

Useful Information

Directions

All the walks were tested in 2013. Please note, however, that some footpaths may be diverted and buildings such as pubs may have changed their name since the walks were written. If you have any comments please send them to the Harbour Office to be considered for the next edition.

Distances and Timings

All distances and timings are approximate.

Maps

The maps provided are a guide and are not to scale. Please use OS Explorer Map 120 (Chichester).

Map References

The reference given is for the start point of the walk.

Public Transport

Buses: Stagecoach run most of the local buses. Timetable details are at www.stagecoachbus.com/south or telephone **0871 200 22 33** (10p per minute).

For the Selsey – Itchenor service see www.compass-travel.co.uk

Trains: Timetable information is at www.nationalrail.co.uk or telephone **08457 48 49 50**.

Stiles and Gates

Please note stiles are gradually being replaced with gates where appropriate. This may affect some of the walk directions and photos.

Tides

Please note some paths are flooded at high tide. If you have misjudged the times, you usually only have to wait a short while before the path is clear enough to use. Tide times can be found at www.conservancy.co.uk or from the Harbour Office; please note these are only a prediction and factors such as low pressure can make the tide higher than expected.

Tourist Information

Chichester: www.visitchichester.org or telephone **01243 775888**.

Hayling Island: www.visithavant.co.uk or telephone **023 9246 7111**.

Weather

Please check the weather before starting your walk and take the appropriate clothing. Weather forecasts can be found at www.conservancy.co.uk or from the local tourist offices.

Acknowledgements

All walks were written and photographed by Ali Beckett for Chichester Harbour Conservancy. Design work on the book was undertaken by Neil Pafford at Pafford Design. Funding was generously provided by the Friends of Chichester Harbour.

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7.5km/4.5 miles

2 hours

Map Ref. SU 836 011 - Ordnance Survey Explorer 120

Walk 3

Chichester Marina to Dell Quay

A 7.5km, figure-of-eight walk taking in one the largest marinas in the country and the tiny village of Dell Quay which was once a busy commercial port.

Start Point

Free visitors' car park at Chichester Marina, Birdham.

By Road

From the A27 take the A286 south of Chichester towards the Witterings. After about 2 miles turn right into Chichester Marina. The visitors' car park is the first one you come to on the right.

By Bus

Service 52 or 53 from Chichester to the Witterings. Ask for the Chichester Marina bus stop.

Refreshments

Cafés at Chichester Marina and The Crown and Anchor at Dell Quay.

Toilets

Near the entrance to Salterns Copse.

Tides

The paths are non-tidal.

Walk Directions

From the bus stop walk down the road towards the Marina where you will shortly find the visitors' car park on your right. From the end of the car park, turn right and pass the barriers with the marina on your left. ①





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You will pass a large reed bed on your right and then a bird hide. Take a few moments to stop to visit the hide from which you may be able to spot Reed Buntings and Reed Warblers and hear Cetti's Warblers.

Continue down the road to the waterside. In the distance look out for the white roofs of the Goodwood Racecourse grandstand.

When you reach the water, turn right into Salterns Copse and immediately take the left fork. 2 This path follows the shoreline and continues to the edge of the Copse.

The path then continues ahead along a field boundary. You will shortly be able to see the green roof and spire of Chichester Cathedral and the village of Dell Quay.

Continue along the path which eventually turns inland around a garden fence before reaching a road.

Here you can turn left to visit Dell Quay. Walk down the road where you will find The Crown and Anchor, a pub with wonderful harbour views. Past the pub you can walk onto the historic quay which at high tide is likely to be busy with sailing activity.

To continue the walk, return back up the road and past the entrance to the path from which you emerged. Turn right at a wide farm track signposted Apuldram Manor Farm. 3 You are now on a section of the Salterns Way cycle route so please watch out for cyclists.



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Follow the farm track which passes between arable fields and then past a cow shed before bearing right to cross a field down to Salterns Copse.

Continue straight ahead alongside the Copse until you reach the entrance.

From here, walk ahead towards the Marina office (4) to cross the lock. If the lock is open you may have to wait a few minutes as boats use it, before the lock keeper closes it for you to cross.



Continue straight ahead towards the canal and then follow the road round to the left with the canal and houseboats on your right.

Make your way across the car park and pick up the path running alongside the Marina. This will take you through a small complex with a café and general store.

The path follows out of the complex and will lead you back to the visitors' car park, or continue on back up the road to the bus stop.

Extra Items of Interest

Salterns Copse

The copse is an eight acre woodland adjacent to the shoreline of Chichester Harbour on Apuldram Manor Farm. It is the largest ancient woodland remnant on the Manhood Peninsula and is of great ecological interest. The area is managed by coppicing. It is divided into ten sections which are coppiced in rotation. Trees such as hazel are cut back to the ground leaving the 'stool' to grow new stems sometimes as many as 30-50.

Chichester Marina

The marina was opened in 1966 with eight pontoons. Further pontoons were added in 1968 and 1970. It can now berth 1071 boats and is the second largest marina in the country.

Chichester Canal

The canal runs from the city of Chichester down to the Harbour, ending at the lock gates by Chichester Yacht Club. It was opened in 1823 as part of a larger canal scheme to carry cargo between London and Portsmouth. Competition from the railways meant that the canal was never commercially viable and it fell into disuse by 1906. A footpath runs alongside the 4km canal and would extend this walk into Chichester. To pick up the path, cross the A286 at the Marina entrance and you will see the canal path opposite you.

Apuldram Airfield

As you walk down the farm track, (3) try to imagine the field on your right as an airfield. Back in February 1943 two runways were laid here to make a temporary airfield. The runways were a metal track which allowed the grass to grow between the steel mesh. This allowed farmers to graze their animals on the airfield when it was not in use. See p68 for more information.