

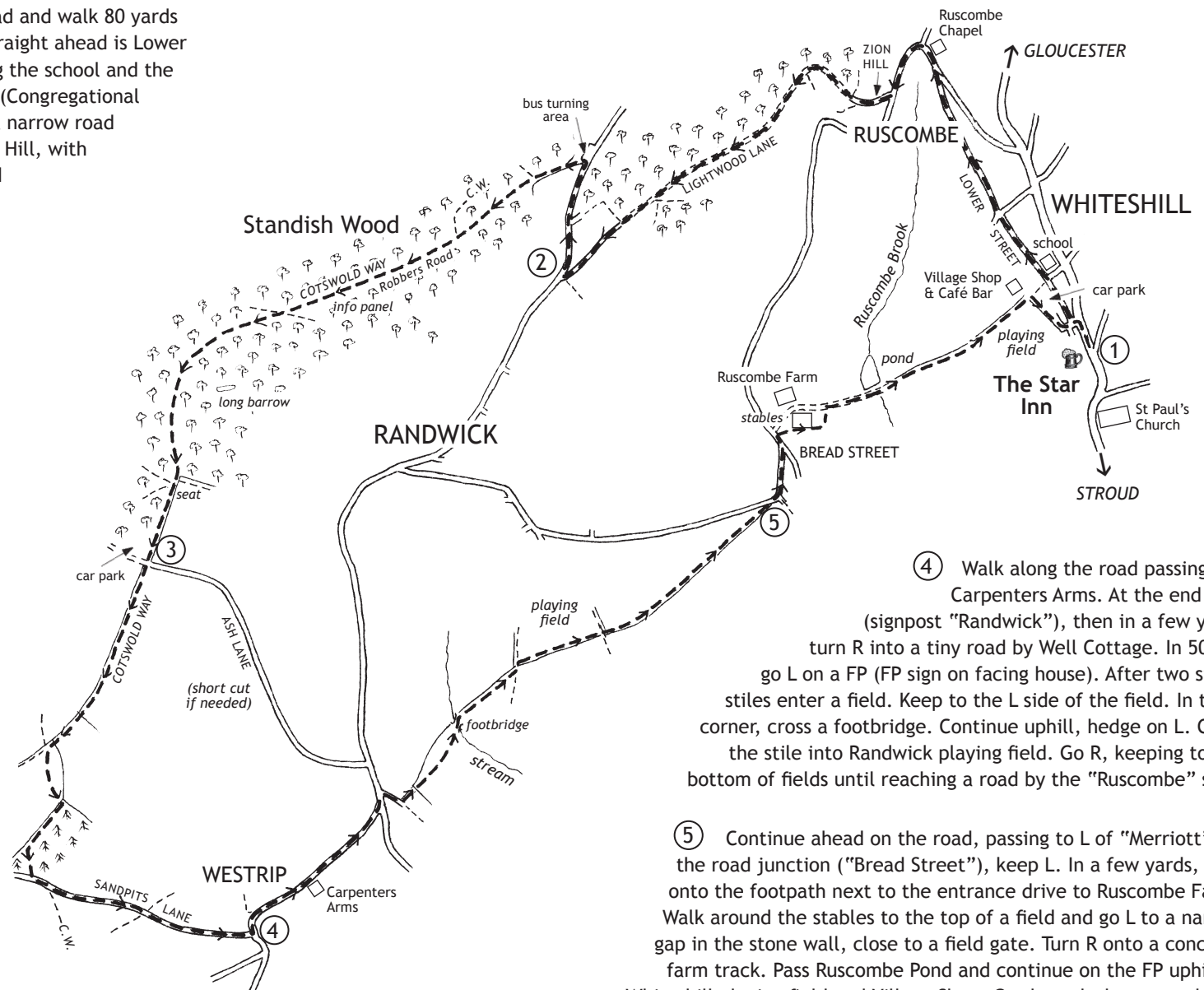
Walks from The Star 1 Standish Wood and Westrip

1½ hours; 3.8 miles (6.1 km). Beautiful beechwoods, great views, mostly gentle gradients.

① On leaving The Star, turn L at the main road and walk 80 yards up to the first road junction on the L. Almost straight ahead is Lower Street. Walk the length of Lower Street, passing the school and the tiny former post office. After Ruscombe Chapel (Congregational Church), the road curves L. Look for Zion Hill, a narrow road coming steeply down from your R. Walk up Zion Hill, with great views across to Selsley Common. The road loses its tarmac, becoming Lightwood Lane, a driveable track, with a lovely wood on your R. The far end of the lane meets the road up from Randwick.

② Here turn R. Walk 200 yds up the road to the bus turning area after the last house on the L. Go L into Standish Wood, passing the National Trust sign and barrier. Stay on this broad bridleway, waymarked with blue arrows and known as Robbers Road, right through the wood, ignoring all other paths. It becomes part of the Cotswold Way. An information panel explains the prehistoric "Lumps and Bumps" in this part of the wood. A long barrow lies behind an area of old quarrying. You reach a small parking area at the top of Ash Lane. *(The walk could be shortened here).*

③ Go through the gate opposite into the field - wonderful views all around. Keep to the field boundary on your R. At the far end pass through a gate, then soon another. The Cotswold Way sign points you diagonally L across the top of a field to a stone stile. Go over into a larch wood and walk through to Sandpits Lane. Turn L, walk down the lane and go L at the road junction at the bottom. This is Westrip.



④ Walk along the road passing the Carpenters Arms. At the end go L (signpost "Randwick"), then in a few yards turn R into a tiny road by Well Cottage. In 50 yds go L on a FP (FP sign on facing house). After two stone stiles enter a field. Keep to the L side of the field. In the L corner, cross a footbridge. Continue uphill, hedge on L. Cross the stile into Randwick playing field. Go R, keeping to the bottom of fields until reaching a road by the "Ruscombe" sign.

⑤ Continue ahead on the road, passing to L of "Merriott". At the road junction ("Bread Street"), keep L. In a few yards, go R onto the footpath next to the entrance drive to Ruscombe Farm. Walk around the stables to the top of a field and go L to a narrow gap in the stone wall, close to a field gate. Turn R onto a concrete farm track. Pass Ruscombe Pond and continue on the FP uphill to Whiteshill playing field and Village Shop. Go through the car park and turn L to reach the main road, just above The Star.