



*The Chettle Estate is a community of just 100 people, full of young families who live and work locally. Regenerative ideologies put community, nature and resilience before profit. The owner, a keen environmentalist, aims to create an abundant landscape fit to face environmental and social challenges.. Chettle holds what it claims is "one of the biggest (and craziest) village fêtes in the UK."*

<https://linktr.ee/chettlevillage>

Easy walking through parkland, woods and fields to the west of Chettle, with long-distance views across the south of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.



**Start Point:** The village hall in Chettle. W3W: flipper.dripped.fidgeted. OS Grid Reference: OS Explorer 118 | ST952134 |.

**Parking:** There is a small car park outside the village hall. **Please do not leave your vehicle in the car park at the village shop while you enjoy this walk.**

**Terrain:** Gently undulating parkland, woodland and fields. No stiles. All gates are wheelchair and mobility scooter accessible.

**Length:** Approximately 2.85 miles / 4.56 km.

**Approximate time:** 1.5 hours.

**Dogs:** Please keep dogs on a lead wherever livestock are present.

**Good to know:** For a longer walk, to the villages of Tarrant Hinton and Tarrant Gunville, this walk shares part of its route with the Cranborne Chase website walk W41.

**Refreshments:** The village shop in Chettle is locally famed for its pies and offers hot drinks, covered and open outdoor seating areas and tables and has customer toilets.

*The information is only intended as a general guide. Please check local arrangements.*



Respect everyone  
Protect the environment  
Enjoy the outdoors  
Follow advice and local signs

Share your pictures with us at [#cranbornechase](https://www.cranbornechase.org.uk)



Cranborne  
Chase  
National  
Landscape



[cranbornechase.org.uk](https://cranbornechase.org.uk)

(A) The name 'Chettle' has evolved over time, from being named in the Domesday Book of 1086 as 'Coetel', which is not dissimilar to the Anglo-Saxon word 'Cietel' which meant a deep valley between hills; By 1234, the name became 'Chetel'.

(B) **Chettle House** commenced construction in 1710 at the end of Queen Anne's reign, designed by the distinguished architect Thomas Archer who was also designing for Chatsworth and West Park. The house is of Baroque architectural style and is oval in shape with rounded corners. The client was George Chafin MP, the Ranger of the Cranborne Chase royal hunting grounds who also became owner of the Chettle Estate, approximately 100 acres of land surrounding the house.

In 1840 a local banking family called Castleman bought the house and heavily restored it following a period of decline. Their family was associated with the infamous smuggler Isaac Gulliver but they made their money from railway construction, bringing the first railway to Dorset in 1845.

In 2015 the house and a quarter of the Estate changed hands away from the Castleman and their descendants to a Dorset family who have been able to fully restore the house and gardens back to their former beauty. It is now privately owned and used as a family home.

(C) **St Mary's church** – medieval but all but tower demolished and replaced in 1847.

(D) Chettle has a recently constructed and purpose built **village stores**, within a few yards of the start of this walk. The new building has replaced the much loved but old and tired shop that was located in a wartime hut which was transported from its original site at nearby Blandford Camp.

## Points of interest on this route (see map overleaf for locations)

### Chettle and Tarrant Hinton Down Paths, Parklands and Pies

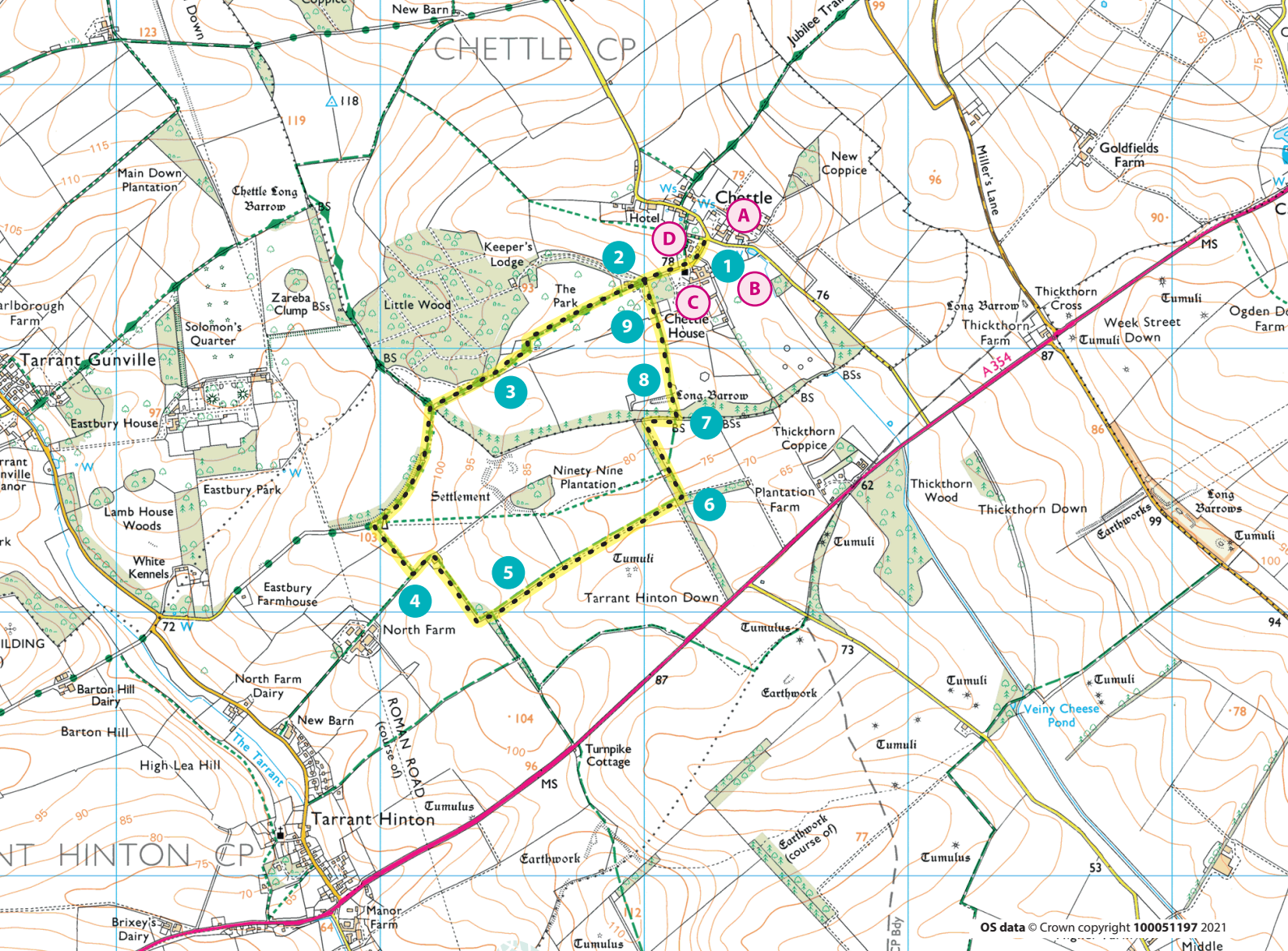
WALK #  
**W35**



Cranborne  
Chase  
National  
Landscape







## Directions

- 1 From the village hall in the centre of Chettle, go uphill along the road past the church and continue past the entrance gates to Chettle House. Beyond the gates, the way straight ahead is signposted as a byway, with a public bridleway leading off to the left.
- 2 Keep straight ahead along the byway, passing the farm barns to the right of the track, and through a gate into the parkland of Chettle House. The path takes a bend to the left and then to the right before straightening to pass through a gate into the woods.
- 3 Keep to the left to follow the waymarked track inside the edge of the woods and continue to and through another gate. Stay on the track between the woods on the right and fields on the left until reaching a telecommunications mast and a signposted public bridleway through the gate on the left.
- 4 Follow the bridleway along the track at the edge of the fields and then around a sharp bend to the left towards a barn.
- 5 Continue along the track, guided by the waymarks as it bends to the right around the barn and then continues to and between trees before turning sharply to the left again. At the next bend of the track do not follow it around to the right but instead go straight ahead along the signposted bridleway along the track across the fields.

6 Stay on the bridleway as the track passes through a belt of trees at the end of the field, and then on entering the next field immediately turn left as the bridleway leads uphill with the belt of trees on the left.

7 At the top of the hill follow the track around to the right along the edge of the field and then through a gap in the hedge, on the left, through into the next field.

8 The bridleway continues straight ahead alongside the hedge on the right, passing a **long barrow** on the left which stands enclosed by fences. There is no public right of access to the barrow, so please keep to the bridleway as it drops down into the dip of the land and then climbs again to pass through two gates. Chettle House stands immediately to the right.

9 At the top of the hill the bridleway meets the road from the village, with the byway to the left that our route took earlier into the parkland. Turn right here along the road to return to the starting point of the walk at the village hall.



Long Barrow