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No 45. St. Mary the Virgin - Kinwarton to St. Mary and All Saints Church - Haselor

www.alcesterminster.org.uk

Distance: 3.1 miles Map: Landranger 150; Start SP 106 584

A tiny church consecrated in 1316, found at the end of a lane next to the National Trust Dovecote.

Exit the churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin Church and walk to the L as far as the triangular green with the tree in the middle, by Glebe Farm. Now walk SA along the lane signposted as 'No Through Road'. At the corner, this lane becomes a UCR and BW. After taking the ST by a FG, cross the field SA to a PG and bridge over the River Alne. Continue out to the minor lane and follow to the R and along to the cross-roads. At the main Stratford Road, walk to the R using the pedestrian pathway as far as the way-marker post on the L, just after the Cherrytrees Care Home. Cross the road to take the PG and follow the FP alongside the Alcester Town F C ground to another PG. Enter the field and follow the FTL to a FG at the top. Continue on to pass the barn and then to follow the track along and down to the service road to the Severn Trent building, passing by the farmyard of Oversley Hill Farm on the way. Go L along the service road out to Trench Lane. Cross the road and walk to the L for approx. 25 yards and take the ST by the double metal field-gates (part of Arden Way) to enter a field. Walk over to the field boundary and follow in a forward direction and then by the plantation of trees, turn R through a gateway on to a track which leads out to a lane at Upton. Follow the lane through the village and on into Haselor. Look out for Driftway Barn on the R and then take the PG on the R, by the village stocks and notice board. Follow up the surfaced pathway (still part of Arden Way) to enter the churchyard of St. Mary and All Saints Church. Your favourite spot in this churchyard;

No 46. St. Mary and All Saints Church – Haselor to St. John the Baptist Church – Aston Cantlow

www.alcesterminster.org.uk

Distance: 2.6 miles Maps: Landranger 150; Start SP 124 579 & Landranger 151

St. Mary and All Saints Church stands on a hill between the villages of Haselor and Walcote. It is normally approached by the footpaths leading from one or other of the villages. On the short gentle climb to the church one is rewarded with wonderful views of the wooded Alne Hills, a patchwork of fields and the villages below.

Exit the churchyard of St. Mary and All Saints Church by walking down the surfaced pathway towards the village of Walcote. Walk into Walcote and look out for the old cider mill and press as you walk through the village. Where the road in the village turns sharply to the L, with Manor Farm on the R, go SA into a drive and then up to the L to take the ST by a FG (a part of Arden Way). Continue in a forward direction over four fields, the HTR for three and HTL in the fourth, to reach a ST entrance into Withycombe Wood. Follow the BW to the L and where it comes out of the wood take the metal BG in front to walk alongside Aston Grove Wood as far as the way-marker post. Now the route ahead veers to the L down to another BG out on to Wood Lane. Go to the L a short distance and take the FP on the R, which eventually joins a farm drive and follow out to a ST by a FG on to Mill Lane. Take the ST opposite and cross the field slightly to the L to a ST and FB entrance to a pathway which leads into the churchyard of St. John the Baptist Church. Your favourite spot in this churchyard;

No 47. St. John the Baptist Church – Aston Cantlow to St. Mary Magdalene Church – Great Alne

www.achurchnearyou.com

Distance: 1.7 miles Maps: Landranger 151; Start SP 138 599 & Landranger 150

It is thought that John Shakespeare and Mary Arden, the parents of William were married here in 1557.

From the south porch of St. John the Baptist Church, walk forward and then go to the R to follow a FP, which eventually becomes a tree-lined pathway. Exit out on to the lane through a wooden PG, almost alongside the entrance to the Island Meadows Caravan Park. Now take the FP going to the R through a wooden PG, next to the entrance to the caravan park. Cross over a tributary of the River Alne and then aim for the footbridge/PG on the other side of the caravan park. In the field, follow the FP and the river around to the L to a ST/railway sleeper bridge/ST and into the next field. Cross the field to a ST in the far right-hand corner, then to pass in front of the old railway bridge and on to follow to the L of the ditch to meet the UCR, next to the works. Follow the UCR to the R and out to the lane. Cross to the other side of the lane and walk to the L until just after East Lodge. Turn into the entrance of The Park and almost immediately take the wooden PG on the L and follow the FP between post and wire fencing. Follow through the trees, ignore the FP going to the L and keep the forward direction all the way to the meeting with Park Lane. Now walk to the L to reach the main road (B4089) through the village of Great Alne. Walk to the R and along towards St. Mary Magdalene Church. Enter the churchyard by taking the FP – sign-posted To The Church. Your favourite spot in this churchyard;