

Miles Without Stiles

Cornwell and Chastleton



This fascinating walk takes in the estate village of Cornwell (designed by Clough Williams Ellis of Port Meirion fame), the Iron Age Chastleton Barrow and the Jacobean Chastleton House

Distance: 6-8 kilometres/
4-5 miles (3 hours) with ups
and downs of 115m or 377ft

Start:
Minor road signed Rollrights,
on the Chipping Norton side
of the A44/A436 junction.
SP 270/289

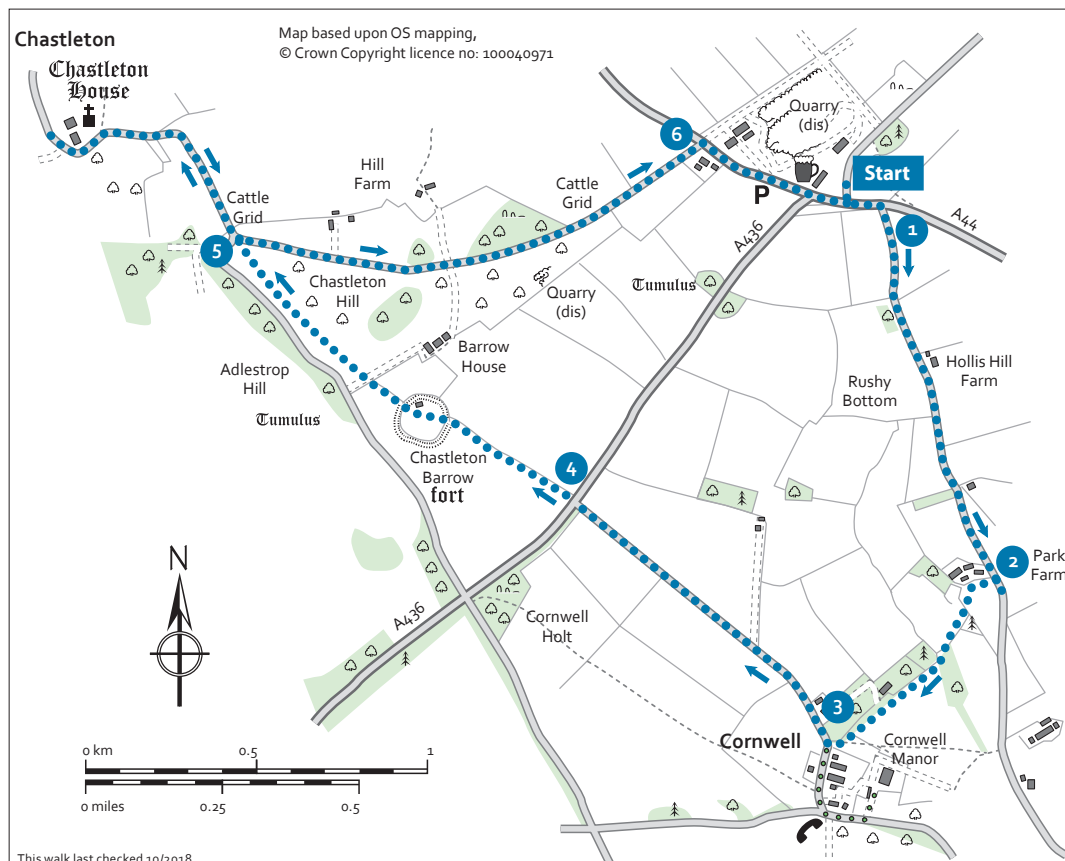
Route:

Cross the A44 and walk along
the grass verge towards
Chipping Norton for a short
distance turning onto the track
signed "unsuitable for motor
vehicles" . 1

Continue downhill, through
Hollis Hill Farm.

At Park Farm 2 take the
footpath along the farm drive
and go through the gate on the
left into the field. Turn half right
and go downhill towards a
stream with a stone slab for a
bridge. Cross and continue uphill
with the wood on your right and
go through the gate ahead. The
track you are now goes past the
track to Cornwell church on your
left to emerge on a bend in a
single track road.

On reaching the road 3 there
is a short, optional diversion to
glimpse the estate village of
Cornwell. (Turning left downhill
and up to a T-junction, left again
to a view of the Manor House;



return by the same route).
Between the wars, an American
owner had Cornwell redeveloped
as a model village - the architect
was Clough Williams Ellis, of
Port Meirion fame. The school
was refurbished as a village hall
and the shop next door won
prizes as "the prettiest Co-op
shop in England"!

At 3 take the single-track
lane uphill, i.e. right. Cross the
A436 to a bridleway. 4 At the
top of the field a gate leads you
into Chastleton Barrow.
Probably Iron Age, it is a typical

single-bank circular hill fort.
Cross it diagonally to another
gate and two more gates to a
driveway. Cross to a narrow
gate. The path continues across
parkland, parallel with a wooded
road, through another gate onto
an unfenced road. 5

At this point there is an option
to see Chastleton by leaving the
unfenced road via a cattlegrid to
a bend on a minor road. Turn
right to the church (mainly 13th-
15th century), and then
Chastleton House (National

Trust). It is one of England's
finest and most complete
Jacobean houses, with the
atmosphere of almost four
hundred years of continuous
occupation by one family.

Otherwise at 5 take the
unfenced road from the cattle
grid along Chastleton Hill, to the
A44. 5 Turn right back to the
start and/or the Cross Hands Inn.