

OXON 40 - 1996

Route Description

Place names: **CAPITALS** = name appears on O.S. Landranger 175 (1:50,000)
or O.S. Explorer 3 (1:25,000)

Italics = name can be seen from route

Abbreviations: **T**=turn **L**=left **R**=right **LHS/RHS**=left/right hand side
enc=enclosed **FP**=footpath **BW**=bridleway **tk**=track **rd**=road **junc**=junction
X=cross/across **ahd**=ahead **thru**=through **opp**=opposite **nr**=near **fld**=field
wd=wood **fm**=farm **K/G**=kissing gate **G/way**=gateway **FPS**=footpath sign
WM=waymark(ed) **CB**=compass bearing (magnetic) **GR**=O.S. grid ref **RWP**=Ridgeway Path
cont=cont **immed**=immediately **PH**=Public House **m**=metres
F=fork **B**=bear **FB**=footbridge **diag**=diagonally **OW**=Oxfordshire Way
BWS=bridleway sign

Emergency Tel. No. Henley 576648

Before you start: - Please check for any amendments to the route. Details will be on display.

1. **Start** TR out of Henley YMCA Sports Pavilion car park into *Waterman's Road* & cont ahd for 75yds to junc with main A4155 rd. X rd diag R to *Mill Lane* opp & cont ahd on rd, crossing railway bridge, to river. TL along tarmac riverside path for 1200yds to join rd (*by River trips & boats for hire sign*). Ahd & cont along riverside path (**not rd**) to *The Angel* PH. TL & then R on pavement past *The Angel* PH. At traffic lights X to rd opp (**with great care**) on RHS pavement with the *Red Lion Hotel* on L & RIVER THAMES on R. Cont ahd & turn sharp L with rd into *New Street* remaining on RHS pavement. Pass the *Kenton Theatre* on R & at rd T junc TR on pavement into *Bell Street* & cont to mini-roundabout. TR along the A4155 for 250yds & (just before rd sign on L - *A4155 Marlow 8*) TR on FP (FPS). GR 761 833
2. **1.75 miles** Follow FP ahd for 300yds. At large WM tree on R, FR for 50yds to pass thru metal gate. T½L (CB50) & ahd between iron railings to riverside path. Ahd with RIVER THAMES on R for 850yds. Go over narrow wooden FB & under flint/brick archway to cont along riverside path linked by several FBs. Where path runs parallel to TEMPLE ISLAND on R, X ½L (CB20) across meadow to WM wooden bridge & cont on WM FP crossing one more FB to X tarmac drive. Ahd to reach stile by rd (A4155). GR 772 855
3. **3.5 miles** X stile & TR on pavement for 350yds. Xrd (**with great care - ACCIDENT BLACK SPOT**) to wooden fence/grass verge opp & cont for 30yds to BWS. TL along BW (farm tk). GR 776 856
4. **3.75 miles** In 100yds, pass GREENLANDS DAIRY FARM on L & cont ahd up tk for just over 1½ miles (ignoring all side turnings to L & R) to reach FP/BW junc & white WM on tree *Public Footpath HA42 Footpath only No horses*. GR 767 877
5. **5.3 miles** TR uphill thru woodland on FP *HA42* for 550yds & at top BR (CB160) on path by large yew tree with white WM (on R). In 100yds follow grassy WM FP as it swings L & in a further 100yds TR on wide WM tk. Cont ahd thru trees for 200yds & TL (CB90) at WM tree. Ahd for 50yds to enter fld & cont ahd on same bearing to WM post by wd corner. Ahd for 20yds then TR to enter

woodland on concealed path to go downhill just inside wd edge. At bottom, on leaving wd, cont ahd downhill on stony tk between hedges to reach rd by yellow house (*The Bell House*). GR 782 872

6. **6.3 miles** X rd to grass verge opp & TR (passing *Hambleden* sign) for 350yds to stile on L (FPS). X stile & ahd (CB140) X meadow to stile by stream. X stile & TL along rd to wooden gate into churchyard. Thru gate & FL on path thru churchyard to far gate by yew tree. Thru gate & TR on rd to rd junc. TL to pass the *Stag & Huntsman* PH on R, & in 50yds TR into the public car park and checkpoint.

**CP 1. HAMBLEDEN GR 785 866 6.85 miles.
09.15 - 11.00**

7. **6.85 miles** From checkpoint, retrace route to public car park entrance & TL to *pass The Stag & Huntsman* PH on L. In 25yds at rd T junc, TR with church on L & cont ahd on rd. In 350yds (BWS), TR on stony tk between houses & cont uphill on BW for 900yds. 75yds before HUTTON'S FARM on R, TL X stile. Cont ahd on wide tk for 400 yds (ignoring 1st path junc on L). At 2nd path junc by WM tree (24A), BL (CB40) on tk into wd. Stay on main tk thru wd (NORTH CLOSE COPSE PLANTATION). Leave wd & follow tk to end, to X stile onto rd (FPS). GR 792 880
8. **8.2 miles** TR on rd for 400yds, passing *Russells Barn* on R, to reach ROCKWELL END rd junc by rd direction/*Farm shop* signs. Swing sharp L with rd & in 80yds TL on FP (FPS), (CB250) on tk which eventually becomes tree-lined. Stay on main tk thru wds & at X tks cont ahd downhill thru wds to rd (FPS). TL down rd passing *Little Colstrove*, for 650yds to rd T junc. GR 780 880
9. **9.55 miles** X rd (**with care**) & ahd thru gateway (FPS). X fld diag L (CB220) to BACRES FARM. With fm buildings on R, cont ahd uphill on surfaced tk (*Built Farm - Private Road*) for 400yds. Just short of top, FL (CB270) on WM stony tk into wd. Cont on WM tk for 150yds & as tk turns L, cont ahd for 20yds (with fd entrance on R). F½L on FP into wd (*Public Footpath HA43*). Follow WM FP thru dense woodland & descend to tk (*FP42*). TR on wide tk for 350yds & descend to FP/BW junc in valley. GR 767 877
10. **10.5 miles** X diag R to *Public Bridleway HA37* & diag R up slope. Follow WM trees uphill & cont thru narrow gully, eventually leading to tree-lined path with fld on L & later on R too. In 440yds pass stile on L & 2 yds later TR over stile into fld. Ahd X fld (CB50) to WM gateway. Cont ahd along LHS of fld with fence/hedge & later wd on L, to stile on L. X stile into wd & follow clear WM path thru wd & out to rd (FPS). GR 762 889
11. **11.6 miles** X rd & TL for 500yds to rd junc at wd edge. TR over stile (by *Kimble Farm* sign on gate) & into fld. Ahd X fld (CB14) to X stile into wd. Follow path which swings L with conifers on R & cont down thru trees to valley bottom where X BW in GUSSETTS WOOD & cont uphill to X stile. Ahd along LHS of fld with fence on L, to telegraph pole with WM sign. FR with powerline to next WM powerpole then diag R (CB48) to stile in wd corner. X double stile into wd & follow FP down & then up by fence on L. Cont thru holly bushes to leave wd at stile. X stile & ahd X fld (CB347) to X WM stile. TL on concrete lane for 200yds to reach checkpoint.

**CP 2. SOUTHEND COMMON GR 753 898 12.75 miles.
10.30 - 17.15**

- 12. 12.75 miles** **LOOP A.** Leave checkpoint on CB 354 to X stile bt FPS. Cont ahd (CB354) along LHS of fld with fence on L to pass solitary tree. Ahd to X stile in fld corner. X fld diag R (CB 38) downhill to X stile & down steps to lane (DOLESDEN LANE). X to stile opp & uphill along RHS of fld with hedge on R to top. X stile & TL on lane for 300yds to rd T junc. GR 751 908
- 13. 13.6 miles** At FPS, TR into fld & X diag L (CB310). At far side, TL with hedge on R & in 170yds, TR thru hedge to X stile into fld. Immed TL with hedge on L to stile in fld corner (just before TURVILLE GRANGE). **DO NOT X STILE** but TR along LHS of fld with fence on L. Ahd to wd corner on L by *Footpath* sign on tree. T½R (CB20) downhill X fld to X stile into wd. (*Footpath* sign on tree after stile). Cont downhill on wide WM path thru trees. At storm-damaged area (X paths) & with WM on LHS tree, cont ahd down to X WM stile into fld. Ahd down LHS of fld by fence to X stile onto rd (FPS).
GR 750 918
- 14. 14.4 miles** X diag R past entrance to *Wormsley Estate* & X tree trunks onto wide FP into wd (CB60). In 100yds FR along WM BW & in 70yds FL uphill on path. In 150yds X concrete drive & ahd on FP thru woodland area. 20yds after *Wormsley Estate Sheep Please keep dogs on lead* sign, TL over stile & ahd up RHS of fld with wire fence on R to stile at top. (MANOR FARM on hilltop horizon). X stile & keeping fence on R, cont ahd uphill to Wms at wd corner. Ahd on level FP with woodland & fence on R, & at concrete trough TR over stile into wd. Uphill on FP thru trees to level WM FP at edge of churchyard. TL on WM FP thru trees for 700yds (ignoring 1st WM FP on R after 300yds). Where main FP swings L downhill, TR uphill to WM stile in fld corner. X stile & cont uphill along RHS of fld with fence on R to X stile & ahd along gravel driveway to gateway. Thru gate to rd by *Cherry Tree* (house sign). GR 756 930
- 15. 15.4 miles** X rd to enc FP opp to the R of *Keepers* driveway, & follow to X stile. TL down LHS of fld & thru large gap in trees to reach stile. X stile by *Harecramp Estate Footpath only* & down into wd on FP. In 35yds X tk & ahd on WM path to stony tk. (TWIGSIDE FARM on R). TL down stony tk & in 150yds TR on WM path thru fir trees. Descend to X tk & cont ahd for 15yds to TL on 2nd tk. X a wide tk with barn on R (*Harecramp Estate Conservation area Private*) to FP opp & into wd. GR 762 931
- 16. 15.8 miles** Cont ahd on level forestry tk thru woodland for 200yds & ahd over X tk. In 450yds ahd at major x tks. In 100yds FR following WM tk & in 150yds FL onto main tk again. Cont ahd thru PENLEY WOOD. In 600yds pass WM on tree showing fork *20 yards ahead*. FL on tk along wooded edge.
GR 762 944
- 17. 16.85 miles** After 150yds enter fld corner & cont ahd along LHS of fld. At far corner ahd on path under trees. Follow path uphill for 550yds to leave wd. Ahd past barns on L & cont on tk along LHS of fld to reach rd in IBSTONE by *Grimaldes* (house name). GR 752 937
- 18. 17.4 miles** X rd to IBSTONE COMMON & TR along common edge for 200yds to checkpoint. (*The Fox* PH is 50yds ahd on R).

- 19. 17.5 miles** From checkpoint, TL along RHS of common. At corner TR under tress & swing L to enter wd by *Wormsley Estate* sign. Cont downhill on BW for 330yds to FL on FP *S21*. Descend more steeply thru wd to leave wd at fld edge. TR (CB260) & descend along RHS of fld, with hedge on R initially then fence, to X stile onto tk at bottom. GR
742 936
- 20. 18.65 miles** Ahd X stile by *S21 Wormsley Estate Sheep Please keep dogs on lead* sign & ahd X fld (CB270) to X stile onto estate rd. X stile into fld opp & X diag L to stile to L of gateway. TR on tk for 40yds & FL on FP. In 160yds TL on WM FP *SH8*. GR
736 935
- 21. 19.1 miles** Follow WM FP steeply uphill thru wds (BLACKMOOR WOOD). At top emerge amongst scrub, ferns & gorse. Pass under power-line to small clearing. Ahd to tk (CB210) which leads to rd opp entrance to *Overdale* at NORTHEMEND. GR
729 928
- 22. 19.7 miles** TR on rd for 240 yds to TL on BW (BWS) & in 75yds swing R & pass thru metal bridleway gate to emerge at buildings on drive bend (LAUNDER'S FARM). Ahd on FP (tk) with fm building on L. At next bend, ahd (CB280) X stile into fld. Cont ahd along LHS of 4 flds (crossing stiles) to X stile into wd. Ahd on WM path for 200yds to X stile at earth bank (fld on R). 20yds after stile, TR & cont down to WM path T junc. GR 721 928
- 23. 20.3 miles** TL on wide tk (*W18*) (OXFORDSHIRE WAY), & downhill thru wds for 1400yds (ignoring all side turnings to L & R) to reach major WM X paths. TR on *PS4* (OW) uphill to X stile into fld. TR on *Oxfordshire Way Public Footpath* & ahd X fld (CB220). At trees, with fm & ponds on L, cont along LHS of fld to X stile onto HOLLANDRIDGE LANE. GR 726 916
- 24. 21.3 miles** TL on lane which becomes tarmac. Cont downhill for almost 1 mile to X paths sign on L where TL down RHS of fld towards open-sided barn. GR 733 903
- 25. 22.45 miles** At bottom, X tk & ahd up fld on FP *T23*. At top X stile under trees. Pass seat on L & follow LHS of 2 flds to enter tree-lined tk. Join iron railings on L & in 45yds TL thru metal KG. X next 2 flds & stiles (CB40), but in 3rd fld pass 50yds to R of house (converted chapel) to KG just to R of gateway. Ahd to rd. X to bus shelter opp, in TURVILLE HEATH. GR
743 910
- 26. 23.3 miles** TR & immed FL on rd signed *Turvill 2¼*. In 130yds FL on unsigned tarmac lane leading to TURVILLE GRANGE. Swing R on lane in front of TURVILLE GRANGE then TR on FP (CB210) thru trees/bushes & in 75yds TL (CB 160) to follow grassy path thru open ground. Pass seat on L to rejoin rd by *Chapel Cottage* & red letterbox. TL on rd to rd junc. GR 747 908
- 27. 23.6 miles** Ahd on rd for 20yds & TR by green box into wd (FPS). In 150yds FR (WM) & cont on path to TR thru gap in earth bank. FL & follow Wms thru SUMMERHEATH WOOD for 320yds to reach wd edge & stile. X stile & X fld diag R (CB140) to X stile in fld corner. Ahd along RHS of fld with fence on R to pass solitary tree (on R) & in 75yds X stile in fld corner (FPS) to reach checkpoint & end of **LOOP A**.

- 28. 24.4 miles** **LOOP B.** From checkpoint, follow grassy path across Southend Common (CB220) into bushes. FL on FP out to a stony drive by *Kiln Cottage*. TL along drive & at end X stile into fld. Ahd (CB130) along RHS of fld by fence & in 50yds TR over stile on R. TL with fence/copse/pit on L & ahd (CB120) under power-line to X stile. TR down RHS of fld with fence on R to X stile into wd. Ahd down FP just inside wd edge. At bottom at X tk, TL on BW (CB80) thru GUSSETTS WOOD. GR 757 892
- 29. 24.95 miles** In 180yds (just before metal gateway) FR & cont on path between fld & wd. Thru BW gate & ahd into forestry. Cont on forest tk for 1mile to rd. GR 765 903
- 30. 26.05 miles** TR on rd. In 140yds at wd edge, TR over stile (FPS). Cont up wide tk & follow WM past gates of gas pumping station. At wd edge, FL up fld (CB100) on FP 49 to join next wd edge. Cont ahd steeply uphill to join FP T junc. TL on FP over hill shoulder & down to wd edge (one of the best views). TR with FP & follow it downhill for 350yds to X stile onto drive by POYNATTS FARM. Cont ahd on drive to rd at SKIRMETT. GR 775 903
- 31. 26.12 miles** TR on rd for 135yds. 30yds after *Hope Cottage* on L, TL on drive (FPS). At RH bend, ahd X stile into fld. FR & follow RHS of fld with fence/hedge on R to X stile onto rd. TL on rd & in 30yds at *Skirmett* & BW signs, TR up BW (CB130). In 750yds at WM, FL to metal stile in gate. X stile into HATCHET WOOD with fence on L. Follow for ½ mile to X stile at edge of wd. In 15yds ahd up fld (CB10) towards clump of trees with house in middle. X stile onto rd. GR 792 901
- 32. 27.47 miles** X to FP opp to the R of *Whitefield Cottage*. Follow enc FP, X stile, & cont ahd to end by seat. TR X stile along enc FP. Thru wooden gate, up edge of garden & between houses to gate & rd (FPS). **PLEASE RESPECT THE OWNERES' PRIVACY AND CLOSE THE GATES.** TL on rd at LITTLE FRIETH. In 50yds at sharp RH bend cont ahd on unsurfaced BW. GR 791 906
- 33. 27.77 miles** Follow BW for 700yds (ignoring all side turnings to L & R). As main tk swings L (CB280) with fld on L, **DO NOT TR INTO MOUSELLS WOOD** but stay on main tk for a further 150yds to reach gate at fld entrance. Ahd X fld (CB290) to small gap & into *Hanger Estate Fingest Wood*. Cont downhill for 50yds to X stile & out of wd. (Another best view. This stile is *Fieldfare's Stile* - read the poem on the reverse side). With seat on L, cont down LHS of 2 flds to rd. GR 778 911
- 34. 28.72 miles** X rd & TL thru *Fingest* village. Pass *The Chequers* PH on L & church on R. Immed after churchyard, FR (CB280) X stile & along enc FP. In 250yds at path junc, up bank & FL along wd edge, with fld on L, to X stile onto rd. X to stile opp & ahd on FP for 400yds round to far side of hill to X stile into fld. Ahd down fld slightly L (CB290) aiming for house with 3 skylights. At gate, TL over stile & down tk to rd in *TURVILLE* village. (The *Bull & Butcher* PH is 30yds on L). GR 768 911
- 35. 29.42 miles** X rd diag L to *School* sign & TL on lane past front of *Sleepy Cottage*. At end cont along BW (CB230) between hedges to reach fld. Ahd X fld (CB220). **DO NOT FORK R UPHILL.** At far side of fld, just to L of buildings (DOLESDEN), X stile onto rd (DOLESDEN LANE). GR 763904
- 36. 30.02 miles** X to stile opp (FPS) & ahd up RHS of fld with fence on R, to gateway. Ahd up tk thru small wd & thru gateway to fld. Ahd X fld (CB240), parallel to powerpoles on R, to join

concrete lane with SOUTHEND FARM on L. Ahd on concrete lane for 550yds to checkpoint & end of **LOOP B**.

CP 5 SOUTHEND COMMON. GR 753 898 30.77 miles
10.30 - 17.15

- 37. 30.77 miles** From checkpoint, cont on lane (CB260) for 100yds to rd junc & TL on rd by *Drovers*. In 150yds TR on tk (FPS). In 500yds FL on WM FP & in 25yds FR on FP. Cont ahd & pass thru tall K/G into *Private Deer Park*. Follow WM path (with STONOR HOUSE on R), later descending to K/G & B480 rd. GR 737 889
- 38. 32.02 miles** TL on rd for 700yds (passing *The Stonor Arms* PH on L) to far end of STONOR village. After last farm on L (*Upper Assendon Farm*), TL X stile into fld. Ahd up LHS of fld to X stile at wd edge. Cont ahd up path thru wd to join wide tk near top. Ahd for 75yds & at wd edge/X tk, ahd to pass COXLEASE FARM house on R. With barns on L, T sharp R onto main tk (with house on R) & cont along tk for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to fld. TR down fld keeping hedge/fence on R to X stile in fld corner, & into wd. Cont downhill on winding FP thru trees to wd edge & tk. TR on farm tk & downhill X fld (CB210) to B480 rd. GR 737 861
- 39. 34.37 miles** TL on rd for 500yds (**take great care - no footpath**) thru *Middle Assenden* to reach *The Rainbow* PH on R. Ahd for 70yds (passing telephone box on R). X rd to *Oxford County* rd sign & ahd up rd (*Fawley 1/4*) for 50yds to FPS on R (*Oxfordshire Way Footpath*). TR steeply uphill on tk to reach fld. Cont uphill X fld (CB90) & by fenced enclosure, thru gap in tree-belt/hedge. X next 2 flds diag R (CB90) to X hidden stile onto lane. **Take care on rd.** GR 748 856
- 40. 36.27 miles** X rd to tk opp (FPS *Oxfordshire Way Footpath & Pond Cootage - Private Road*) & follow for 1100yds where tk becomes tarmac & passes houses on L. As tk turns sharp L, ahd thru WM gateway (*Oxfordshire Way Public Footpath*) into fld. Ahd X 2 flds (CB160) to K/G. Down path thru trees & then between fences to A4130 rd. GR 758 833
- 41. 37.92 miles** TL on pavement passing *The Old White Horse* PH on L. Just before mini-roundabout X rd to *Walkers General Store* opp. TL on pavement & in 40yds, at street corner by *Flohr's Hotel & Restaurant*, TR along *King's Road* & cont uphill to mini-roundabout. Cont ahd (still on *King's Road*) to end at rd junc with police station on L. TR up *West Street* with *The Victoria* PH on L. Cont uphill passing *The Row Barge* PH on L too. After last house on L (by white wall), TL across paved area & X main rd to pavement opp. TR on pavement for 40yds & 10yds after red letterbox, TL into *Paradise Road*. Cont ahd, & in 75yds swing sharp L with rd into *Deanfield Avenue* & ahd for 350yds to rd junc by yellow/white bollards. X rd **with great care** to *Church Street* opp. GR 759 823
- 42. 38.97 miles** Ahd along pavement for 100yds to reach churchgate on R. Ahd on gravel tk/pavement with churchyard on R & then thru 1st metal barrier with school on R. Pass thru 2nd metal barrier. Cont ahd for 880yds along the entire length of *Vicarage Road* (ignoring all side turnings to L & R & passing the *Sacred Heart* Catholic Church on L). Follow rd as it swings R, & immed after No. 69 (on L), TL to reach rd T junc. X rd to phonebox opp by *Harpsden Road* sign. TR on pavement for 20yds & TL downhill by BWS (*Peppard Lane*) for 200yds to TR into YMCA Sports Pavillion car park & finish.

HENLEY YMCA SPORTS PAVILION GR 766 815 39.82 miles.

08.00 - 20.00

WELL DONE!