

Telscombe
Distance: 4miles/6.5km
Time: 1.5 hours
Bus: 27 (Brighton & Hove Bus Company)
Access: Slight inclines, mostly flat
Key:

†	Church/chapel
—	Walk
- - -	Footpath
- - -	Bridleway



Route Instructions

- From the bus stop at the junction with **Wicklands Avenue**, walk up **Longridge Avenue**. Pass the bridleway signpost, go through the gate and walk up the track until you come to a waymark post.
- Turn right and follow the bridleway past the house, go through the gate and across **Telscombe Tye** (a common). Walk past the **Dew Pond** to the signpost.
- Turn left and walk down the road into **Telscombe** village and turn right up the bridleway

immediately after the church. Walk to the top, through the gate and turn right onto the track.

- Turn right along **Telscombe Road** and take the bridleway heading off the road on the bend. Follow the bridleway past two cattle grids to the bend, where you can either walk across the **Tye**, or you can continue along the track to the signpost where you can retrace your steps back towards the house.
- Continue back along the bridleway and down **Longridge Avenue** to the bus stop.

Walking near Telscombe and Mill Hill

Take time out and explore the picturesque village of Telscombe. The village has retained its peaceful character due to the wealthy bookmaker Ambrose Gorham who left the village to a trust known as 'Gorham's Gift'.

Discover another way to visit the South Downs National Park. Go to www.traveline.co.uk or call **0871 200 22 33** to find public transport information. For train timetables, visit www.nationalrail.co.uk or call **08457 484950**.

Looking for somewhere to stay? Try Telscombe Youth Hostel on **0845 3719663** www.yha.org.uk or YHA South Downs www.yha.org.uk/hostel/southdowns

Contact us

South Downs National Park Authority

Tel: 0300 303 1053

Web: www.southdowns.gov.uk

Twitter: @SDNPA Facebook: SDNPA

Please follow the Countryside Code:

Leave gates as you find them and keep dogs under close control or on a lead.

Where in the South Downs National Park:



Details correct at time of going to print. Please be aware that routes are shared with other users (vehicles, pedestrians, dogs, horses etc) and users of the SDNPA Walk and Ride Leaflet Series do so at their own risk. We do not accept any responsibility for loss, damage or injury, however caused, arising directly or indirectly from use of this leaflet. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2013.

Walking near Telscombe and Mill Hill





Route Instructions

- 1 From the bus stop adjacent to **Downs Walk** on **Telscombe Road**, walk down to the bridleway which heads off at the bend at the junction of **Telscombe Road** and **Kirby Road**. Follow the bridleway around the bend and past the cattle grid until you come to a gate. Follow the track round to the right until you reach a signpost.
- 2 Walk down the road through **Telscombe Village**. Passing the church on your right and the **Old Rectory** on your left. Follow the road until you come to a bridleway on your left. Go through the gate and follow the bridleway down into the valley, following the track. Go through the gate and follow the track to the right. Keep on the track, following it down into the farmyard.
- 3 When you come to a **South Downs Way** signpost ahead of you, turn left through the gate. Follow the path uphill through another gate and on until the top of the hill.
- 4 Do not pass through this gate, but turn left following the footpath along the field edge down into the valley. Go through the next gate and head up the hill. You will see **Breaky Bottom Vineyard** on your right as you walk up the hill.
- 5 Continue across the field, then keeping the dew pond and sheepfold to your left, head towards the centre of the field and towards a gate ahead. Go through this gate and across another field to a third gate, after which you turn left onto the bridleway which will take you on to **Telscombe Tye**.
- 6 Go through the gate next to a reservoir and cross the fields through three more gates. There is a **Dew Pond** here, where you can stop and enjoy the view. Follow the bridleway back to the signpost at the top of the road and retrace your steps back to the bus stop.

Dew ponds

Dew ponds were originally built for livestock to drink, in places where there are no natural ponds, streams or rivers.

Many restored dew ponds are now wildlife havens, and are fenced to prevent livestock from getting in. Both Telscombe and Rodmell dew ponds are good examples. Fenced ponds attract a lot of insects, amphibians and feeding birds. In summer do not be surprised to see dragonflies dancing around, or swallows swooping down to eat flies and to drink.

The saucer shape of the pond is very important. It's designed to catch as much rainfall as possible and despite their name, dew ponds get most of their water from rainfall rather than the dew. The base of the pond is lined with puddled clay and sometimes straw. These days, an artificial liner is used as well as the clay, so that the base does not crack when exposed to sunlight in dry periods. Cracks in the clay prevent the ponds from holding water, which is why some have dried up and left grassy depressions. Look out for these on your walks around the South Downs.

South Downs National Park

The South Downs National Park is Britain's newest National Park, rich in landscape, culture and wildlife. Discover ancient woodland and enjoy spectacular views as you explore the open downs and heathlands. Within these landscapes lie bustling market towns and peaceful rural villages, historic houses and the remains of ancient settlements. Find out more at www.southdowns.gov.uk.