

Introduction

This is one of a series of routes that may be enjoyed by all including wheelchair users, families with pushchairs, those wanting a more gentle walk and walkers who are less mobile. The route has been selected as it has no barriers, such as stiles or steps. Detailed information on the route is provided - it is up to the user to decide what is suitable for them. Every effort has been made to ensure the information is correct at the time of publication, however things change over time. West Sussex County Council would like to thank John and Jenifer Fox for providing the inspiration to publish easy countryside trail information.

Other routes can be found on the West Sussex County Council website: www.westsussex.gov.uk



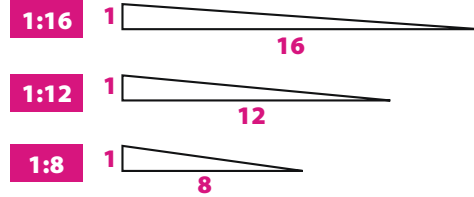
Public Travel



Some of the routes are accessible by public transport, for further information please visit www.westsussex.gov.uk or contact Travel line on 0871 200 22 33



Gradients



Gradients of slopes have been shown to help you decide if a route is suitable. To help you relate to these gradients we have attempted to describe them below assuming an average wheelchair user with an averagely strong pusher.

1:16
Gentle slope. Extra effort may be required over long distances. Gradients less than 1:16 have not been measured as they are considered easy going.

1:16 - 1:13
Fairly gentle slope, extra effort will be noticeable over longer distances.

1:12
Slope noticeable but not particularly steep, extra effort will be required over medium to long distances.

1:11 - 1:8
Steeper slopes, will require extra effort even over short distances. Only short sections of gradients of this steepness are found on any of the routes in this booklet.

> 1:8
Steep slope - nothing of this steepness will be encountered on these walks.

Please follow the Countryside Code and respect the local area you are visiting.



Key to maps Please note that some symbols may not be used on this walk.

- Easy Access Trail
- Extension to Easy Access Trail
- Public Footpath or Bridleway
- Permissive Path
- River/Stream/Canal
- Waterway/Water Channel
- Parkland/Wooded Area
- Urban/Built-up Area
- Parking
- Gradient Information
- Seating or Picnic Area
- Refreshments
- Church
- Caravan Park
- Gate
- Marshland



<i>Distance</i>	4.4km (2.7 miles) return trip
<i>Terrain</i>	Compacted stone, can be bumpy in places Maximum gradient: 1:12 on the bridge over the canal from Hunston otherwise the route is level
<i>Start/finish</i>	Hunston Car Park Grid reference: SU 856 023 Post code: PO20 1NR
<i>Directions</i>	The car park is just north of Hunston Village on the B2145
<i>Alternate Start</i>	Chichester Canal Basin, adjacent to Police Station limited parking on-street along Canal Wharf Grid reference: SU 858 041 Post code: PO19 8DT
<i>Directions</i>	From the A27 take the A286 into Chichester, after 400m turn right into Canal Wharf
<i>O.S. Maps</i>	Explorer 120, Landranger 197
<i>Public Transport</i>	Train station: Chichester 200m /180 yds to Chichester Canal basin Bus stop: Hunston village, near The Spotted Cow Bus stop: Canal Wharf, Chichester (50m /45 yds to Canal Basin)
<i>Points of interest</i>	Canal, wildlife, views of Chichester, boat trips – call 01243 771363 or visit www.chichestercanal.co.uk
<i>Facilities</i>	Shop at the Canal Wharf (open 9.30am-5pm in the Summer and 9.30am – 3.30pm in the Winter) with refreshments, disabled toilet and benches. Spotted Cow pub in Hunston 200m from canal

Chichester Canal was opened in 1823 to link the Wey and Arun Canal to Portsmouth, giving Chichester a direct link to the sea. It was never commercially viable and in 1906 the last cargo of shingle was carried from Birdham to Chichester. It is now managed by the Chichester Canal Trust and is a considerable local amenity and attraction.

There is a very good surfaced path from the canal basin in Chichester to Hunston which is well used by walkers and cyclists. This walk can be done either way; a favourite is to park in Hunston and walk to Chichester Canal basin for refreshments and a rest before the return journey. It may be of interest for another visit, that there is a boat, 'The Egremont', which can take wheelchairs on the round trip from the Chichester Basin to Donnington Bridge, taking 75 minutes.

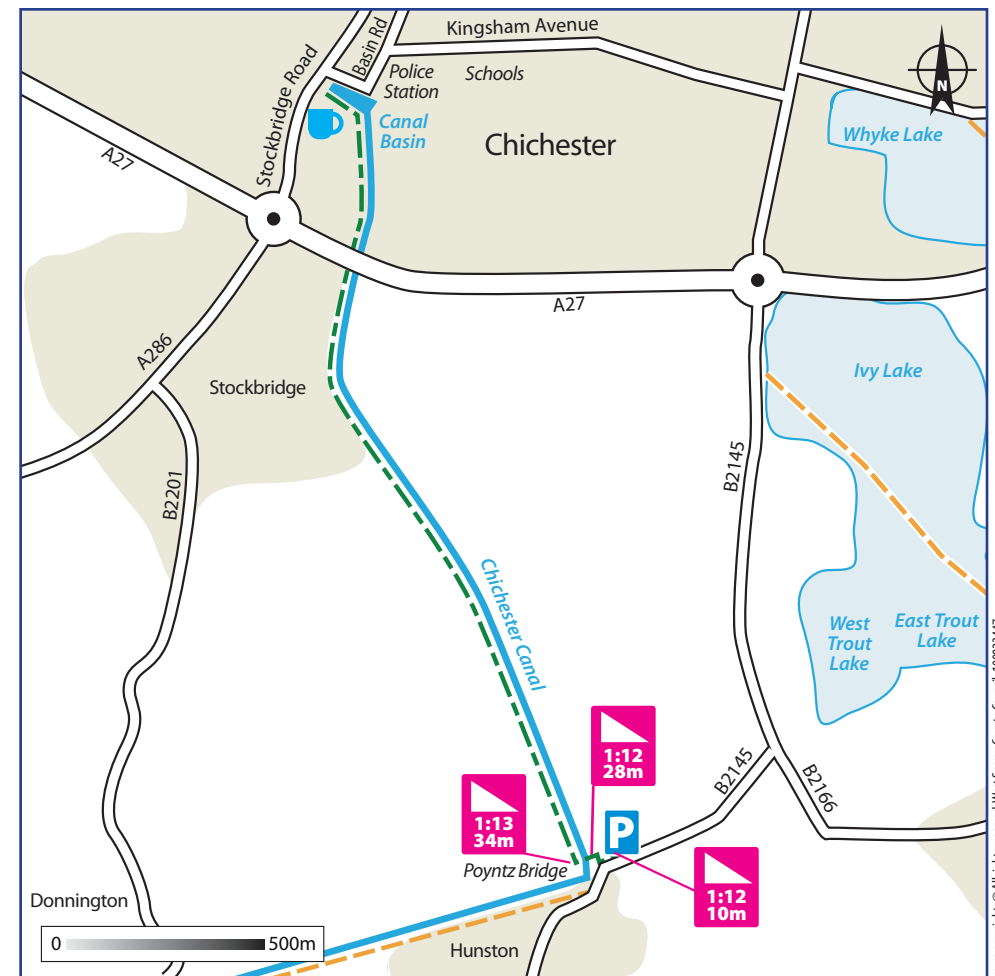
As you leave the car park the steepest part of the walk is going over the canal bridge before getting on the level tow path. Along the canal are many moorhens, coots, mallards and swans, perhaps an egret and even a kingfisher. Walking towards Chichester there is a wonderful view of Chichester Cathedral with no sign of the city that now surrounds it. It was near here that Turner painted the canal in 1829, little has changed since then.

Pass under the A27, from here it is only 400m to the Canal Basin where you can stop for a rest of refreshments before heading back the way you came.



Chichester Canal

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