

## **May Hill – Drive & Walk**

**(15 min drive / 20 min walk)**

///neat.toothpick.achieving

Walk is about 15-20 mins to the top of the Hill – explore the hill at leisure, maybe take a picnic!

It is possible to walk to May Hill on the Gloucestershire Way which crosses our road, Church Lane just before the church. You will enjoy this if you are a keen walker, and some of our guests have done it! We advise wearing long trousers in summer and bear in mind it will be a day's outing.

Information for dog owners: ponies and Galloway cattle grazing. No stiles.

This is a National Trust Property that is free to visit, and parking is free too. You may well have already spotted May Hill whilst driving around the area. It is a rounded grassy hill topped with a cluster of pine trees which make it very recognisable. This is a fantastic walk for the phenomenal 360-degree views from the top of the hill.

See the River Severn as it meanders across the county, the Black Mountains across the border in Wales, the Malvern's, the Cotswolds, Ross-on Wye... A further attraction are the ponies which have their foals with them in late spring, Galloway cattle and the birdlife. It can be busy in the summer especially on sunny days, so it's good to go in the week if you want to savour the peace and quiet. The views are obviously best on a clear morning!

Driving directions: The hill looks like it might be a long climb, and it can be depending on where you start from.

However, the walk described begins from a parking area some way up, and although uphill, it is not difficult walking, nor is it particularly muddy.

Drive through the Mitcheldean town centre and at the A 40 turn right. After several miles turn left signposted May Hill, & Glasshouse. Very soon after, take the second left at crossroads. Continue along single-track road skirting the hill.

After several miles the road bends sharply to the left. Take the right turn off this bend. Shortly you will see a parking pull off to the left. Leave your car and cross the road.

For a circular walk, bear left along a footpath. The Malvern Hills will be visible to the left through the trees. You will come to a wooden kissing gate. Go through and follow the path to the left uphill to admire the views over the Severn. Return via the path on the other side the trees towards the stone wall at the bottom where there is another gate. The Welsh mountains can be seen on the way down. Keep on downhill after the gate back to the car.