



Chisbury Camp & St Martin's Chapel

Chisbury Camp, located in the small village of Chisbury, north-east of Great Bedwyn, is an Iron Age hillfort dating from the 1st century AD. It was later used by the Anglo-Saxons in the late 10th and early 11th centuries as a burh (fortified settlement), one of a network of burhs throughout Wessex employed as a defence against Viking raids. The earthworks which surrounded the hillfort are still visible but are now largely wooded.

They are arranged in a pear-shaped layout with the point of the pear facing south. The best way to approach it is from the south.

At the north-west end of Great Bedwyn take the side road at the Three Tuns public house signed Froxfield and Little Bedwyn; after half a mile take the turning on the left signed Chisbury. This road bisects the hillfort and the ramparts are clearly visible as the road enters it. Another view of the western side of the earthworks can be gained by taking the footpath just south of the centre of the village (the footpath entrance is next to the road sign to Little Bedwyn).

On the eastern edge of the hillfort is St Martin's Chapel which dates from the 13th century. By the end of the 16th century its use as a chapel had lapsed and it became a barn. It is now an empty shell but is preserved as a scheduled ancient monument. To visit it, take the road signed Little Bedwyn immediately south of the centre of Chisbury. The chapel is signed off this road and is reached by an unmetalled track. Inside the chapel is a storyboard explaining the building.