St Mary's Church, Everton
is unsuitable where you are going. Please be aware that much of the walk is on a path that can be muddy especially after heavy rain, so strong waterproof footwear is recommended. Take care where conditions are rough and do let someone know where you are going. Please be aware that much of the walk is unsuitable for wheelchair and difficult for pushchairs.

Countryside Code
- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

TASTEs

Sandy and Everton

Explore the countryside between the market town of Sandy and the village of Everton

Time: The whole route
Shortcut 2: 8.2 miles/13km
Main Walk: 9.6 Miles/15.5km

CIRCULAR WALKS

At Attractions: The route comes out opposite the RSPB headquarters and the grounds are open for the public to visit. 01767 680541. Roman Sandy Story is based in the Sandy Town Council Offices 100m from the car park. 01767 681491.

www.walk4health.org

Healthy Walking

Why not get out and get healthy? There is no better way to start than by taking a walk. Just 30 minutes a day can improve health and well-being, reduce the risk of heart disease, help to prevent diabetes, improve muscle strength even reduce anxiety & depression. So make today the day to try something new. For information on healthy walking log on to www.walk4health.org

Refreshments, Parking and Toilets

There is a free car park on Sandy High Street, which also has a post office, bakery, several shops and pubs and a public convenience. The Thornton Arms public house at Everton welcomes walkers and even has a Ramblers Menu and has kindly agreed to allow parking for walkers who take refreshments there. Large groups should book ahead on 01767 681149. For details of accommodation please contact the TIC 01767 682728

Public Transport

For information contact Traveline 0871 200 22 33 or www.travelsmartuk.com

There is a train station in Sandy, which runs between London King's Cross and Peterborough.

Ordnance Survey Maps

The route is covered on Ordnance Survey Explorer map 206 available from local bookshops and some petrol stations.

Countryside Code

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

Tips for enjoying your walk

Parts of the walk can become muddy especially after heavy rain, so strong waterproof footwear is recommended. Take care where conditions are rough and do let someone know where you are going. Please be aware that much of the walk is unsuitable for wheelchair and difficult for pushchairs.

Central Bedfordshire

For further information and availability please contact us on 0300 300 8085

Did you enjoy the walk?

If you have any comments about the walk or encounter any problems please contact the Rights of Way Section, Countryside Access Service, Central Bedfordshire Council, PO Box 1395, Bedford MK42 5AN or email Rightsofway@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

This is a series of circular walk leaflets produced by Central Bedfordshire Council. For further information and availability please contact us on 0300 300 8085

Green Sand Ridge Walk Public Right of Way

www.lts.go.uk
Explores the countryside between the market town of Sandy and the village of Everton. Following part of the Greensand Ridge Walk along the way.

Referred to as Sandie in the Domesday Book, taken from the Old English meaning a sand island. Sandy is dominated by an outcrop known locally as the Sand Hills, and formed part of the early English kingdom of Mercia. By 1290 it was split into three smaller estates – Sandy Manor under the Beauchamp’s and two under local monasteries.

**Romans in Sandy**

There is evidence of a settlement in the Sandy area from at least the Iron Age suggesting that early Sandy would have been a self-sufficient farming settlement using the plentiful water supply as a resource. Excavations have revealed remains of a roundhouse and pottery has been recovered in the cemetery and allotments area. The town gained importance when the Romans arrived in AD 43 and grew up around a Mansio (mansion) on the Roman road that ran from Baldock in Hertfordshire to Godmanchester in Cambridgeshire and developed to meet the needs of the Roman Imperial Post system. This was a network of messengers and later of relay posts, where the same messenger could change horses and continue the journey. The collapse of the Roman Empire and withdrawal of the Romans from Britain in 410 AD would have initiated the return of Sandy to its agricultural roots.

**Explore the Countryside**

The Pinnacle

The Pinnacle is owned by the Pym family and is leased to Sandy Town Council. The outcrop of the Greensand Ridge that was formed about 125 million years ago is 300 feet above sea level and provides excellent views over the Ivel Valley. ‘Caesar’s Camp’ near the Pinnacle is the site of a British hill fort of Pre-Roman origin.

Tempsford

Tempsford Airfield was built in 1941 and during World War II was used as a base for Special Operations Executive (S.O.E.) agents. The airfield was closed to the RAF in 1947, and is still intact. The field barn beside the bridleway, once formed part of Gibraltar Farm and remains as a memorial to those agents who took part in many dangerous operations in occupied Europe, while assisting the various Resistance movements. Equipment for these operations was issued in the barn and racks for supplies and equipment can still be seen.

White Wood

This is an ancient woodland of about 60 acres and records indicate that a wood has been on this site from at least 1297. Most of the trees are pine but there are some fine specimens of native trees. The lime trees are thought to be about 200 years old when the wood was extensively replanted but some of the oaks date back 300 years. Evidence shows that it was managed as a plantation from the early 1800’s with a variety of exotic trees that were probably planted when Woodbury Hall was first built.

**St Mary’s Church, Everton**

is unsuited care where conditions are rough and do let someone know. Tips for enjoying your walk:

- Consider other people.
- Keep dogs under close control.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- **Countryside Code** available from local bookshops and some petrol stations.
- **Ordnance Survey Maps** King’s Cross and Peterborough.
- There is a train station in Sandy, which runs between London
- For information contact Traveline 0871 200 22 33 or the TIC 01767 682728. For details of accommodation please contact
- refreshments there. Large groups should book ahead on
- a free car park on Sandy High Street, which also has
- a post office, bakery, several shops and pubs and a public
- **Refreshments, Parking and Toilets**

**Did you enjoy the walk?**

Did you enjoy the walk? We would be interested to hear your comments. If you have any comments about the walk or encounter any

**Public Transport**

For information on healthy walking log on to www.letsgo.org.uk

- **woodburyhall.co.uk**

- **St Mary’s Church**

- **F R O N T C O V E R:** BE D F O R D S H I R E C O U N T Y C O U N C I L 2 0 1 0
The walk

Main Walk: 15.5km / 9.6 miles
Shortcut 1: 11.5km / 7.2 miles
Shortcut 2: 13km / 8.2 miles

Time: The whole route approximately 5 hours.

1. From the Car Park turn left and follow the High Street for 180m. Turn left into St. Swithun’s Way and right into Cherrycroft. After 25m turn left and follow the alleyway over the railway bridge on to the Pinnacle Recreation Ground. Continue straight across the meadow into the woodland and follow the waymarked path to the left until you reach Sand Lane.

2. Turn right and follow Sand Lane for 500m. Turn left to follow the Greensand Ridge Walk through meadows and along field edge paths and farm tracks. Continue to follow the bridleway for 2.5km / 1.5miles until reaching Tempsford Road. Shortcut Option 1: Pass Fernbury Farm and after 7.5m turn right to follow the field edge path. Continue straight ahead across the meadows and up the hill into Everton. On reaching Sandy road turn left towards the Thornton Arms (7).

3. Cross the road with care and continue straight ahead along the bridleway for 1.1km / 0.7miles, follow the track then join an old runway past Gibraltar Farm. Shortcut Option 2: Opposite Gibraltar Farm, turn right and follow the waymarked footpath up the hill into Everton. On reaching Church Road turn right towards The Thornton Arms (7).

4. Leave the Roman road by taking the track to the right towards Joan’s Wood. Follow the field edge paths to zig zag past Joan’s Wood and Hare’s Home Wood and on towards Woodbury Sinks.

5. On reaching a field gate, leave the concrete track and bear left to climb the hill to pass Woodbury Sinks on your left. Continue straight ahead along a track for 200m.

6. At the metal kissing gate turn right and follow the waymarked path through the Woodbury Estate passing through a second kissing gate and over a cattle grid at Story Farm. Continue straight ahead along the track and into the centre of Everton, passing St Mary’s Church.

7. At the Thornton Arms public house turn left and follow Potton Road, for 1.1km / 0.7 miles. Take great care when walking along the road where there is no pavement.

8. At Ashmore Farm turn right and follow the Byway to Deepdale passing through a small woodland.

9. At the tarmac road turn right along the track and pass the Sandy transmitter on the left. After approximately 800m / 0.5 miles, turn left to follow the Long Riding bridleway to Potton Road.

10. With care, cross Potton Road and enter The Lodge. This is the national headquarters of the RSPB and a nature reserve. Immediately inside the entrance gates, turn right along the waymarked ‘Fir’s Trail’, following the trail towards Sandy. On reaching Potton Road, turn left and follow the pavement back into Sandy and the start of the walk.

As no dogs are allowed in the RSPB reserve, an alternative route for dog walkers is to follow the roadside pavement from the entrance to The Lodge all the way into Sandy.