

(Continued from overleaf)

kissing gate, be back up on top of Spaniorum Hill.

Follow the route around Berwick Lodge Farm and come back out onto Berwick Drive. Cross the drive, pass through the Lodge's grounds (or stop for refreshments) and over a footbridge, and re-join your outward route. Re-trace your steps back to Easter Compton, taking in the views from another angle!

Back in Easter Compton the Fox or the village shop can provide any further refreshments needed.

Follow the Country Code - Respect, Protect, Enjoy

- Park sensibly - don't block gates or drives.
- Leave gates as you find them.
- Leave farm animals and machinery alone. If you think an animal's in distress, alert the farmer.
- Keep to the public right of way.
- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home.
- Keep your dog under effective control and pick up after your pet - dog mess can harm livestock.
- It is good practice to keep your dog on a lead around livestock; however, if cattle or horses try to chase your dog, it's safer for both of you to let your dog off the lead to run away.
- Plan ahead, dress for the weather, and wear appropriate clothing.
- Be aware you may not have a mobile signal in places during your walk.

About this walk

There are wonderful views from the top of Spaniorum Hill west towards the River Severn and east over Bristol. Along the route there is an ancient church, old houses, quiet woods, and busy motorways. Something for everyone.

Length

9 km - about 3.5 leisurely hours, starting in Easter Compton.

Under foot

The walk follows public footpaths and short sections of roadway lanes. Although the roads are quiet, do take care on them as they are narrow in places. There is one very short section along and crossing a busy road where you will need to take extra care. You may encounter cyclists and horse riders as well as cars. There are a few steps en route. Please note: in winter and wet weather, wellies are advisable for this walk!

Food and drink

Refreshments are available at the Fox Inn in Easter Compton, the King William IV in Hallen, and for upmarket refreshments try Berwick Lodge. There is also a corner shop in Easter Compton.

Parking

You can park in the village; please park sensibly. Easter Compton is on a bus route.



Regular Walk Spaniorum Skyway

Explore our series of regular and easy access walking routes

Easy Access Routes

Buggy and wheelchair friendly routes

- 1 Little Littleton Loop 2km
- 2 Severn Beach Short North 2.5km
- 3 Severn Beach Short South 3km
- 4 All Around Avonmouth 2km
- 5 Lamplighter's Walk 2km

Regular Walks

Different lengths, mostly off-road

- 1 Hill Hike 5.5 km
- 2 Windbound Wander 3.5 km
- 3 Oldbury Outing 5 km
- 4 Oldbury-Kington Loop 6 km
- 5 Long Littleton Loop 7 km
- 6 Two Bridges Loop 10 km
- 7 Severn Beach Stride 5.5 km
- 8 Spaniorum Skyway 9 km
- 9 Lawrence Weston Moor Loop 2.5 km
- 10 Shire Stroll 2.5 km



www.aforgottenlandscape.org.uk



A Forgotten Landscape is a Landscape Partnership scheme encouraging people to restore, conserve and explore the Lower Severn Vale Levels. We are supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

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The representation on this map of a road, track or footpath is no evidence of the existence of a right of way.

Explore the Lower Severn Vale Levels



Spaniorum Skyway



Length: 9 km - about 3.5 leisurely hours

Spaniorum Skyway

Start: Outside the old Davies Memorial Hall - the Reading Room, Main Road, Easter Compton, BS35 5RA.

The description assumes you are going clockwise around the route, but it is signposted in both directions. The route follows a stretch of the Community Forest Path.

From the Main Road, start your walk by following the footpath that runs between the Reading Room and Selsey Cottage. Cross through a large field and then enter the churchyard of St Michael's All Saints **A**. This ancient church was first built c1170. Pass out of the churchyard through the traditional lynch gate and down the drive. Cross Farm Lane and go through the kissing gate to the right of the field gate. Follow the route through two fields and a shady track until you come out, **with care**, at Berwick Lane. Turn right into the road and, after a short distance, go left up some steps onto another footpath.

With a lovely orchard on your right **B**, begin your ascent of Spaniorum Hill. Towards the top, you'll pass through a field with lots of grassy hummocks **C**; yellow field ants at work! When you get to the top of the hill **D**, you'll start to see views across the Severn and beyond. The ancient woodland on the slopes below you is extremely important for nature conservation; it appears there has been continuous tree cover here for at least 400 years.

Cross over a gravel track and carry on along the top of the hill through fields and copses,

eventually following the route round to the left skirting Berwick Lodge (stopping for refreshment if needed). When you come out at a small lane, turn right and then shortly left into Berwick Drive. Follow this road over the motorway. There are great views towards Bristol here **E**.

After descending the hill, turn right off Berwick Drive through the kissing gate opposite the entrance to Norton Farm. Follow the path until you near a footbridge over the railway line; do not cross the bridge but bear right and up across the field. Cross a track that runs between two gated depots, and up into the next field, bearing left at the top.

Follow the line of the wood on your right, bearing right with it when it ends. When you pass between the gap between this wood and one on your left, start bearing left at a gentle angle across the open field until you get to the kissing gate that takes you into the next woodland. Follow the signs through this wood and down to Oakhill Lane. It is steep in places here; **take care**, especially when it's wet.

At the bottom of Oakhill Lane, **carefully cross** the busy Hallen Road to the pavement on the other side. Cross under the motorway. As you come out from underneath the motorway, look for a kissing gate on the opposite side of the road. Carefully re-cross the road and go through the kissing gate. Alternatively, if you need refreshment, the King William IV pub is 200m further along Hallen Road.

With Hallen Road at your back, head uphill (the first bit can be muddy). After passing through a long field and another kissing gate, you'll enter the motorway cutting. You're quite close to the roar of the traffic here! Soon (happily) you'll bear left away from the roadside and, after another

(Continues overleaf)

View from Spaniorum Hill

