 3's tricky. Only two holes require a climb from tee to green. Good views. Visitors cannot play before 9am and between 12 - 2 pm (1pm in Winter). Must have a handicap certificate
Facilities:	Lunch, dinner, bar snacks, tea and coffee, bar open midday and evenings, changing rooms, well-stocked pro shop, professional at Club, buggies for hire, trolleys for hire, putting green, practice area and driving range
Green Fee:	£13 during the week £35 weekends and holidays 18 holes – fairly flat course

Stouts Hill

Cotswold Edge Golf Club	
Address:	Upper Rushmire, Wotton-under-Edge GL12 11PT 2 miles NE of Wotton-under -Edge on B4058 Tetbury Road
Tel:	01453 844167 and 844398 (pro shop)
Visitor Options:	No handicap certificate required. Phone to ensure course available. At weekends you may only play with a member
Facilities:	Snacks at lunchtime, trolleys/buggies for hire, clubs for hire, putting green and practice area
Green Fee:	£15 weekdays £20 weekends (Special price for Stouts Hill residents with letter – see inside rear cover) 18 holes

Stouts Hill

Minchinhampton New Course	
Address:	New Course, Minchinhampton, Stroud GL6 9BE
Tel:	01453 833866 and 833840 (bookings)
Visitor Options:	Must have a handicap certificate weekdays and weekends
Facilities:	Lunch, dinner, bar snacks, shop, clubs for hire, professional at Club, trolleys for hire, putting green and practice area.
Green Fee:	£32 weekdays £38 weekends and bank holidays 18 holes – quite challenging
Minchinhampton Old Course (1890)	
Address:	Minchinhampton Common, Glos GL6 9QA
Tel:	01453 832642
Visitor Options:	No handicap certificate required. All visitors welcome
Facilities:	Bar, lunches, dinner by arrangement, practice area
Green Fee:	£12 weekdays £15 weekends and bank holidays Equally challenging as New Course – water and copses

Stouts Hill

Oaksey Park Golf & Leisure Club	
Address:	Oaksey, Wilts
Tel:	01666 577995
Visitor Options:	Visitors welcome including juniors
Facilities:	Snacks, bar, club house, trolleys and golf clubs available. Professional golfer available
Green Fee:	£8 or £12 – weekdays (9 or 18 holes) £10 or £15 – weekends (9 or 18 holes) 9 hole course – 35 par – practice ground

Stouts Hill

Painswick Golf Club	
Address:	Painswick, Stroud, Glos GL6 6TL Half a mile north of Painswick on A46. A hidden jewel of the Cotswolds. Plays over Painswick Beacon and has great views
Tel:	01452 812180
Visitor Options:	Not on Sundays – no handicap certificate required
Facilities:	Bar and restaurant – conference facilities, (bar and restaurant not open Mondays), small shop but no pro, practice net/green/chipping area, trolleys for hire
Green Fee:	Varying between: £15 weekdays in Winter £20 Saturdays in Summer 18 holes – "interesting" like a links course, on top of a hill. This course participates in the 'Greenfree' half price voucher scheme.

Stouts Hill

Stinchcombe Hill Golf Club	
Address:	Dursley GL11 6AQ
Tel:	01453 542015
Visitor Options:	Restrictions at weekends, must contact professional in advance 01453 543878
Facilities:	Lunch, dinner, bar snacks, tea and coffee; bar open midday and evenings, changing rooms, well-stocked pro shop, clubs for hire, professional at Club, trolleys for hire, putting green and practice area.
Green Fee:	Winter £20 weekdays £24 weekends Summer £25 weekdays £35 weekends 18 holes – challenging but not hilly with wonderful views

Stouts Hill

Westonbirt Golf Club	
Address:	Westonbirt School, Westonbirt near Tetbury
Tel:	01666 880242
Visitor Options:	Turn up and 'pay and play' - open dawn until dusk
Facilities:	Many visitors go to The Hare & Hounds for refreshments
Green Fee:	£10 a day during the week (can have 2 rounds for same price) £10 for 1 round weekends 9 holes - good course for beginners

Stouts Hill

Golf Courses in Gloucestershire

Brickhampton Court

Cheltenham Road, Churchdown. GL2 9QF

The Bristol Golf & CC

St Swithin's Park, Blackhorse Hill, Almondsbury, Bristol.
BS10 7TP

Bristol & Clifton

Beggar Bush Lane, Failand, Bristol. BS8 3TH

Canons Court

Bradley Green, Wotton-Under-Edge. GL12 7PN

Chipping Sodbury

Chipping Sodbury, Bristol. BS37 6PU

Cirencester

Cheltenham Road, Bagendon, Cirencester. GL7 7BH

Cleeve Hill

Cleeve Hill, Cheltenham. GL52 3PW [Book online](#)

Cotswold Edge

Upper Rushmire, Wotton-Under-Edge. GL12 7PT

Cotswold Hills

Ullenwood, Cheltenham. GL53 9QT

Stouts Hill

Dymock Grange

The Old Grange, Leominster road, Dymock. GL18 2AN

Filton

Golf Course Road, Bristol. BS34 7QS

Forest Hills

Mile End Road, Coleford. GL16 7BY [Book online](#)

Bells Hotel

Forest of Dean, Lords Hill, Coleford. GL16 8BE

Henbury

Henbury Road, Bristol. BS10 7QB

Hilton Puckrup Hall Hotel

Puckrup, Tewkesbury. GL20 6EL [Greenfree](#)

The Kendleshire

Henfield Road, Coalpit Heath, Bristol. BS36 2TG

Knowle, Fairway

West Town Lane, Brislington, Bristol. BS4 5DF

Lilley Brook

Cirencester road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. GL53 8EG

Long Aston

Clarcken Coombe, Long Ashton, Bristol. BS41 9DW

Stouts Hill

Lydney

The Links off Lakeside Avenue, Lydney. GL15 5QA

Mangotsfield

Carsons Road, Mangotsfield, Bristol. BS17 3LW

Minchinhampton

Minchinhampton, Stroud. GL6 9BE

Naunton Downs

Cheltenham. GL54 3AE

Newent

Coldharbour Lane, Newent. GL18 1DJ

Painswick

Golfcourse Road, Painswick, Stroud. GL6 6TL Greenfree

Ramada Gloucester

Matson Lane, Robinswood Hill, Gloucester. GL4 9EA Greenfree

Rodway Hill

Newent Road, Higham. GL2 8DN Greenfree

The Manor Course and Sherdons Golf Centre

Tredington, Tewkesbury. GL20 7BP

Shirehampton Park

Park Hill, Shirehampton, Bristol. BS11 0UL Greenfree

Stouts Hill

Stinchcombe Hill

Stinchcombe Hill, Dursley. GL11 6AQ

Tewkesbury Park Hotel

Lincoln Green Lane, Tewkesbury. GL20 7DN Book online
Greenfree

Thornbury

Bristol Road, Thornbury. BS35 3XL Book online

Tracy Park (The Gloucestershire)

Tracy Park, Bath Road, Wick, Gloucestershire. BS30 5RN

Westonbirt

Tetbury. GL8 8QG

Woodlands G & CC

Trench lane, Almondsbury, Bristol. BS32 4JZ

Woodspring G & CC

Yanley Lane, Long Ashton, Bristol. BS41 9LR Book online
Greenfree

Stouts Hill

Bird Watching Breaks

Bird Life At Stouts Hill

Owner Colin Hudson has recently completed a list of all the birds spotted at Stouts Hill during the week 25th November to 2nd December 2006 and the following is his report for which we thank him.

The more common species seen:

Mallard, kestrel, pheasant, moorhen, lapwing, blackheaded gull, wood pigeon, collar dove, green woodpecker, great spotted woodpecker, skylark, meadow pipit, pied wagtail, wren, dunnock, robin, blackbird, songthrush, gold crest, long-tailed tit, jay, magpie, jackdaw, rook, carrion crow, starling, house sparrow, chaffinch, greenfinch, goldfinch, linnet, yellowhammer, and heron.

A few notable species:

A buzzard overhead, a sparrowhawk flashed along the bottom hedge on 28th November, a nuthatch in the tree on the driveway on 30th November, whilst in the games room pausing for breath I looked out of the window and saw a tree creeper just below. Tawny owls were heard most evenings by the lakeside. I spent a few minutes on the afternoon of 1st December speaking to a fisherman/birdwatcher by the lake and he told me that he often sees a kingfisher, I was not lucky enough to see one for myself this week. Perhaps on my next visit?

There is now a bird identification book in the library at Stouts Hill following a visitor's recommendation.

Stouts Hill

Slimbridge Wetland Centre

We are fortunate at Stouts Hill to have nearby the world famous Slimbridge Bird Sanctuary. This, the vision of Sir Peter Scott, holds international significance as the headquarters of the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT) and it is here that the world renowned experts of WWT Consulting and Species Conservation are based.

With an astounding array of wildlife from water voles to waders, hares to dragonflies, Slimbridge is home to the world's largest collection of swans, geese, and ducks. It is the only place in the world where you can see all six species of flamingo.

The award winning visitor centre and grounds are home to a year round programme of activities and events. With bird watching, arts and craft sessions, music festivals and farmers markets. At the visitor centre you can take a trip to the top of Sloane Tower for a magnificent 360 degree view of Slimbridge and the Severn Estuary.

For more information telephone: 01453 891900

Local Garden Breaks

Gloucestershire and the Cotswolds contain some of the finest gardens in Britain. They range from national icons such as Hidcote manor and Westonbirt Arboretum to lesser known treasures such as Mill Dene and Bourton House Garden (winner of the prestigious HHA/Christie's Garden of the Year award 2006). In all the region boasts over fifty top class gardens that are regularly open to the public, many are at their very best in the autumn and winter.

Listed below are a few, which I would thoroughly recommend to those of you planning a 'Garden Break' in the glorious Cotswolds.

Batsford Arboretum: 01386 701441

Batsford contains one of the largest private collections of trees in Britain and in autumn the whole place is a magical kaleidoscope of colour. It has a strong Asian influence with statues of Buddha and grazing Sika deer placed alongside streams, pools, waterfalls and a delightful Japanese Rest House.

Bourton House Garden: 01386 700754

Planted only ten years ago, this 3-acre garden is rapidly developing into one of the Cotswolds finest gardens. It is full of exciting plant and colour combinations set off by evergreen box and yew immaculately clipped into knots, parterres and spiralling topiary.

Stouts Hill

Hidcote Manor: 01386 438333

Created by American horticulturist Major Lawrence Johnson in 1907, Hidcote Manor is famous the world over. It is a stunning garden comprised of a series of outdoor “rooms” each with strong, but very different design and there is a surprise around every corner. The garden was created to provide colour and interest throughout the year, including autumn.

Mill Dene: 01386 700457

Set in beautiful steep-sided Cotswold valley, these delightful gardens surround an old woollen mill, which dates back to Norman times. The mill pond and race are now incorporated into the garden and the sound of moving water provides a tranquil backdrop to your exploration of its horticultural delights which include a potager, cricket lawn and a mysterious steamy grotto.

Painswick Rococo Garden: 01452 813204

Truly, a fascinating garden at any time of year, providing the only complete example in Britain of the 18th century English garden design known as Rococo. Here you will find a wealth of intriguing follies, winding walkways and magnificent vistas, which in autumn look out across rolling Cotswold Hills clothed in beech trees the colour of burnished gold.

Stouts Hill

Sezincote: enquiries @sezincote.co.uk

It was Sezincote that inspired John Betjeman to write his famous poem “Summoned by Bells”. He was a regular visitor to this remarkable place, which is considered one of the most fascinating garden landscapes, not just in the Cotswolds but in the whole of Britain. Think of the architecture of the Brighton Pavillion and combine it with the gardens of the Taj Mahal and you will be getting close.

Westonbirt Arboretum: 01666 880220

Our national arboretum and probably the most famous garden for autumn colour in Britain. Here you will find 600 acres of Cotswold woodland interspersed with hundreds of Japanese maples, Persian Ironwoods and Liquidambar all resplendent in autumn colours ranging from burgundy, through pillar-box red to clear butter-yellow.

Stouts Hill

STOUTS HILL CLUB LTD

Uley, Dursley
Gloucestershire GL11 5BT

Tel: 01453 860134
Fax: 01453 860898
Email: holids@stouthill.co.uk

Cotswold Edge Golf Club
Upper Rushmire
Wotton-under-Edge
Glos
GL12 7PT

(01453 844167)

Dear Sir or Madam

As previously agreed, would you please arrange for the holder of this letter to have the use of your course for the fee of £15 per round, or £20 at weekends.

The holder of the letter has been advised to ring beforehand to check availability.

Yours faithfully



Maureen Dolphin (Mrs)
Resort Manager