



# **Malmesbury Walkers**

**Friday 12th August 2026**

**Milk Hill (Wiltshire's highest point),  
the Alton Barnes White Horse,  
and the Wansdyke  
Approximately 4 miles**

Fields and tracks, easy walking, with moderate ascents  
Coffee stop (bring your own refreshments)  
Dogs welcome (on leads at all times)

**Everyone welcome**

**Meet 9.50am for 10am departure at the car park on the  
Alton Priors / Lockeridge road grid reference SU116638  
what3words (approximately): flukes.cashiers.vaulting  
(directions below)**

**Best allow about 60 minutes' drive from Malmesbury**

**For further details phone Glyn and Linda on  
07777 660 719**

All walkers walk at their own risk

# Directions

**From Malmesbury go via either Calne or Devizes.**

**From Calne** follow the A4 east to West Kennet, and immediately after take the right turn to East Kennet. Follow this road through the village until it reaches the T junction with the Lockeridge / Alton Priors Road. Turn right and the car park is on your left in approximately 2 miles.

**From Devizes** take the A361 and at the roundabout on the edge of Devizes take the Horton Road, and follow this through to Alton Priors. Here turn left onto the Lockeridge road, and the car park is on your right, again in approximately 2 miles.

## Milk Hill



Milk Hill is the highest point in Wiltshire, and is part of the Pewsey Downs, a rolling set of chalk grassland hills between Devizes and Pewsey which are prominent in the landscape. At just about 1,000 feet they offer panoramic and fantastic views over the Pewsey Vale and beyond. On a good day you can see the Black Hills in South Wales.

## Alton Barnes White Horse



The Alton Barnes White Horse was cut into the hills in 1812. Commissioned by tenant farmer Robert Pyle he paid sign painter John Thorne £20 to design and construct the horse. However, Thorne took the fee, showed Pyle a copy of the design of the Cherhill White Horse, and disappeared. A local resident John Harvey did the work.

The horse is 166 foot high and 160 foot long, and is one of the eight surviving White Horses in Wiltshire.

## The Wansdyke



The Wansdyke is an early medieval defensive work which stretches from just south of Bristol to the Savernake Forest. Although the name has a Saxon origin (Woden's Dyke) from the 9<sup>th</sup> century, it is generally believed to have been a British defensive structure to hold the Saxon's back in the period between the mid-5<sup>th</sup> and mid-6<sup>th</sup> centuries AD.

The eastern part is the most preserved. The central part has largely disappeared (a route roughly north of the A4, east from Bath). The western part between Monkton Combe south of Bath and Maes Knoll south of Bristol can be seen in parts.