

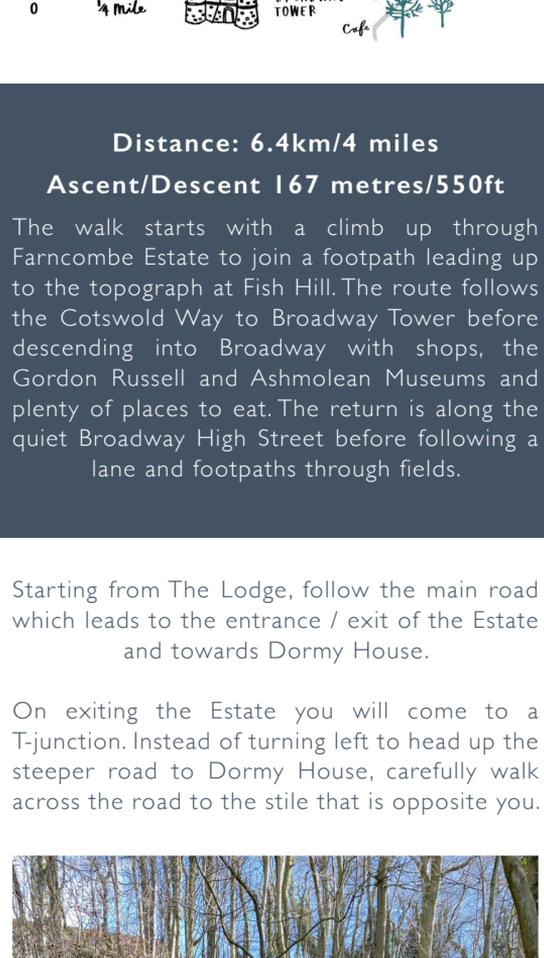


The Fish

Walk to Broadway Tower & Village

Enjoy stunning panoramic views of the Cotswold countryside before descending into the picturesque village of Broadway.

Be prepared, this walk is beautiful but steep in sections.



Distance: 6.4km/4 miles

Ascent/Descent 167 metres/550ft

The walk starts with a climb up through Farncombe Estate to join a footpath leading up to the topograph at Fish Hill. The route follows the Cotswold Way to Broadway Tower before descending into Broadway with shops, the Gordon Russell and Ashmolean Museums and plenty of places to eat. The return is along the quiet Broadway High Street before following a lane and footpaths through fields.

Starting from The Lodge, follow the main road which leads to the entrance / exit of the Estate and towards Dormy House.

On exiting the Estate you will come to a T-junction. Instead of turning left to head up the steeper road to Dormy House, carefully walk across the road to the stile that is opposite you.



Follow the woodland path going through the trees, this should begin to level off after a short while. Continue along, minding your step on the path until you emerge on the top of Fish Hill next to the road.



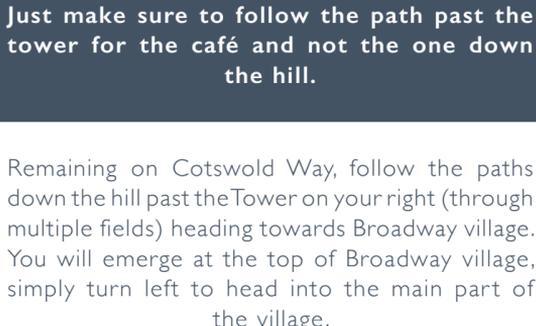
Following the signposts for 'Limestone Trail' as a guide, turn left and continue adjacent to the road until you reach an open area. Here, continue straight until you reach picnic benches and Fish Hill's public toilets.

Here is a perfect place to stop for a rest, catch your breathe and take in the stunning country views.

Once ready, turn right at the end of the picnic area by the toilets and follow the path heading towards the road.



Cross the road carefully, on the opposite side of the road will be another path with signs for 'Cotswold Way'. Continue along the Cotswold Way path through the fields, heading towards Broadway and Broadway Tower.



Once at the Tower there are multiple benches for a short rest or there is a café if you are looking for a snack or hot drink. Just make sure to follow the path past the tower for the café and not the one down the hill.

Remaining on Cotswold Way, follow the paths down the hill past the Tower on your right (through multiple fields) heading towards Broadway village. You will emerge at the top of Broadway village, simply turn left to head into the main part of the village.



With various shops, restaurants, bars, and pubs, we highly recommend stopping for a short while to enjoy the atmosphere and explore the village.

To return to The Lodge, walk back up the high street on the left-hand side towards where you initially emerged from when arriving at the village. Continue past this entrance and walk up the high street until you reach Bibsworth Lane, this will be on your left-hand side.



Follow Bibsworth Lane, you will pass houses on your right before arriving at a forked pathway. Turn right and follow the lane which will take you underneath a road bridge. Directly opposite there will be a small gate leading to the public footpaths. Enter this initial gate and then bear left towards the kissing gate, do not take the bridle path.

Continue through the fields, keeping the farms to your left. Once you enter the final field, head straight keeping the wind speed flag to your right and the fencing to your left. On your right will be a set of steps, which will take you to the end of the carpark outside of The Lodge.



Turn left and arrive back at The Lodge.

Facts

1. Broadway Tower was built in the late 18th century and is famous for its views across multiple counties (16 in total if the sky is clear!). William Morris spent many country-getaways here, and it's believed that he penned the letter that eventually founded the 'Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings' in 1877. The Tower is surrounded with wildlife, most captivating would be the Red Deer with their young born in June/July and most commonly seen in the late summer and autumn months.
2. Formerly known as 'The White Hart' in 1532, The Lygon Arms contributes to Broadway's rich history. It has hosted various historical figures, most memorably King Charles I, and Oliver Cromwell who actually stayed at the Inn
3. The Cotswolds used to be fully below sea level and one of the key reasons the architecture and countryside is one of the most beautiful is thanks to the oolitic limestone. This is quarried and used for walls, tiles and buildings, becoming a staple of the Cotswolds over the years.
4. Stagecoaches were in general use from the early 18th century for about 150 years. Coaching Inns (or what were known as Staging Inns) were usually spaced some seven miles apart, many offering very basic facilities whilst others had access to a blacksmith, farrier or a wheelwright. Coaching routes through the Cotswolds generally followed the Roman roads, Broadway being on the main route to London from Worcester making it an important staging point.

Feel free to borrow a pair of Muck Boots. Once you've enjoyed your walk please pop them back in the Boot Room for the next guest...