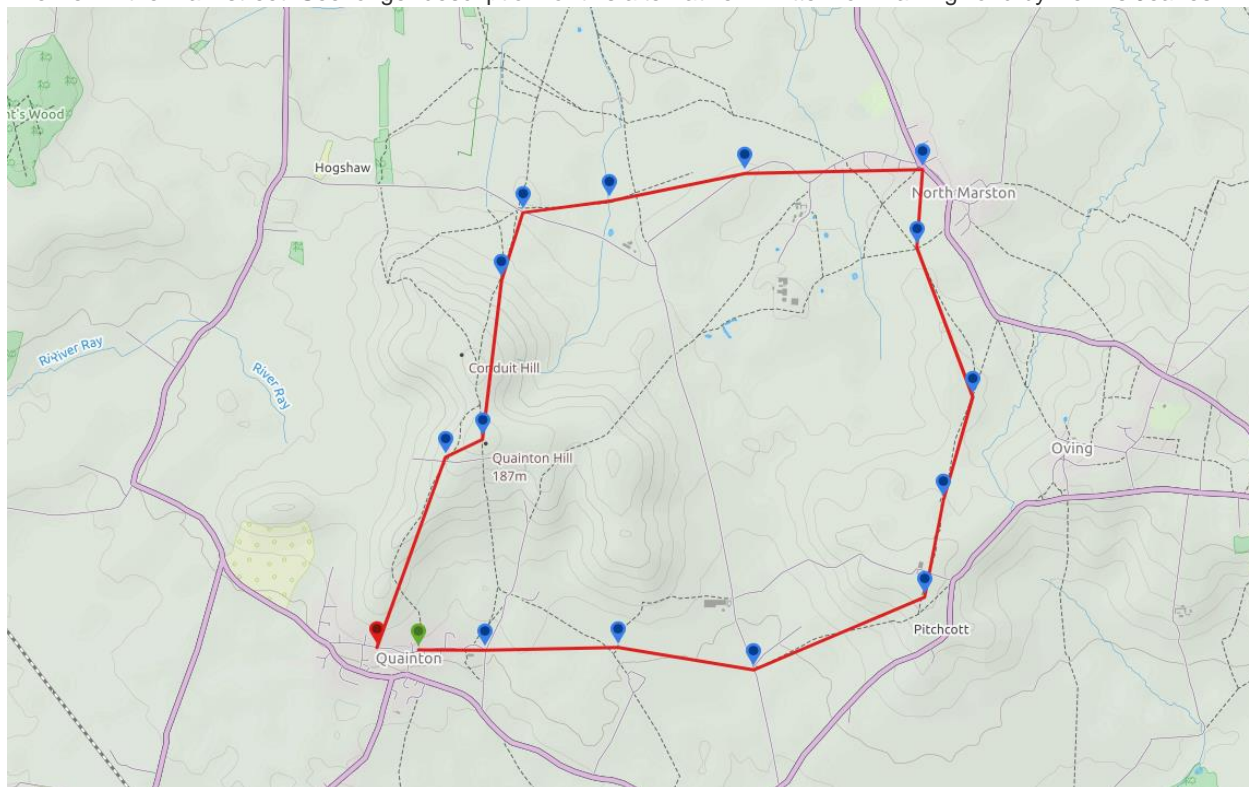


18. Quainton Pinchcott North Marston

7 miles

<https://my.viewranger.com/route/details/MjNfMzY3NQ==>

Starting from the picturesque village of Quainton, a circuit of hills with gorgeous views of the pastoral countryside of rural Buckinghamshire, via North Marston back to our start. It is easy to start and finish at North Marston as the walk goes past The Bell in the main street. See longer description for this alternative. Written for Walkingworld by Dennis Jeanes



Walk to the top of The Green and turn right (E) along Church Street to the church with a tower. Take the footpath and go straight through the churchyard with church on the right to a road.

Turn left along the road, walking straight on up the road towards Denham. Follow this tarmac road to a signpost. Turn right along Swans Way, to follow signs over a cattle grid with Denham Lodge, an old moated house, on left. Continue to another cattle grid, turn left and cross another cattle grid.

Immediately, on Matthew's Way, turn right across field (ENE), heading slightly left of the first (wooden) electric cable pole, from the hedge on right. Continue to a five-barred wooden gate in hedge. Go through and head towards hedge on right and next gate. Go through, keeping to wire fence on left to the end. Cross two stiles to a road (the Roman one again). Turn right to concrete drive off to left; signposted footpath.

As you turn left there is a stile on right over the fence. Cross this and head ENE slightly away from the drive, to a gate a few metres right of a cattle trough. Go through gate and head diagonally across to the far corner of the next field. Just before the corner, cross stile on right over plank bridge, climb another stile and turn left. Keep to the hedge as it bends left to a kissing-gate. Go through and follow hedge on left to the next corner of the field, where there is a stile.

Cross it, go across the field to the right of the house (N). Follow Matthew's Way over 4 stiles. Continue along hedge, around field then barbed wire fence to a stile left into next field.

Cross the stile and turn right, heading NNE. Then there is another stile; keep straight on and then a double stile. Go on to a small dilapidated barn. At the far side of the barn is a tiny fenced garden and the story of Matthew Lane.

Walk straight on to the right of the barn to another stile. Cross this and in 55m there is a left fork through a metal kissing-gate (not marked). Follow half-right, (NNW) diagonally across the field to a metal kissing-gate (signed). Go straight ahead, parallel to hedge on right to next kissing-gate. Continue along hedge.

Take stile to right and keep to hedge on right. You are heading to the right of a redbrick house. There is a stile over the fence into the garden. Walk through (it is signed and the barking dogs are safe) to the road. This is North Marston. Turn left, keep on the main road, passing The Bell on right, to where the road forks.

Fork left along Quainton Road, heading WNW. This does a gradual curve and then on your left you reach a cul-de-sac sign (St John's Lane). Do not go along this but turn right along the road heading NW and continue till it climbs. Go on past Brook Farm on your right to the farmhouse. Immediately past the farmhouse is a footpath sign on the right.

At sign, cross stile (sign is misaligned). Turn half-left ESE diagonally across field to a metal kissing-gate. Go through then keep beside hedge on left (no path through crop) to track at end (which is part of a Roman road) and turn right till you reach a stile on the left. Cross and go left round crop (past a young plantation) to next stile.

Cross stile and bridge and go straight on towards a farmhouse, (do not head to gate left) to a stile on the left of a big gap in the hedge. Go over this and head for farmhouse, still ESE to a stile and signpost. The North Bucks Way joins our route here.

Cross road, go over a stile and take the North Bucks route heading SSW (invisible path). Head towards a wooden rail in intermittent hedge, then a small gate on left of five-barred wooden gate.

Go through the smaller gate and head straight up Conduit Hill. Admire the view. Continue climbing and heading slightly right of phone mast on summit of Quainton Hill. Head for gate towards right-hand end of rickety fence. Go through gate and cross field to five-barred gate and on to the summit. Walk between the mast and a small fenced copse.

Leaving the worn track, go half-right across the grass to two gates between high hedges. Go through the right-hand gate and about sixty metres later there is a stile on your left.

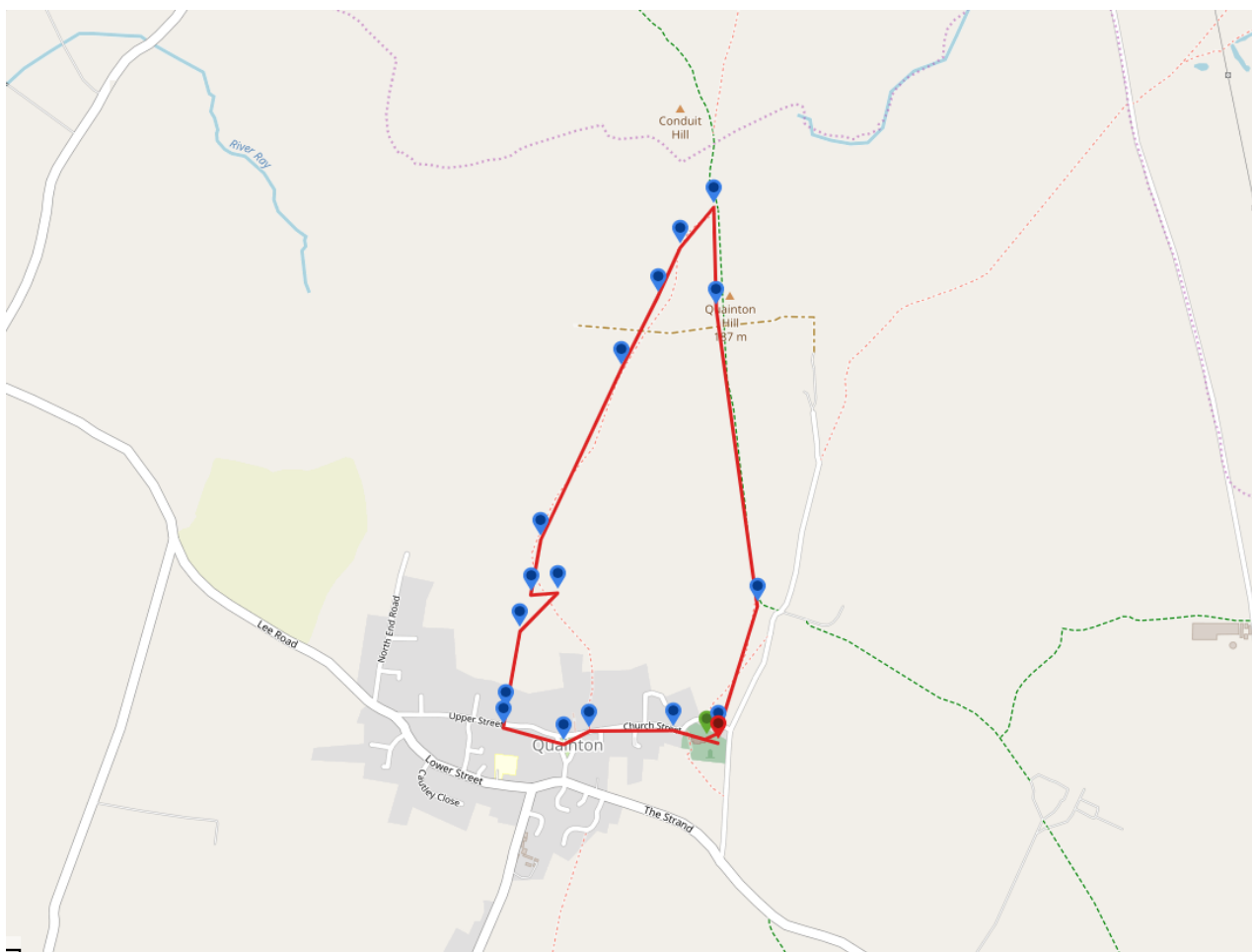
Cross the stile, now following the N.Bucks and Midshires Way. Follow a faint path that moves slightly up and then begins a gradual descent to Simber Hill, which soon becomes visible ahead. Go over this and then head towards a windmill. The visible trail goes over a stile to right of six-barred gate. Still head for windmill for about 50m; when path forks, take the right one (not to windmill) and soon you will go through a little gate and along a narrow path into Quainton.

Turn left along the road (E) and you will reach The Green where the walk began.

18b Quainton Hill (shorter walk)

3.2 miles

<https://my.viewranger.com/route/details/MjNfMjM3>



Look at the entrance to St Mary's Church, then walk downhill with the church on your right to the first stile (about 500m).

Cross the two stiles into the field. Walk straight ahead to the next stile, which is clearly visible in the hedge. The footpath is marked as Mathew's Way and Swan's Way.

Cross this stile into the field. The telecommunications mast can be seen ahead. Keep the mast at 11 o'clock and walk directly ahead to the next gate in the hedge.

Go through the gate and walk straight uphill on the well-marked track towards the mast. Halfway up the hill you will pass through another gate; continue following the track to the mast.

Pausing at the top of the hill with the mast on your right, you will see the next gate straight ahead (thankfully, now going downhill). You will be able to see the village of North Marston to your right. There are walks to North Marston from Quainton following a different footpath route. (Following the signpost to Mathew's Way will take you to North Marston).

Go through the gate and turn immediately left. Carry on ahead to reach a stile.

Cross this stile and proceed through some rough land for about 200m. Another stile will lead you onto open, rolling hills. This is a particularly nice part of the walk, gently rolling hills with very little incline, short grass and stunning views. If you take a dog, please keep it on the lead as these fields are regularly grazed by sheep and cows.

Walk across the hills, following the grassy track. The track runs parallel to the hedge on your left until you reach the next stile. Cross this stile, which has two discs indicating different footpaths. Continue walking straight ahead on the well-marked track. As you walk over the hills you will see the windmill and village ahead of you. Always keep the windmill on your left and walk towards the village rooftops.

Walk across the hill following this track until you reach a stile next to a gate. You will see a small hill ahead of you. Over the stile, you can either walk up the small hill ahead for the views, or take the path around the base to your left. In the winter some of the gateways can be very muddy, as the animals churn them up, but otherwise the walk takes place on well-drained land.

You can choose two routes back. Bear left downhill towards a gate with a stile next to it and follow the track downhill, keeping the newly built house ahead of you. This will take you into the village, entering opposite the shop (see below).

Or carry on round the base of Simber Hill, walking towards the rooftops of the village. The windmill is on your left. Keep on until you reach a kissing-gate. To the left of the kissing-gate is a flagpost footpath sign. Ignore this as it's in the wrong place. Cross the sleeper-bridge through the gate and pass down a narrow track between two houses. You will enter Quainton Village on Lower Street. Turn left and walk towards the village green.

Walk along the top of the village green. The George & Dragon pub is situated halfway down the green. Continue walking down Church Street, past the village shop. You will see a flagpost footpath sign to your left, which is where taking the hill option would have brought you out.