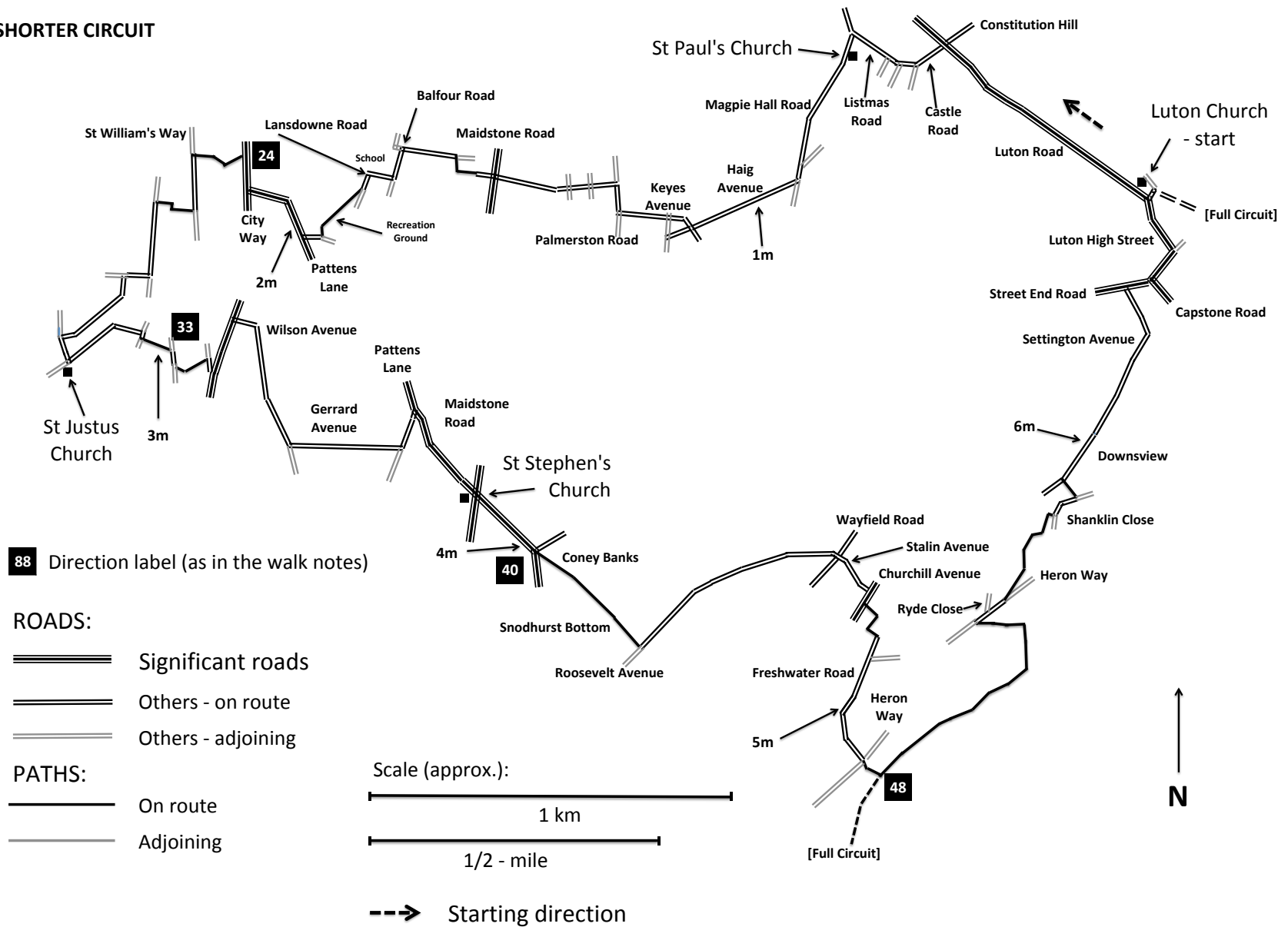


CHATHAM SOUTH

SHORTER CIRCUIT



CHATHAM SOUTH CIRCUIT - shorter: 6.57 miles

Churches in the shorter circuit:

Luton (start and finish)

Chatham St Paul (Direction 4)

Rochester St Justus (31)

Chatham St Stephen (39)

Associated local circuits

- CS1: Luton – South Chatham – South Rochester – South Chatham - Luton
- MN1: Chatham – Gillingham – Darland Banks – Luton - Chatham
- RS1: South Rochester – Borstal – Rochester – South Rochester
- CS2: Luton – Darland Banks – Hempstead – Capstone Farm CP – Princes Park - Luton

Shorter circuit: Lacking the rural and scenic aspects of the full circuit, this walk is almost entirely tarmac-bound. Coney Banks and Snodhurst Bottom, over to the left at Directions 40-41, and the Wayfield path (48-49) provide brief but welcome moments of respite.

Roads and hindrances:

The roads themselves are for the most part relatively harmless. It is worth crossing the road after St Stephen's Church (39) quite early, to avoid the complexity of the junction further ahead.

SHORTER CIRCUIT

Luton – South Chatham - Luton

Notes taken: October to December 2019

The start and finish is at Luton Church, ME4 5BT.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		From the lych-gate of <u>Luton Church</u> turn sharp-right to walk alongside the main road.	774 667	
2	9	Turn left along Castle Road, crossing it as soon as convenient.		
3	11	Turn right along Listmas Road.		
4	13	At the end turn sharp left, soon passing the entrance to <u>St Paul's Church</u> on the left. Continue steeply uphill.		
5	20	Near the top, turn right up Haig Avenue.		0.93
6	26	Turn right to keep to the right of the green.		
7	27	Cross White Road, and continue ahead along Keyes Avenue.	760 666	
8	29	At the end go almost straight across the road (slightly to the left) to go along a footpath between walls.		

* **"Mins."** is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
9	31	Turn right, with the path.		
10	32	After steep steps down, turn left along the road.		
11	34	Cross Maidstone Road (if necessary using the light-controlled crossing over to the right) and continue ahead along Kingswood Avenue.		1.52
12	35	At the bottom, cross the crossing road and continue straight ahead along a narrow walkway.		
13	36	Follow the walkway as it turns right.		
14		At the end turn left along the road.		
15	37	At the crossroads continue ahead up Neville Road.		
16	39	Just before the end at the top, turn left alongside the school.		
17	40	At the junction, by the General at Sea, turn right along Lansdowne Road.		
18	41	Turn left along Rosebery Road.		
19	42	Cross into the field and head across towards the corner diagonally opposite.	752 667	
20	44	At that corner, leave the field along a narrow pathway.		
21	45	Turn right along the road.		
22		Then right again along Pattens Lane.		
23	48	Cross City Way, and turn right to walk along its left-hand side.		
24	49	[Map point] After house no.252, turn left down an alleyway and follow it as it turns from side to side between its walls.		2.20
25	51	Emerge to go down steps and turn left up St William's Way.		
26	54	Turn right, away from the road, down another winding walkway.		
27	55	At the end, turn left along the road.		
28	58	After the school, turn right into Crest Road.		
29	59	Turn left into Leeward Road, and follow it round to the right.		
30	62	At the end turn left up Windward Road.		
31	63	START OF THE SPINE SECTION At the junction with the major road (The Fairway), <u>St Justus Church</u> is visible over the road and slightly to the right. To continue the route turn left along The Fairway.	744 662	2.83
32	66	Turn right at the bottom, and then, between houses 51 and 53, left up a steeply rising passageway, with an open area soon opening out on the right.		
33	68	[Map point] Go up steps to a road and turn right. Then after about 20 yds. turn left up more steps.		
34	70	At the top of the steps go ahead to cross both the roads which are merging at this point, and turn left to go along the right-hand side of City Way.		
35	72	Turn right into Wilson Avenue, and soon follow it as it turns further to the right.		
36	76	Turn left along Gerrard Avenue.		
37	80	At the end turn left, rejoining Wilson Avenue.		
38	81	At the end turn sharp right along Pattens Lane, keeping on its right-hand side.		3.73

* "**Mins.**" is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
39	84	Cross the main road at the junction and continue ahead, passing St Stephen's Church on the right, and cross when convenient to go now along the left-hand side.		
40	88	[Map point] At the end, when road swings to the right, instead go straight across into the Coney Banks open space and follow the path to Snodhurst Bottom, soon steeply down, with steps.		
41	91	Continue ahead along the right-hand side of a massive field.		
42	92	Continue, climbing the steep metalled path ahead.		
43	94	After a squeeze barrier turn left along the road.	759 654	4.29
44	102	At the crossroads at the end cross the major road and continue ahead down Stalin Avenue.		
45	104	At the bottom cross the crossing road and turn right along its left-hand side, then turn left up a steep, winding passageway, sometimes with steps.		
46	106	At the top, emerging at the dead end of a cul-de-sac, turn sharp right up it. Go straight ahead ignoring Fisher Road on the left.		
47	112	After following the road uphill through its mainly leftward curves, cross Heron Way at the top, and, next to the lamp-post, go down the footpath opposite - metalled with steps.		
48	113	END OF THE SPINE SECTION [Map point] At the bottom of the steps, turn left along the broad path.		5.17
49	120	At the path junction, swing leftwards, ignoring the path leading down to the right.		
50	123	Reach the road at the top and turn right, crossing it before reaching the bus stop on the other side.		
51	124	At the bus stop, take the path forking left away from the road, and continue along it as straight as possible, until you reach house no.29 on the left.		
52	128	At this point turn right to go down the steps, then left along the roadway.		
53	129	Immediately before house no. 49 on the left, turn left up the alley between the houses.		5.90
54	130	At the top, opposite Maunders Close, turn right along the road (Downsview, which soon becomes Settington Avenue).		
55	136	Swing left with the road.		
56	138	At the end turn right along the main road, use the island to cross to the left-hand side, and continue ahead, passing the garage on the left.		
57	140	Follow the main road as it turns left at the bottom, then cross it when convenient, and at the latest before it bends to the right at the end.		
58	142	Cross Upper Luton Road to reach, a few steps up to the right, the lych-gate and entrance pathway to Luton Church , the starting point of the walk.	774 667	6.57

* ***"Mins."*** is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

FOR THOSE WHO WALK WITH THEIR DOGS

I do not venture to give advice about walking with your dog. As well as the joys, you will be well aware of the issues involved, and particularly that relationships between dogs and other countryside animals potentially involve mutual suspicion, or worse.

But what this footnote does try to do, in response to requests, is to give some indication of the nature of the walk from a dog's point of view, to enable you to decide whether it is suitable.

The percentage distances on the right should be self-explanatory.

The information in the middle column may look a bit cluttered, but I think it should enable you (if the detail is of interest) to mark up within a few minutes a print-out of the walk notes, so that you have some idea what might be round the next corner.

The risk in all this is that **things change so quickly** in the agricultural working world; and what I describe might become misleading after subsequent changes. I have done my best, but there is no guarantee that you will find the information up to date!

SOUTH CHATHAM - SHORTER CIRCUIT	Direction numbers	% of walk
Busy road	1b-2, 4, 22-23, 25, 31-32a, 34, 38-39, 50, 56-57	30
Quiet road \$\$	1a, 3, 5-7, 10-11, 14-18, 21, 27-30, 33a, 35-37, 43-44, 46, 52, 54-55, 58	45
Open field with livestock		0
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	19, 32c, 41, 48b-49a	5
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	8-9, 12-13, 20, 24, 26, 32b, 32d, 33b, 45, 48a, 49b, 51, 53	17
Woods	40, 42, 47	4

** This is not a promise, just a statement of fact - that, having walked these sections perhaps two or three times, I have found no animals or any sign of them.

\$\$ Again, not a promise that there will be no traffic to worry about. Just a personal judgement of conditions as I have found them.

STILES: There are currently no stiles on this walk.