

Icknield Way: Sharpenhoe Clappers - Sundon Hills circular

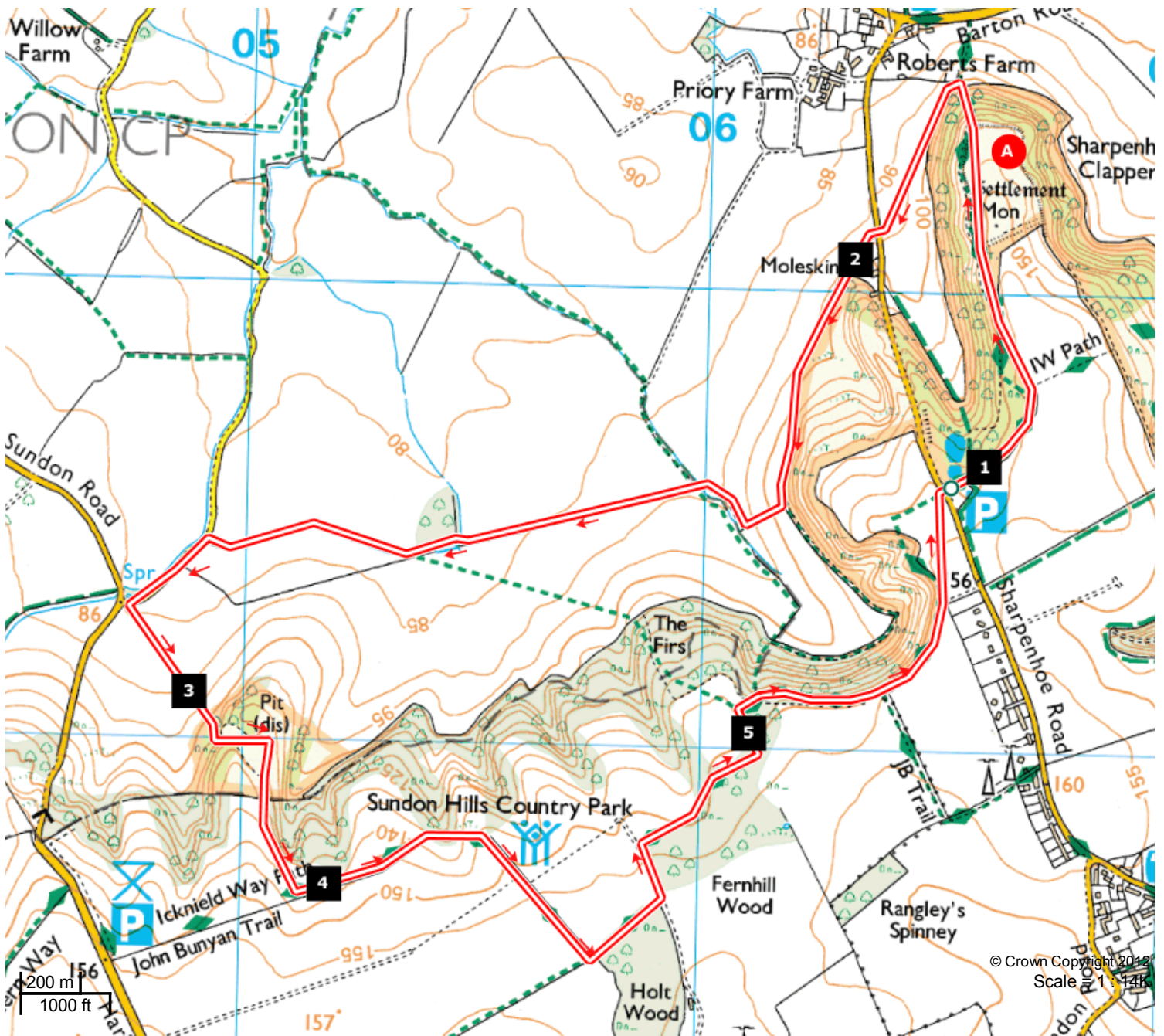


Starts at Shapenhoe Clappers car park, Streatley

1 hours 25 minutes | 4.3miles 6.9km | Leisurely

ID: 0.2630 | Developed by: Tom Chevalier | www.ramblersroutes.org

Extensive views across Bedfordshire on a stile free rural circular walk following the Icknield Way using paths and tracks. The walk involves a progressive climb of 70m height. Dogs to be kept under close control where livestock are grazing.



— Main Route — Alternative Route H Point of Interest 4 Waypoint

The Ramblers is Britain's walking charity. We work to safeguard the footpaths, countryside and other places where we all go walking. We encourage people to walk for their health and wellbeing. To become a member visit www.ramblers.org.uk



Starts at

Sharpenhoe Clappers car park is located on Sharpenhoe Road, Streatley, Bedfordshire. Map reference: TL065296 Lat: 51.954691 Long: -0.450867 Post Code: LU3 3PP

Getting there

The A6 north of Luton and south of Barton passes Streatley drive through Streatley follow signs towards Sharpenhoe Clappers visitors car park.

Bus services from Luton and Bedford, for details: [Traveline](#). Nearest rail station is at Harlington

Route instructions

[1] From the car park pass through the gate and follow the metalled path. The path splits, follow either as they rejoin, walk for half a mile to Sharpenhoe Clappers, a beech woodland on the chalk headland. In the beech woodland keep generally to the left and follow the tree/fence line to take the footpath down some 70 steps at the north. At the bottom of the steps take the footpath on the left, through two kissing gates and then diagonally left across the field to a kissing gate on the far side.

[2] **Cross the road carefully** and follow the bridleway for 1.25 miles as it weaves along the bottom of the hills. Ignore footpaths/signs/gates to the left to Moleskin and Markham hill. At the road, turn left for 250m. **Be aware of the few vehicles using this road.** At the road junction pass through the kissing gate on the left and follow the permissive path as it leads uphill between the two fields.

[3] Continue through another kissing gate into a wooded area until a path to the left goes up some 35 steps, through part of a former quarry, at the top appreciate the easterly views back towards Sharpenhoe Clappers. Now turn right to continue climbing, through a gate, keeping the hedge on your left. Continue across the field up the hill to the hedge at the top, then turn left and follow the hedge line.

[4] Follow the ridge around to the right, through a gate after a further 150m pass through a kissing gate to the right, following the Icknield Way path. Continue up hill on the field edge, at the footpath junction turn left and continue to follow the Icknield Way path along the field edge.

[5] As the path goes into the woodland follow it round to the right for 0.33 of a mile following the Icknield Way path along the wooded ridge. As the path opens out, pass through the kissing gate on your left and cross the grazing field diagonally. Go through the kissing gate and **carefully cross the road** to return to the car park.

Additional 'Point of Interest' information

[A] Sharpenhoe Clappers is a classic chalk escarpment and part of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is crowned with traces of an Iron Age hill-fort and an impressive beech wood. It is a prominent landmark from Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. It was bequeathed to the National Trust in memory of brothers Norman & Laurance Robinson who were both killed in action during the First World War.

Notes

Maps: OS Explorer 193, Landranger 166

Eating & drinking: [Cheques](#) pub in Streatley

Accommodation: [Cheques](#) pub in Streatley

Water for dogs: Available from natural water courses along waypoint [2], but none available on the remainder of the route

Acknowledgements

Developed by: *Tom Chevalier*

The [Ickniel Way Association](#) promotes the 110 mile long route from Ivinghoe Beacon in Buckinghamshire to Knettishall Heath on the Suffolk/Norfolk borders. The Ickniel Way links the Ridgeway and Peddars Way National Trails. Search for other Ickniel Way walks, for example this route links with a circular walk to Upper Sundon & Toddington. This route follows the Ickniel Way path and the Ickniel Way multi-user [riders route](#).

[National Trust](#) maintain the area jointly with [Central Bedfordshire Council](#)



View from Sundon Hills [3] towards
Sharpenhoe Clappers.
Photo taken by: Tom Chevalier



View towards Sharpenhoe Clappers with sheep
grazing from waypoint [4]
Photo taken by: Tom Chevalier



View towards Sundon Hills from Sharpenhoe
Clappers [1]
Photo taken by: Tom Chevalier

