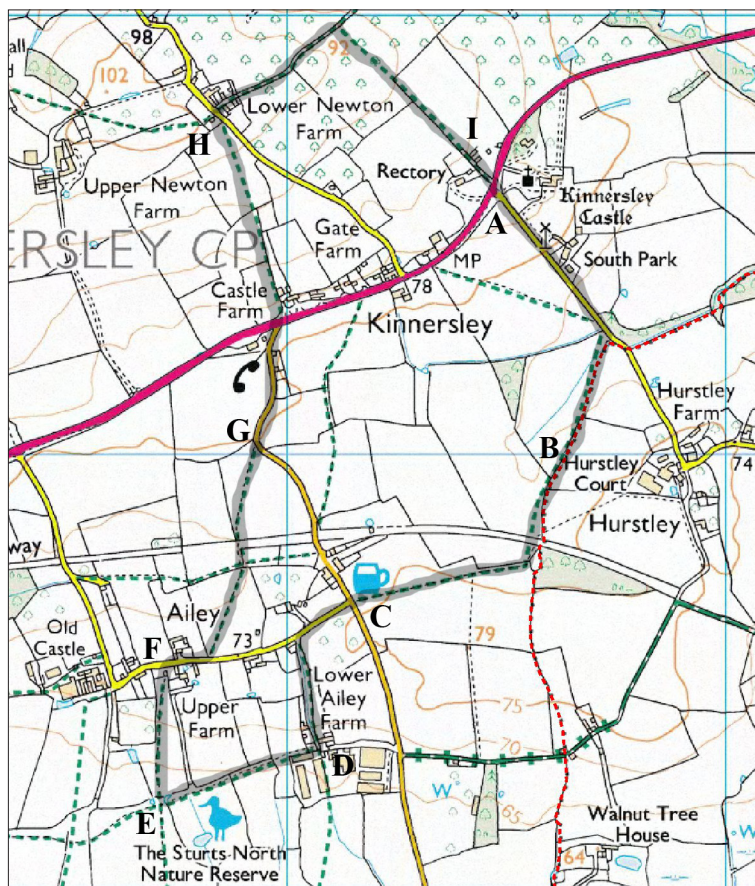




This walk starts at St James' Church, Kinnersley.

A) With the church on your left-hand side, walk down the lane towards the village of Hurstley. As you near the first bend in the road, take the second footpath signposted off to the right, crossing a double stile, and then a bridge over a stream near an obelisk and a dead tree. From here the path continues on the line of the bridge to cross the field to the corner in the hedgerow on the far side. This 'corner' might not look obvious until you get closer to it, but if you aim for a point slightly to the left of the right-hand end of the wood on the horizon beyond the other side of the field, you'll be on roughly the right line. Once you reach the hedgerow, turn right along it and follow it to the far corner of the field.

B) Cross the stile in the corner of the field and continue along the hedgerow on your left through the next field, passing out via a kissing gate just to the right of a block of woodland. You'll immediately cross the line of the old railway, and continue across a narrow strip of orchard to pass through a gap in what was once a hedge but is now little more than a bank of rough vegetation, into another orchard. Through the gap, turn right and follow the old hedgeline along on your right, including where it kinks right and then left. At the end of this orchard you reach a stile near another obelisk. Cross the stile and head straight over the next field, aiming just to the right of the tallest conifer. Cross the stile on the far side of the field, then follow the path through gaps left in the lines of trees in another orchard to reach a stile out onto Letton Lane.

C) Cross the road and take that ahead signposted to Ailey. Turn down the gravelled approach to the first house you come to on the left, reached after 250 metres along the road, the footpath continuing through the garden of the cottage and then follows a sunken footpath (which can be very wet as it follows a water course), going through a small gate at the end and then climbing up a steep bank. Continue ahead, keeping the hedgerow on your left to leave through a field gate and then keeping to the left of Myrtle Cottage.

D) Enter the farmyard, but don't cross the tarmacked lane that runs between the buildings! Immediately before this you'll see a metal kissing gate on your right, which you go through and then cross a narrow patch of ground, passing feed hoppers on your left, to head out of it by a pair of stiles. Once over these, initially follow the hedge on your left, and when that bends to the left, carry on ahead across the neck of the field to the hedge on the far side. Here you will find a gate, hidden from view until you've reached it, into a field beyond, and this you go through. Once in this field, turn right and shadow the hedge on your right to a gateway into the next field. Go through this and cross the next field to another gateway directly opposite.

E) Once through the gateway, turn right and go through the gateway ahead in the corner of the field. In this next field a wide footpath curves uphill to The Sturts Nature Reserve car park. (Note the obelisk on the right-hand side when entering the car park.)

F) Exit The Sturts onto Ailey Lane and turn right. After approximately 100 metres, take some steps up the bank on your left and cross a stile into a field. The path crosses this field diagonally to the far corner where there is another stile. Cross this and turn left on the track to immediately go through a gate into another field. Follow the field boundary on your right, and when this bends to the right, cross the line of the old railway track to a bridge and stile which you cross into another field. Head diagonally across this field to a gate in the far corner, which you go through to find yourself on the Kinnersley to Letton road.

G) Turn left and walk up to the A4112. Cross this main road with care and take the path near the obelisk that heads up some steps over a stile into a garden area just to the left of the line of houses. Cross this to a field gate on the far side and once in the paddock beyond, head to its top right-hand corner. Cross the stile here and follow the hedge on your right up to a stile reached in the next corner of this field. Once over this stile (and note another obelisk), head to the top right-hand corner of this next field, crossing out by a stile to the right of a white-painted house. Walk down the short length of path between the garden hedge and the roadside hedge, then cross out onto the road by a stile before you reach the house's drive.

H) Turn left on the road and after about 20 metres you reach the sign for Lower Newton Farm on the side of a barn. Here you turn right through a gate and cross a gravelled area and then walk to the right of a new building to reach a stile that leads onto a hedged track between orchards. Follow this green lane for about 400 metres passing over a crossroads of tracks and about 50 metres before the hedged green lane comes to an end, turn right through a wide gap in the hedgerow. (There is a three-way footpath finger post at this point, that can be well hidden in the hedgerow!) You should see another obelisk standing by the hedge just over the brow of the orchard. Head for this and go over the stile to the left of the obelisk and follow the field edge path down the hedgerow on your right.

I) At the bottom of the field, in a dip on the right you will see a stile. Go over this and follow the path, passing the Old Rectory on the right and another obelisk on the left. Carry on down the track to join the A4112 opposite Kinnersley Church. Take care in crossing this road.