

Selsley Common – A stiff climb, splendid views and very fresh air!

Approx 2.5 miles

From Church Green take the path through the churchyard and turn right onto Church Road to pass the village hall and the Royal Oak. Turn left onto Selsley Road then take the second right onto Water Lane (no sign). Pass Selsley Lodge on your left and Lawns Park on your right and look for a footpath going left near a speed limit sign and a building, through a squeeze stile up the field. Don't be led astray by an obvious path going slightly right across the field - this is not the right of way. Keep to the left hand field boundary especially towards the top to reach the stile into the wood. A 'Trespassers will be Prosecuted' sign has appeared towards the left of the gate. This refers to the woodland and does not affect the path. Keep going, you have every right to be here. When you reach a marker post, the path forks, keep left in the direction indicated on a leaf covered path, between two large trees, go round the hill and up steps to join a driveway at another marker post. Turn left on the driveway, turn right with it and then go left again off this up steep steps to a stile. The official path keeps to the right across this patch of ground to the road across Selsley Common.

Turn left and keep to the edge of the road, crossing over to a point left of the houses. The next objective is to reach the ridge on the top of Selsley Common. Keep close to the houses round their boundary fence/wall and continue along a field boundary until the common opens out and a wall corner turns right. Turn right on a path then very quickly (about 10 metres) left towards the ridge. This path is narrow and can be difficult to spot if the grass is long. Go straight on crossing several paths until you can see the other side. Cross a path and go round to the left of a large depression. As you curve round, you can see a rock ahead of you to the right. This is the topograph. Walk to it.

After admiring the views, stand facing the topograph, pointing north and head for the marker post in front. Take the path in front of the post going right along not down. All Saints Church, Selsley with its distinctive tower is below you to the left. Stay on the more distinct path, keeping left of the big crater, then go down and up through smaller craters towards a seat.

When you reach the seat, go ahead for a few yards and turn left on the higher of two parallel tracks. Continue down, gradually turning right to where several tracks meet at a point. Go ahead to join a track by a wall corner. Cross the track and continue with the wall on your right heading towards the road. Stay with the track to the road.

Cross the road to an old track above a driveway.

If you want to return by Water Lane, turn left to the speed limit signs then right down Water Lane.

If you want to take the field route, turn right on the old track. Shortly after a stone block, fork left to a second block and continue towards the houses and a footpath sign. Take the path with Teasel Cottage on the right, over a stile into the field. Go ahead to another stile but do not cross it. Turn left and descend to a stile in the bottom right hand corner, leading to Water Lane.

Cross to the stile opposite. Water Lane walkers wishing to rejoin the route should look out for a stile on the left after the last house.

Go into the field and take the path half right towards the wood. Go over the stile, down the steps and continue to a stile into the field. Cross this and go half left to a kissing gate in the corner.

Go through the gate and follow the path between walls to Church Lane and turn right.

Look for a path on the left (before you reach the bungalow). Take this to reach a field. Keep to the path along the top edge and emerge through a kissing gate onto Selsley Road. Cross the road and go along Southfield Road. Turn right up Church Road and return to Church Green.