

# The Combermere Arms and Burleydam, Whitchurch, Cheshire



Moderate Terrain

3 miles  
Circular  
1.5 hours

060614



## Access notes



1. The walk has just a few gentle climbs and descents throughout.
2. The route follows a mix of quiet lanes and field paths, the latter of which can be quite muddy and uneven underfoot so good waterproof boots are a must.
3. There are a couple of sections of road walking. The sections are relatively short but the traffic can be quick so stay on the grass verges and be aware of oncoming vehicles. There are several gates (inc. kissing gates) along the way, but no stiles.  
**Please ensure to close any gates behind you to ensure livestock don't escape onto roads.**
4. Whilst some of the fields are arable crop fields, three of the fields are grazing pastures for cattle so **dogs must be kept on leads.**

The Combermere Arms is a classic Cheshire country inn with plenty of nooks and crannies and lots of character.

A 3 mile circular pub walk from the Combermere Arms in Burleydam, Cheshire. The walking route performs a simple loop through the surrounding countryside, taking in the peaceful setting of the farming landscape.

## Getting there

Burleydam is located on the A525 to the east of Whitchurch, close to the Cheshire/Shropshire border. The walk starts and finishes from the Combermere Arms which has its own large car park alongside.

Approximate post code **SY13 4AT**.

## Walk Sections



### Start to Cattle Grid

To begin the walk, walk along the pub car park away from the



pub to reach the hedge at the bottom. On the right you'll see a metal gate out to the road with a footpath sign, do NOT go through this instead turn left to join the grass footpath between hedges, passing the pub's LPG cylinders on the left. Go through the next metal gate into a field.

Keep straight ahead on the path, running along the right-hand edge of this crop field. Pass through the metal gate and go over the old wooden bridge into the next field. Again, keep straight ahead for some distance along the right-hand boundary of this large crop field. Along the way you'll pass a few redundant and overgrown gates set alongside the hedge.

Just after a right-hand bend (and just a few hundred yards before the end of the field), fork left across the centre of the field passing to the right of the large oak tree in the field centre. You'll reach double gate set within the hedge at

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the far side. Pass through these two gates into the next field (which may be holding cattle).

Cross this pasture at about 11 o'clock, passing a copse on the left and heading for the corner of the fence line that juts into the field from the right. When you reach this corner, keep ahead following the fence line on the right. Pass through the gate ahead, ducking under the electric fencing if necessary, into the next pasture. This was holding a couple of very friendly pet pigs when we crossed. Stay close to the black metal fence on the right and, at the end of this fence, turn right through the black metal gate. Walk ahead for a few paces and then swing left through a gate alongside a cattle grid.

## 1 → 2 Cattle Grid to Veterinary Practice



Turn left down the tree-lined tarmac avenue. Follow the tarmac lane and use the wooden gate to pass alongside the electric entrance gate leaving Bank Farm. Eventually you will emerge to a T-junction with a tarmac lane. Turn right along this taking care of any occasional traffic.

After passing Pinfold Cottage on the left and Rosehill Farm on the right, you'll come to a T-junction with the main road. Take extreme care during this next section, as this A-road has fairly heavy and fast-moving traffic.

Turn right along the narrow grass verge running alongside the main road. Continue past the first turning on the left and a short distance later you'll come to Lambert, Leonard and May Veterinary Practice on the right.

## 2 → 3 Veterinary Practice to End



Keep ahead for just a little distance further and take the next road on the left. Follow this pretty, quiet tarmac lane for some distance, passing Wood Farm on the right about half way along. Take time to enjoy the beautifully kept hedges along this lane, with hawthorn and other native species providing a haven for lots of wildlife.

Continue until the lane bends hard left, and at this point turn right

down a signed grass bridleway with Stonelodge Wood running on the left. Pass through the gate ahead into the cattle pasture, and follow the left-hand edge of this field with the woodland still on the left. In the field corner, keep left through the gap in the hedge, go over a footbridge and go through a gate into the next field. Continue in the same direction along the field (a crop field when we crossed) edge with the woodland still on the left. Beyond the woods to the left is Combermere Abbey.

Combermere Abbey began life as a Cistercian monastery in the 1130s but, after the dissolution of monasteries by Henry VIII, it was acquired by Sir George Cotton who demolished the church and most of the buildings, and converted part of the abbey into a country house. Today, the abbey is a private residence with the barns and stables converted into holiday cottages. The modern estate extends to 1,110 acres and is run as an organic dairy farm. The gardens include a walled garden in which a maze of fruit trees was created in the 1990s. The park includes the natural lake of Comber Mere. Covering an area of around 132 acres, it is the largest lake in a private English park.

At the end of the woodland, you'll pass the back of Stone Lodge, the old gatehouse for Combermere Abbey, which is now a holiday cottage. Pass through the metal gate and keep ahead along the grass track under trees to emerge to a road junction, alongside the gated entrance to Combermere Abbey.

Cross over the main road with extreme care and take the A5015 opposite, signed to Burleydam. Take care of any traffic here, using the grass verge where possible. At the junction keep straight ahead, signed to Burleydam, walking along the right-hand grass verge to avoid the traffic. You'll pass the sign marking the start of Burleydam village, and a little distance further you'll reach the Combermere Arms for some well-earned hospitality.

### Disclaimer

This walking route was walked and checked at the time of writing. We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

### Walking Safety

For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and an Ordnance Survey map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before you set out.

