

Two rivers and two churches around Old Sarum, Wiltshire

• Start: St Mary & St Lawrence Church, Stratford Tony (grid ref: SU091263)

• Finish: St Mary's Old Church, Wilton

OS map: OS Explorer 130

Distance: 6.5km (4mi) – approx. 1.5hrs
Type: linear (return on buses no. 3 and 29)

Ease: Easy – total ascent: 110m

A lovely stroll between two churches and two rivers through Wiltshire country. Start at the lovely medieval church of St Mary & St Lawrence in the hamlet of Stratford Tony. Cross the Ebble and follow bridleways, footpaths and the Old Sarum Way to the picturesque partially ruined church of St Mary's in the historic market town of Wilton. The churchyard around St Mary's at the heart of the town is a good spot to enjoy a picnic or there are heaps of cafes and delis in Wilton if you prefer not to carry your own!

Buses no. 3 (Wilton and Salisbury) and no. 29 (Salisbury to Stratford Tony) can return you to your starting point.

Instructions

- 1. Have an explore of our medieval church at Stratford Tony (open daily), sitting in a peaceful corner with lovely stained glass from the Kempe Studio. Continue down Church Lane and cross the bridge over the River Ebble.
- 2. After visiting the church continue down the lane to the River Ebble and cross the bridge. Continue for another 50m then turn left at the junction.
- 3. Follow the lane for approx. 250m then carefully cross the road. Continue on for another 200m then turn right into the track.
- 4. Follow this track more or less straight for approx. 1.5km. Where the track joins Drove Lane turn left.
- 5. Follow the lane through the trees and take the path left just before the racecourse. Follow the marked path through the trees along the edge of the racecourse and pass the caravan park. This is the old Shaftesbury droving route and part of the Old Sarum Way.
- 6. After the caravan park you'll come to a crossroads. Continue straight through it and after 20m take the path on the right.
- 7. Follow this path through woods and fields for approx. 1.75km. At the end turn left onto a country lane and then after 50m turn right onto Portfield Road.
- 8. Follow Portfield Road as it turns into South St and cross the River Nadder. Continue on South St until it turns into North St. Shortly after entering North St you will see the churchyard and arches of St Mary's Old St on your right.

