

Walk Two – The Gimson Stroll – Saintbury to Broadway and Broadway Tower, and back (3.93 miles)

It's possible to walk on the lower route or higher route, or take the lower route there and the higher one to return. The lower route follows the same elevation, with viewing points and benches along the way. To take the lower route, leave the churchyard via the white gate and turn immediately left. It's well signposted with arrows and signs all the way to Broadway. Walk across the first field and through the kissing gate, through the orchard and then a five bar gate, where you cross the road. There is a sign marked 'Private Road access to Christen Mares Only.' Follow this road, which is a public footpath, past Christen Mares, a private house. Pass through a gate and continue on the lane through Farncombe Estate. You'll pass a dog agility course and walk through the car park of Hook Restaurant & Bar. Follow the path from the car park signposted 'Country Walk to Broadway' eventually passing under the main A44. Take the left-hand pathway along Bibsworth Lane and turn right from Bibsworth Lane into High Street.

To walk to Broadway Tower from Broadway, take the Cotswold Way off the Southside of the High Street.

To return via the higher route, once you're through the A44 underpass and metal gate, bear to the right where the land slopes upwards, with Colliers Knap on your right. You will pass a tree hit by lightning, and enter the woods at the end. The path then rises steeply up through the fields and crosses a tarmac access road for the Farncombe Estate. Head straight across it, following the arrow next to the gate in front of you. The footpath then winds along the western edge of the Broadway golf course and through the trees. You'll hug a field with views over Willersey and then cross Campden Lane. Once across the road, cross the stile into the next field, follow the path bearing gently down to the left. You'll pass a small copse on the right, and glimpse the spire of St Nicholas in the tops of the trees ahead. Follow the slope down through a kissing gate and into the wood directly behind the church.



Tom Jones

Saintbury Appeal

The Saintbury Appeal Committee is a voluntary independant group that has emerged to raise funds for replacing the roof.

On Saturday 11th September 2021, a special group of Britain's finest writing, acting and artistic talent will come together for a day of performance and celebration for Saintbury. Edmund De Waal, artist and writer, and leading stage, film and television actors Sylvester Le Touzel, Michael Maloney, Golda Rosheuvell, and Owen Teale directed by Caroline Gawn.

Thanks to Sarah Hudson-Evans Catering who are supporting the Appeal and the day's events. For further information contact us using: saintburychurch1301@gmail.com

Places to visit

Broadway Museum & Art Gallery – Broadway's history including the American artists and writers who visited and worked here in the late 19th century – <https://broadwaymuseum.org.uk>

Court Barn, Museum of Craft and Design – The legacy of craftspeople, designers and artists working in North Cotswolds from 1900 to the present day – <https://courtbarn.org.uk>

Broadway Tower – An iconic landmark on an escarpment, the Saxon tower was designed by James Wyatt in 1794 to resemble a mock castle – <https://broadwaytower.co.uk>

Dover's Hill – A natural amphitheatre with views over the Vale of Evesham, home of the annual Cotswold Olimpicks since 1622

Cotswold Distillery – Guided tour of the distillery including the production areas and warehouses – <https://www.cotswoldsdistillery.com>

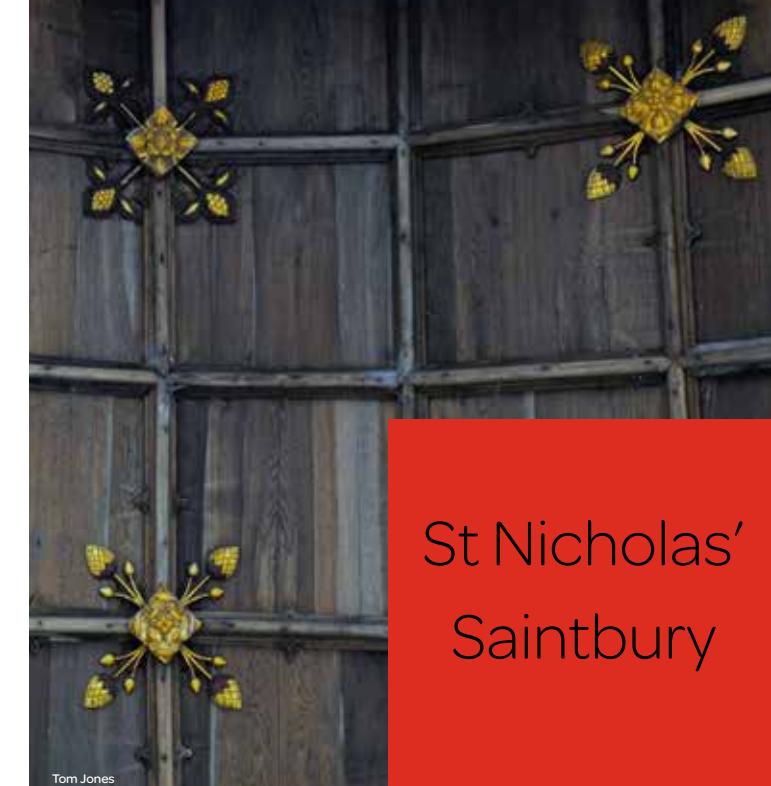
Robert Welch – His orginal studio shop in Chipping Camden – <https://robertwelch.myshopify.com/pages/about>

Our sponsors

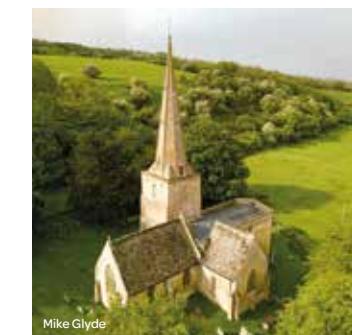
The Saintbury Appeal is kindly sponsored by:



Robert Welch



St Nicholas'
Saintbury



Mike Glyde

The early Norman church of St Nicholas is a hidden jewel with links to the Reformation, the brief reign of Queen Anne, and the Arts & Crafts Movement. From a



Saxon sundial and medieval grotesque, to a Sheela Na Gig (fertility symbol) and pre-Norman yew tree, the building and its landscape reflect the building's ancient Saxon origins while continuing to inspire visitors.

Tom Jones

History

Saintbury in the Reformation

Rev William Latimer (c1467-1545) was rector here and is buried in an unmarked grave in the churchyard. The foremost Greek scholar of his day, he taught Cardinal Pole at Oxford, corresponded with Erasmus and is thought to have contributed to the translation of the New Testament. Five centuries later Charles Ashbee presented his friend Rev Muriel Nason with an

equisite bible printed by his Essex House Press (a successor to William Morris' Kelmscott Press).

Wall paintings

In 2013 the Churches Conservation Trust commissioned the restoration of rare 1630s wall paintings in the chancel, previously hidden for centuries by layers of whitewash. The artist depicted text from the King James Bible less than 20 years after it was first printed in 1611.

Ashbee, Gimson and the Arts & Crafts Movement

This church's simple beauty inspired Arts & Crafts architect, craftsman and thinker Charles Ashbee and

others from his circle of designers, artists and craftspeople, leaving behind an extraordinary creative legacy. Ashbee's Guild of Handicraft moved from the East End of London to Chipping Campden in 1902. Of particular note from this era are the chancel and north chapel ceilings; the north chapel screen (c 1904 by Ernest Gimson); the north chapel reredos (c 1920 by Alec Miller) and the Chancel chandelier (1911 by Charles Ashbee), now on display at the Court Barn Museum, Chipping Campden.

Rev Nason, who formed a strong friendship with Ashbee and his wife Janet, lost his only son in the trenches of World War I. His name appears on the war memorial, and Alec Miller's altar in the north chapel is dedicated to him.



Mike Glyde

Saintbury Church Appeal

In 2017 comprehensive theft of lead from the roof left this church's structure and furnishings, particularly its ceilings and important medieval wall paintings, highly vulnerable. Saintbury Church is under the protection of the Churches Conservation Trust, the national charity protecting 356 historic churches, but it urgently needs friends and benefactors to secure its future. We have launched an appeal to raise the much-needed funds to secure this special building, so it can remain accessible to all.

Mike Glyde



Historic furnishings

The church houses several historic items, including 18th century finely carved box pews, a medieval dole table for settling debts, collecting tithes and handing out charity and bread, along with a pre-Reformation Mensa stone altar hidden from the Puritans (located under Miller's wooden altar).

Commanding views

Rising above the North Cotswold escarpment with sweeping views across three counties and the Vale of Evesham to the

Malvern Hills and Welsh Mountains beyond, Saintbury's 13th century spire is a much-loved landmark.



Donate to the Church

Support St Nicholas, Saintbury by making a donation at:

<https://tiny.one/saintbury>



Tom Jones

Circular Walks from St Nicholas

Walk One – C R Ashbee Trail – Saintbury to Chipping Campden via Dover's Hill and back (5.4miles)

Leaving through the white church gate walk down the path until you join the road. Look for the footpath sign across the road. Follow the path as it leads behind the stable across the stile and into a large field. The path takes you across a stile on your left and hugs the fence above paddocks. Bear right over a stile and along a narrow path at the bottom of the previous field. The path takes you over another stile then bear left and continue through two fields until you hit 'Dirty Lane'. You cross this byway which formed part of a network of old Roman roads. Stay on the footpath ahead as it crosses a stile, a field and a gate which then takes you up a very steep field ahead. Turn at the gate and admire the view as you catch your breath. Keep following the footpath through several fields until you reach a kissing gate, cross the road which leads you up to the top of Dover's Hill.

Pause here again to admire the view from the North Cotswold Escarpment across the vale of Evesham to Malvern and the Welsh hills. Dover's Hill, a National Trust property, has Roman roots and is the site of the Cotswold Olimpicks, an annual celebration that may have begun as early as 1622.

To descend into the charming market town of Chipping Campden join the Cotswold Way. Leaving the waymarker, follow the escarpment around until you see the sign and gate on your right. Simply follow the signs down the path across and along the road until you see the eaves of Campden below you. The Cotswold Way footpath becomes Hoo Lane and leads you into Chipping Campden. Follow the signs to the High Street which leads you to the market hall and the hand-carved sign for the start of the Cotswold Way.

To return to Saintbury, simply retrace your steps.