

# Arlington Reservoir Walk

A generally easy walk with a shorter or longer option around Arlington reservoir.  
Gentle hills and some stiles.



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## Local Information

Completed in 1971, Arlington Reservoir supplies water to the Eastbourne, Polegate, Hailsham and Heathfield areas, as well as being a local trout fishery. The 49 hectare site supports diverse habitats, with 173 recorded bird species and a wintering population of up to 10,000 wildfowl.

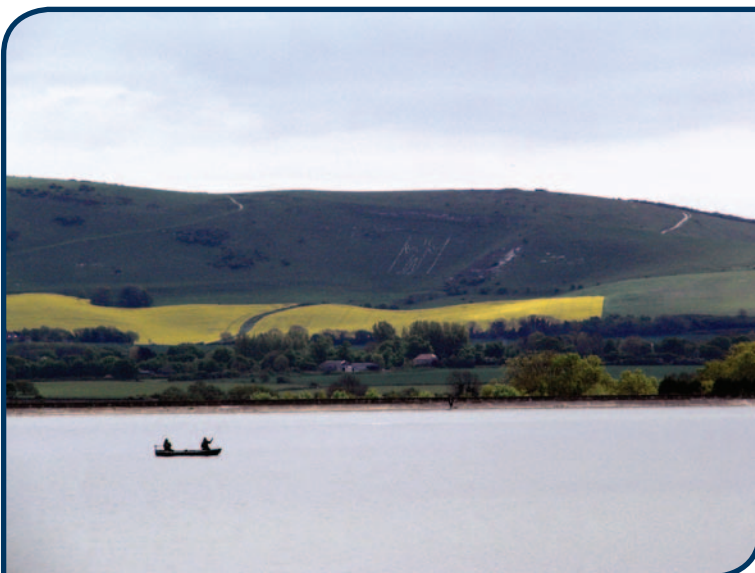
## Essential Information

**Distance:** 3.5 miles/6km  
**Walk grade:** Easy  
**Maps:** OS Explorer 123  
 OS Landranger 199

**Start/Finish:** Berwick Railway Station  
**Post Code:** BN26 6TB  
**Grid Ref:** TQ 526068

# Route Description

- 1) Starting from Berwick Station, turn left to follow the road for a short distance, and then turn right onto the footpath between Berwick Stores and the garage. Follow the path beside the house to a gate, and then bear slightly left to follow the route towards a telegraph pole and gate. Continue to follow the path across the next field as waymarked to a further gate and small bridge.
- 2) The route now follows the path uphill along the field edge, with the fence to your right. Follow the fenceline around to the right at the top of the hill to another gate. **There are good views from this point forward to the reservoir and back across to the Downs.** Follow the path along the edge of the next field, with the fence still to your right, to reach a surfaced driveway. Turn left and follow the driveway towards the reservoir. Continue straight ahead at the next signposted junction, and at the following signpost indicating the circular walk, turn right to follow the access road along the top of the Dam Wall. **From the top of the dam there are good views towards the Downs and the Long Man of Wilmington, and towards Arlington Village and St Pancras Church.**
- 3) From the end of the Dam Wall, continue to follow the path straight ahead up the gentle slope. This continues to follow the round reservoir walk, to the rear of the Bird Sanctuary, passing the bird hide entrance. From the junction at the top of the hill, turn left onto the bridleway and keep to the left, to follow the footpath from its junction with the bridleway, heading back to the edge of the reservoir. Shortly after the end of the tree line, a footpath junction is reached, at which point the two routes separate.
- 4) To complete the short walk, continue to follow the footpath around the reservoir, passing the car park and fishing lodge, before turning right as signposted and then left on the bridleway to follow the path around Polhills Farm. After the enclosed section of path, turn right and follow the driveway for a short distance to the next path junction. From this point, continue straight ahead to re-trace the route to Berwick Station and the end of the walk.
- 5) To continue on the longer route, turn right at the junction and follow the route uphill to reach a gate at the roadside. Cross the road and follow the signposted path opposite, through the woodland. Beyond the woodland, follow the path along the field edge with the field boundary to your right. Bearing right, cross the next field to the signpost and continue almost straight ahead with the fence and old barn to your left, heading towards a field gate. Beyond the gate, follow the track to the main driveway. Turn left along the drive passing Mays Farm Cottages, before turning left, immediately in front of the converted barn. Follow the path to the right, passing the main house at Mays Farm, and continuing straight ahead at the next signposted footpath junction.
- 6) Continue to follow the main route and beyond the next field gate, continue as waymarked along the field edge to reach another path junction. Turn left to follow the cross field route heading towards Ludlay Farm. After crossing the first field, follow the path along the edge of a second field, with the field boundary to your right. The route now passes between Ludlay and the barns of Ludlay Farm, to join the main driveway.
- 7) Follow the drive for approximately 250 metres (275 yards) and after passing some barns, follow the route through a gate into the field on your right. Follow the cross field path to another gate, and then through the woodland on the well defined path. After crossing a small bridge, follow the route to the rear of the houses to reach a track. Turn left and follow for a short distance to the road. Turn right to reach the station and the end of the walk.



View across the Reservoir to the South Downs and the Long Man of Wilmington