

Route 3A2 - Fittleworth Wood, Bedham and Flexham Park

8.9 miles



This route takes the Fittleworth 5 course to Stopham, then loops back to Fittleworth Wood, north to North Springs, then west to Bedham and Flexham park; returning via Riverhill, Little Bognor and Hesworth Common.





It is mixed terrain, about 3 miles on road.




Profile



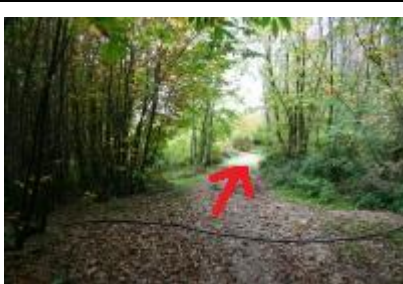










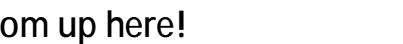
Route





1. Follow the Fittleworth 5 route to the road at Stopham.		
2. Turn left down the hill at the grassy triangle.		2.53
3. After ¼ mile, bear left off the road onto the Public Bridleway.		2.81
4. Follow the path through the woods and into the field.		2.96






<p>5. Continue straight ahead across the field.</p>		<p>3.16</p>
<p>6. Go through the gate and turn right (uphill).</p>		<p>3.3</p>
<p>7. After 20 yards, ignore the turning to the left and continue uphill.</p>		
<p>8. After 50 yards, bear right on the Public Bridleway (the sign is hidden on the bank to your right, marked on the photo with a blue circle).</p>		<p>3.38</p>
<p>9. At the top of the hill, turn right at the bridleway T-junction, following the Public Bridleway sign.</p>		<p>3.58</p>
<p>10. After 30 yards, bear left, signed Public Bridleway.</p>		
<p>11. After 60 yards, bear right down the hill, following the Public Bridleway sign. You are now entering Chance Copse. BEWARE loose stones on the steep downhill.</p>		<p>3.63</p>
<p>12. Cross the small bridge over the stream, and climb the short sharp uphill.</p>		<p>3.73</p>






13. Continue straight ahead, following the Public Bridleway finger post.		
14. Leave the woods via the gate and turn left into the field.	3.93	
15. Follow the left border of the field to the corner; then turn right, still following the edge of the field, now heading NNW.		
16. You reach a gate and bridleway cross-roads at the corner of the field. Go through the gate, then turn right, and continue straight ahead down the hill into the woods, still heading NNW.	4.11	
17. After 150 yards, follow the bridleway round to the left.		
18. Continue straight ahead when the bridleway becomes a driveway.		
19. Turn left on the road.		4.5
20. After 200 yards, turn right at the road junction, signed Bedham and Petworth. Follow this road for 0.8 miles.		4.6
21. You reach a sharp right downhill bend in the road. As you go round this corner, you see a five-bar gate ahead, the entry to Flexham Park. Turn left into Flexham Park at the five-bar gate.		5.43



		
<p>22. This track is signed for the Serpent Way through Flexham Park. You will follow this track straight across Flexham Park for 0.75 miles.</p>		
<p>23. Continue straight ahead up the hill, following the Serpent Trail pointer.</p>		
<p>24. At the crest of the hill, there is a fork to the left. Continue straight ahead on the Serpent Trail.</p>		<p>5.49</p>
<p>25. Follow this sandy/stony track straight ahead through chestnut coppice woodland.</p>		
<p>26. It's pretty much downhill all the way home now!</p>		<p>5.53</p>
<p>27. You come to a fork in the track. Continue straight ahead. There is a sign before the fork indicating Serpent Trail straight on.</p>		<p>5.63</p>
<p>28. Cross the concrete clearing, continue straight ahead.</p>		<p>5.9</p>
<p>29. Pass by the five-bar gate, cross a small car park, and continue straight up a short rise for 50 yards.</p>		<p>6.13</p>

<p>30. At the crossroads in the path, turn left on the footpath. There is a sign on the corner saying 'Flexham Park, walkers welcome'. (If you come to the road you have gone 80 yards too far).</p>		<p>6.17</p>
<p>31. Follow the main footpath downhill through the woods for 0.5 mile, avoiding any side turnings.</p>		<p>6.63</p>
<p>32. Turn right onto the road, and continue straight ahead up the short hill for 150 yards.</p>		<p>6.73</p>
<p>33. You pass Riverhill Lodge on your left.</p>		
<p>34. After the beech hedge at Riverhill House, turn left on the public footpath.</p>		
<p>35. After 30 yards, cross the stile into the field.</p>		
<p>36. Follow the footpath directly south across the field.</p> <p>(Note: The footpath actually goes to the three trees in the middle of the field; then follows the line of the telegraph poles to the south end of the field. But the farmer may change this with crops.)</p>		
<p>37. Fabulous views of the downs from up here!</p>		

<p>38. At the end of the field go straight ahead over the stile, and immediately through a wooden 5-bar gate.</p>		<p>7.1</p>
<p>39. Continue down the small field, keeping to the hedgerow on the left.</p>		
<p>40. Bear round to the left through another wooden 5-bar gate.</p>		
<p>41. Turn right on the road. This is Little Bognor.</p>		<p>7.18</p>
<p>42. Follow the road all the way down to the A283 for 0.67 miles.</p>		
<p>43. With <u>EXTREME CAUTION</u> cross the A283 and turn left towards Fittleworth, then after 50 yards turn right into the lane:</p>		<p>7.93</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">then</p> 	
<p>44. Continue up the lane for 230 yards, over the brow of the hill.</p>		
<p>45. Turn left onto the common through the wooden archway. The Hesworth Common sign is straight ahead.</p>		<p>8.03</p>
<p>46. Continue straight ahead through the row of wooden posts.</p>		
<p>47. Bear slightly round to the left. There is a large silver birch tree in the middle of the track.</p>		
<p>48. Almost immediately you come to a small clearing where 5 tracks meet. Continue ahead and slightly right on the footpath, keeping the footpath post close on your right. Continue up the hill.</p>		

<p>49. After 50 yards, you pass another footpath post on your right, then bear round to the right and slightly uphill.</p>		
<p>50. Follow the path along, being careful of tree roots.</p>		
<p>51. Pass another footpath post on your left, signed straight on or right. Continue straight ahead.</p>		<p>8.25</p>
<p>52. After 30 yards the path forks (rather vaguely). Take the lower wider track, between the ravine on your left and the ridge on your right, keeping the big beech trees just to your left.</p>		
<p>53. Follow the path down through the holly trees.</p>		
<p>54. You come to the car park.</p>		<p>8.4</p>
<p>55. Turn right out of the car park on the path between the big sycamore tree and the two wooden posts, heading SSE parallel with the road.</p>		

<p>56. After 200 yards, turn left as you come to Woodmans cottage.</p>		
<p>57. Cross the road (B2138) to join the footpath just slightly downhill.</p>		<p>8.59</p>
<p>58. Keep left after joining the footpath. Continue for 100 yards to the end of the path.</p>		
<p>59. Turn left on School Lane to return to the Village Hall.</p>	<p>8.9</p>	