

## Points of Interest on this route

(see map overleaf for locations)

**(A) Win Green Nature Reserve.** The highest point in the Cranborne Chase provides panoramic views from the Isle of Wight and Purbeck Hills to Blackmore Vale and Salisbury Plain. Win Green is crowned by beech trees growing on a Bronze Age bowl barrow with a distinctive ridge around the edge. The Ox-drove was a long distance driving route along which cattle were herded from Devon and Somerset to the Hampshire ports. This rich downland habitat supports a wide range of plants and animals. A few years ago grazing was reintroduced which has resulted in an increase in the number of flowers found here. Flowers to look out for include the common spotted orchid and bee orchid, and yellow rattle. Yellow rattle is crucial to this habitat as it is semi-parasitic on grass and prevents the grasses from dominating and smothering wildflowers and herbs.

View from  
Win Green

**Look out for**  
butterflies such as the  
adonis blue, chalkhill blue  
and marbled white. In the  
warmer months skylarks can  
be heard, and you may spot  
a corn bunting, meadow  
bunting or red kite.



Down  
Berwick

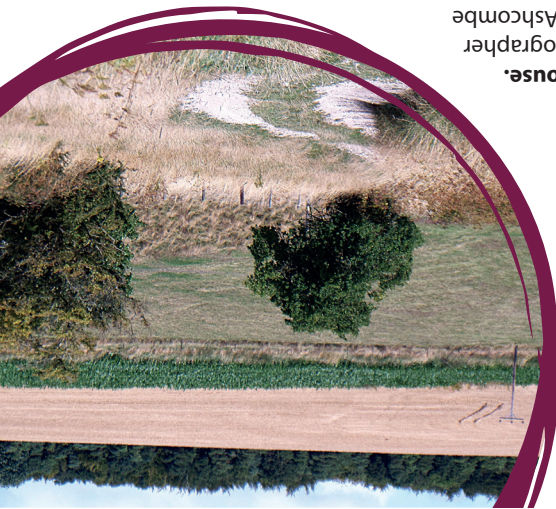


### (B) Ashcombe House.

Home of the photographer Cecil Beaton. The Ashcombe Estate is now in the ownership of film producer Guy Ritchie. If you had visited Win Green around 100 years ago, you may have encountered some of the 'Bright Young Things' of the 'Roaring Twenties', as Cecil apparently spent much of his time here, socialising with friends.

### (C) Tollard Royal. The King John Inn is named after John, King Of England from 1199 to 1216, for whom Cranborne Chase was his royal hunting ground. The Church of St. Peter ad Vincula dates from the 13th century.

Ashcombe  
Bottom



Stunning views from Win Green and the Ox Drove and the wooded valley of Ashcombe Bottom make this a bracing classic downland walk.


**Start:** The National Trust car park at Win Green. Ordnance Survey Map Explorer Series 118 Ordnance Survey grid reference ST 923204 W3W: supposing.early.aura

**Parking:** The National Trust Car Park at Win Green (free car park reached along a stone surfaced byway open to all traffic).

**Terrain:** Mostly stone and tarmac tracks, one very steep downhill section and one slow moderate climb through woods.

**Length:** Approximately 5 miles / 8km.

**Approximate time:** 2.5 hours.

 **Dogs:** Please keep dogs on a short lead if there are livestock present.

**Good to know:** The car park at Win Green is reached by a stone-surfaced byway. Drive slowly to avoid damage to your vehicle, especially if it has a low ground clearance.

**Refreshments:** The King John Inn, Tollard Royal  
[www.butcombe.com/the-king-john-inn-wiltshire/](http://www.butcombe.com/the-king-john-inn-wiltshire/)  
The tea-room at the Larmer Tree Gardens [www.larmer-tree.co.uk](http://www.larmer-tree.co.uk)

*The information is only intended as a general guide. Please check local arrangements.*



Respect everyone  
Protect the environment  
Enjoy the outdoors  
Follow advice and local signs

Share your pictures with us at [#cranbornechase](https://www.instagram.com/cranbornechase)



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## Win Green and Tollard Royal

A circuit of the historic Ashcombe Estate

WALK #  
**W14**





- 4 To go into the village of Tollard Royal and to visit the King John Inn, keep straight ahead to meet the road at the village pond. Turn right up the road to the inn. Straight across the road from the pond and up the hill, the church of St. Peter ad vincula (St. Peter in chains) is also worth visiting.
- 5 Retrace your steps back past the pond and along the track back towards the gate at point 4 on the map. Do not go back through the gate but keep to the right to follow the stone-surfaced byway uphill through the woods, to emerge onto the road at the Ox Drove, on Monk's Down., where several tracks meet.
- 6 The road bends to the right to descend the hill, but keep to the left of the road and onto the stone-surfaced byway that follows the Ox Drove along the top edge of the ridge. As the byway continues along the track, a clump of beech trees becomes visible on the high point of the Nature Reserve at Win Green. The trees surround a Bronze Age bowl barrow.
- 7 As you reach Win Green, cross the cattle grid or go through the gate alongside, and bear left through a gate onto the hill, to continue up to the beech clump and then down the slope to return to the car park.