

TWO COMMONS and AMAZING VIEWS (6 km/3.7miles)

This walk can be wet and muddy and can be overgrown, so please be prepared! Kempsey Common has livestock (horses and sheep) on it at all times of the year so please keep dogs under control. Please make sure all gates are shut after you. The views from the high points on Kempsey Common and at points 3 and 5 are wonderful. Keep a look out too for signs of wildlife, especially at points 4 and 5: rabbits, foxes, badgers and deer.

START: The walk starts at the car park area on Kempsey Common at the end of Bestman's Lane.

1. Walk straight ahead from the car park onto the Common. There are various paths and it doesn't really matter which one you take. Continue walking straight up the hill for about 1 kilometre. There is a fence on the right hand side of the Common and a few farms and houses on the left hand side. You are aiming for two white houses and a low white barn.
2. Go through the metal gate out onto the road and walk along the road past Swanbrook Farm on the left and Willows Farm on the right. Just beyond Willows Farm there is a bridleway on the right hand side, which goes through a metal gate (please wrap the chain back round) into a garden and along the left side of the house. There is a gate at the back to a field.
3. Follow the edge of the field, keeping the hedge on your left. Ignore the track down on the left near the end of the field and continue along the bridleway between the trees.
4. Go through the metal gate and at the junction (*) go left and continue along the bridleway. At the next junction, turn right and then veer left to stay on the bridleway.
5. Follow the bridleway until another junction. Turn right here to follow a track. This comes out at a junction of roads.
6. Turn sharp right and follow this road past several houses and open common land until you reach the Stonehall Common sign. At the junction of a lane on the right and bridleway and footpath on the left, take the footpath, which goes across the Common. It goes behind the houses, with the road on your right and trees and hedge on your left.
7. The Common ends at a fence so turn right here back to the road. Cross the road and go straight ahead down a bridleway. This leads you back onto Kempsey Common. Again it doesn't really matter which path you take but you will be heading straight along the full length of the Common, uphill and downhill, back to the car park at the far end.

**(At the junction in point 4 there is a possible 1 km short cut by turning right instead of left. This takes you along a lane and onto a road. Turn right and walk along the road. There is a bridleway on the right, which takes you back onto Kempsey Common.)*