

Winchcombe Walkers are Welcome

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Walk Number 1

Sudeley Castle circular walk

A short circular walk taking in pretty Vineyard Street, Sudeley Castle and the river. Alternatively follow the main road into Winchcombe.

Distance: 2 miles / 3.2kms

Duration: 1 hour

Difficulty: An easy, fairly level walk.

Start/finish: Back Lane car park - £1 all day. Toilets 20p in car park.

Refreshments: Winchcombe and Sudeley Castle

Ascent: 125 feet/38 metres

OS maps; Outdoor leisure 45, Landranger 163

Leave Back Lane car park via the far corner access into Cowl Lane. Turn right and follow the road to the High Street. Turn right and follow Abbey Terrace until you see Vineyard Street on your left. Carefully cross the main street and continue down Vineyard Street (also known as Duck Street), over the bridge and up the slope to the entrance of Sudeley Castle **A**.

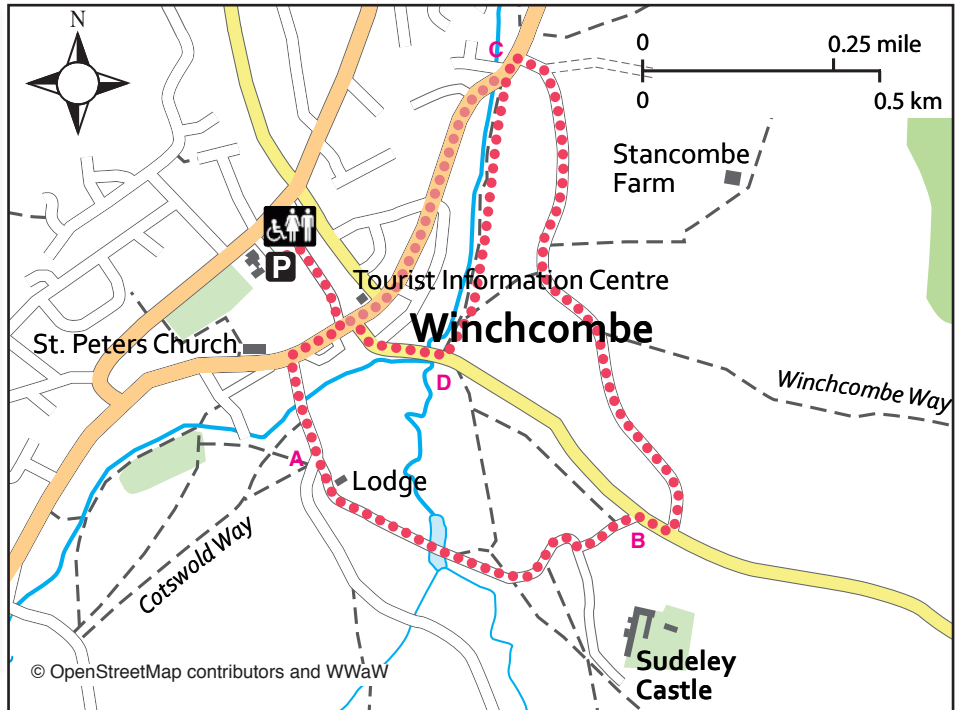
Continue ahead along the drive, passing the unusual Almsbury Lodge.



Almsbury Lodge

Walk down through the avenue of lime trees to the bridge over the lake. Carry straight on along the driveway, passing the children's play fort on your right towards the car park. Follow the drive and pass in front of the Visitor Centre and continue on to the car park exit **B**.

Go through the gate and turn right along the road, until you reach the gatehouse. Turn left and carefully cross the road into Rushley Lane. Follow this lane past Laundry



Driveway to Sudeley Castle

Cottage, taking in the views across the valley to Winchcombe.

Eventually the lane turns left at the junction with Stancombe Lane. Follow the road as it turns left and walk down to the main Broadway Road and then turn left **C**. From here there are two options to return to the town centre:

Option 1 – Just before the bridge, go through the kissing gate on your left and follow the surfaced path alongside the river.

At the far end of the third field go through the kissing gate and walk along the alley



Sudeley Castle

between the cottages to Castle Street **D**.

Turn right and follow the road over the bridge and uphill to the High Street. Carefully cross the road and turn left to the Cats Whiskers (hairdressers) and turn right into Cowl Lane and follow this to Back Lane car park.

Option 2 - To stay on a hard surface follow Broadway Road back into town with its variety of different style houses. Follow the road into Winchcombe, go past North Street, continue ahead into High Street until you meet Cats Whiskers (hairdressers). Here turn right into Cowl Lane and follow this to Back Lane car park.

Points of interest

Sudeley Castle - Katherine Parr the sixth wife of King Henry VIII is buried in the chapel which contains her marble tomb. During the Victorian period much of the castle was restored by the Dent family.

River Isbourne

Allegedly, the only river in England to flow north for its entire length. It emerges from a spring on Cleeve Common and joins the River Avon.

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