

Points of Interest on this route (see map overleaf for locations)

A **Ley Farm.** This Farm was named after the Ley family who owned the Manor of Teffont Evias from 1545 to 1692. The farm was also an important site for flint production in the Mesolithic Period (8000-4000BC).

B **Black Furlong Wood and Teffont Evias Quarry.** This was the site of one of the largest Roman Cemeteries in Wiltshire with over 30 burials in stone coffins found, but destroyed by quarry workings in the 19th and 20th Centuries. Fossils have also been found here including fish, insects and even crocodile! Teffont Evias Quarry is now disused and has been designated as a geological Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

C **The Village of Teffont Evias.** This village has an air of timelessness about it - perhaps because there has been settlement here along the valley bottom since Saxon times and the remains of Roman settlement have also been found on higher ground. The name Teffont is derived from the stream which rises from its spring in the neighbouring village of Teffont Magna. The name Evias comes from Harold Ewyas of Hereford, powerful lord of the area in the 13th Century.

Footpath to Portash



E **Chilmark Quarries and RAF Chilmark.** Chilmark Quarries once provided the stone for Salisbury Cathedral and many other distinguished buildings as well as local houses but closed in 1935 as demand for limestone fell due to increased use for concrete for building. The MOD purchased the land in 1937 as a Royal Air Force (RAF) base. RAF Chilmark's claim to fame is that it was the only underground ammunition depot to survive WWII. Chilmark Quarries is now designated as a geological Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

D **St Michael and All Angels Church.** In the north-east corner, is an impressive tomb in the form of three stone effigies in armour - Henry Ley who purchased the manor of Teffont Evias from King Henry VIII in 1545, together, with two of his six sons William and Matthew.

Old Gatepost on footpath
to Ham Cross Farm



Step back in time on this circular walk from Lower Chicks Grove, with its charming 14th century inn and cottages built of beautiful Chilmark stone and thatch to historic Teffont Evias with its impressive Manor and Church.


Start: Overflow Car Park of the Compasses Inn in the village of Lower Chicks Grove. Ordnance Survey Explorer Series Maps 118 (Shaftesbury and Cranborne Chase) and 143 (Warminster and Trowbridge) OS Grid Reference ST973290 | W3W raft.perusing.indoors

Parking: The **overflow car park** of The Compasses Inn, Lower Chicks Grove, by kind permission of the owner. You may wish to show your appreciation by giving your custom to the inn (booking is advisable at busy times) <https://thecompassesinn.com>

Terrain: Field and woodland paths in gently rolling countryside.

Length: Approximately 5 miles / 8 km.

Approximate time: 3 hours.

 **Dogs:** Please keep on short lead if livestock is present.

Good to know: For a longer walk (10 miles / 16 km) this walk can be linked in a figure of eight pattern to Walk 6, which offers a circuit from Tisbury to Lower Chicks Grove and return.

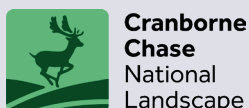
Refreshments: The Compasses Inn, Lower Chicks Grove.
Howard's House Hotel in Teffont Evias offers food and refreshment.

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**



   
cranbornechase.org.uk

Lower Chicks Grove and Teffont Evias To the Manor borne

WALK #
W7



**Cranborne
Chase
National
Landscape**





Directions

1 From the overflow car park of The Compasses Inn, turn left along the road, heading into the village. Just past the inn, turn right onto a signposted public bridleway also signed to Apshill House. Keep to the right of the house to go through a gate into a field. Keep left across the field to go through a metal gate in the far bottom left corner.

2 The grassy path leads to a bridge over the River Nadder and through a gate into a field. Keep straight ahead uphill, passing two curiously shaped large stones, used as gateposts in the past. To the right are views across to the church of St. Michael and All Angels in the village of Sutton Mandeville.

3 Go through a gate on the left to cross the bridge over the railway line, then head to the right across the orchard in front of Ham Cross Farm, to a waymarked gate through the hedge. Cross the field to a gate onto the road.

4 Go straight ahead along the road, dipping down to pass the Ham Cross light industrial units before climbing up to a bend to the right at Ley Farm. Please take care, as this road can be busy. Continue past Dairy Barn, on the left, then look for a signposted footpath through the hedge on the left. Head diagonally across the field to the northern edge of Black Furlong Wood. At the edge of the wood, go through a gate and head across the field towards Home Farm. Go down through the field and bear right through the gate then left to another gate and steps down to a lane.

5 Turn right to a T-junction, then right again alongside the babbling roadside stream past Howard's House Hotel.

6 Continue along the road to the charming Medieval Church of St. Michael and All Angels, which is well worth visiting, and Teffont Manor. Retrace your steps back through the village and cross the road bridge just before turning left at Evias Cottage along a no-through road (which becomes a bridleway).

7 The no-through road leads past pretty cottages and Long Meadow on the left, then becomes a public bridleway called

Holt Lane that leads along a track between fields to the woods ahead and once led to Teffont Evias Quarry.

8 At the end of the fields the bridleway enters a belt of woodland. Within the trees, turn right along the edge of the wood with fields to the left. At the end of the field, do not go through the gate into the wood but instead turn left along the path between the field on the left and the edge of the wood on the right.

9 The path runs essentially straight but weaves its way intermittently through a series of gates between field and wood before arriving at two cottages that stand beside the road. Turn left along the lane which leads uphill to a crossroads. In the garden of the house opposite is a collection of railway memorabilia.

10 Turn left at the crossroads to follow the road downhill past the house named Portash and around a bend to the left at the next house, at the bottom of the hill. Continue along the road for approximately 100 metres to a signposted public bridleway through a metal gate into a field. Bear diagonally to the left with the rise and fall of the land to pass to the right of a group of barns below, then down to a waymark post that points up the right-hand side of the hedge to a metal gate into the woods.

11 The path here is fenced alongside Ministry of Defence land; it was closed for many years and only re-opened after the land was cleared of hazardous substances. Keep strictly within the fenced path even though it may become very overgrown with natural vegetation in the summer, until reaching a gate at the end of the fenced section into a field. Continue straight ahead to a metal gate on the left into a sunken lane. The surface is stony and rutted by the flow of water in winter and the sides become overgrown in summer; however, its clearly ancient character makes any temporary difficulties worth the effort.

12 When you reach the road, turn left and then cross it to turn right into the lane that takes you back to Lower Chicks Grove, crossing the river and the railway bridges on the return to The Compasses.