

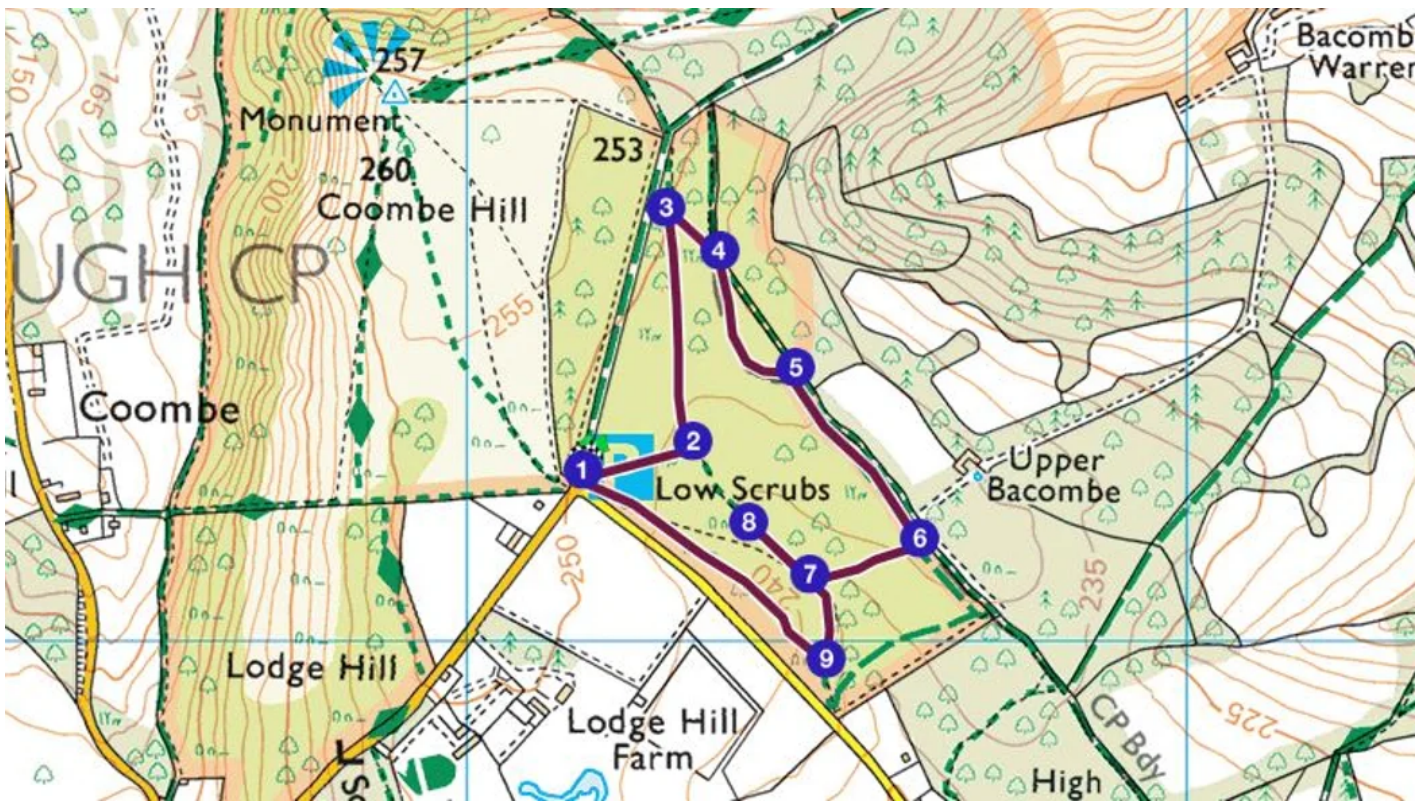
OXFORDSHIRE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE & BERKSHIRE

Low Scrubs: A walk back in time

This short circular waymarked walk takes you through the atmospheric woodland of Low Scrubs, passing relics of its ancient past from as far back as the early Iron Age.

Waymarked walk

Look out for the orange waymark arrows mounted on wooden posts – they indicate any major changes of direction along the route.



Information

Address: Coombe Hill, near Butlers Cross, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP22 6QL

OS map: Explorer 181

Activity: Walking

Easy: The route is on footpaths and level ground. For further details, see Terrain section.

Dog friendly

Full trail: Miles: 1.2 (km: 1.92)

Access: Easy

Duration: 45 mins

Terrain

The entire walk is on footpaths and level ground. However, some of the paths can be very muddy, particularly in winter months, so good walking shoes or boots are recommended.

Total steps: 9

Start point: Coombe Hill car park, grid ref SP851062

1. Enter the woodland at the public footpath sign just to the left of the wooden posts that mark the road end of the car park. You'll see the route's first orange waymark on a low post just as you enter the woodland. After 50m, ignore a path bearing to the right – but pause here to look at the coppiced beech trees around you. Continue on the main path winding through the trees until you reach a signpost on a sunken path that crosses the one you're on.
2. Turn left here and head gently uphill on this ancient trackway. Continue on the main, broad path for 350m until you reach a large beech tree with a marker pointing to a path on the right.
3. Take a sharp right onto the path on the right, going partly back the way you came. After 100m, another path joins from the left. Cross this path, continuing in the same direction, and go through a gap in a distinct line of large trees. Look out for some curious ironwork, about a metre long, partially embedded in one of the trees.
4. Turn immediately right at the section of iron fence to follow a broad path. The distinct line of large trees will be on a bank on your right. After a while, this path curves round to the left until you reach a T-junction. You can see more of the gate and fence ironwork on the opposite side.
5. Turn right and follow the path, keeping the iron fence on your left, with a paddock behind. After 200m, you'll reach a point where solid wooden fencing has been installed behind the iron railing fence. Look back to see if you can spot some Iron Age archaeology. Then continue for another 50m to a footpath sign.

6. Turn right here to walk along a narrow path that starts off flat then slopes gently downhill. This is thought to have been another ancient trackway between two compartments of trees. At the end of the downhill section, you'll meet a path crossing this one.
7. Turn right down the path. After about 100m, you'll see a clear area to the left. About 25m after you re-enter the woodland, stop to look at a small depression with raised banks just to the left of the path. This is thought to be the remains of a lye pit.
8. Turn around and retrace your steps. Continue past the point where you joined this path then bear right at a footpath, following it gently uphill until you reach a T-junction.
9. Take a sharp right here towards a thick grove of silver birch trees. Once through the grove, continue along the path until you rejoin the path you started the walk on. Turn left to return to the car park.

End point: Coombe Hill car park, grid ref SP851062
