

START/FINISH

Batheaston Car Park, London Road East, Bath, BA1 7NB

WALK INFORMATION AND ACCESSIBILITY:

There are a couple of steep uphill sections and two stiles

The section through the woodland is on a muddy/uneven path so take care

Some of the route is on quiet country lanes, once you've crossed the London Road

There are facilities (shops, cafes, pubs, loos) in Batheaston

The car park has only a small number of spaces, and is free for 3 hours, there are frequent buses to and from the city centre

There may be livestock in the fields and on Solsbury Hill

EXPECT TO SEE

- Wildflowers on top of Solsbury Hill, including rare species typical of calcareous grassland
- Views
- The remains of medieval field system

THINGS TO DO

- Explore the village of Batheaston and the riverside path at the start and finish
- Enjoy the views towards the eastern end of Bath and into Wiltshire from the top of Solsbury Hill

DID YOU KNOW?

- The flat top of Solsbury Hill was an iron age fort
- The small turf labyrinth was put there in 1994, by protestors against the widening of the A46







Leave the car park turning left, crossing the road when it's safe. As the road bends left, take the steps on the right. Continue from the path onto the road ahead going uphill, and take Solsbury Lane on the left. After 150m towards the top of the rise, take the kissing gate on the right and head down the field towards the church taking the gate on the right back onto the road and continue ahead.



Turn left onto Seven Acres Lane. Where the road turns sharp right, take the marked footpath ahead, keeping to the right side of the field. Keep going straight up hill.



Half-way up the second field stick to the path that follow the hedge as it goes sharp right (don't take the footpath ahead going up hill) and go through the kissing gate. Head uphill diagonally across the field, bearing right, there's no obvious path. On the opposite side, you'll see a large gap in the hedge between two trees (with good views of the valley beyond), there's a footpath sign pointing left, take this (don't go between the trees, but turn left with the hedge on your right till you get to a narrow gap in the hedge. The footpath is there, on a narrow, treelined path (trees on both sides) ending in a wooden gate. Keep to the bottom of the field with the hedge on your right.



Take the wooden stile into the woodland. The path starts climbing and is quite uneven and likely to be muddy. Continue up through the woods and leave by another stile and continue up into the open space at the top of Solsbury Hill.



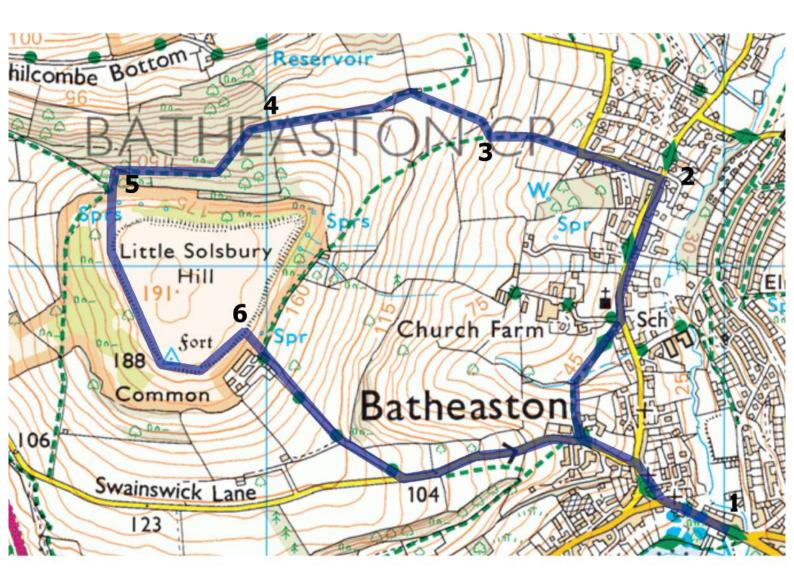
Ignore the waymarked path going down-hill on the right. Take any of the informal paths up to the top of the plateau. There's a wide footpath around the edge, follow it to the right until you reach the trig point. There are really good views into the east side of Bath, across to Brown's Folly and to Wiltshire to the left.



Carry on following the edge of the plateau until you see some buildings on your right, where you can drop down and join the track with the buildings on your right. Carry on downhill and when you join a road, continue to the left, going downhill. Keep on Solsbury Lane to the end, and then turn right, and retrace your steps to the start - taking the steps on the left down onto the main road.

MAP

4.5km / 2.75 MILES 1.5-2 HRS



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