

OXON 40/20 - 1997

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** Leave car park. TR to rd (A4155). X rd diag R (**with care**) along *Mill Lane* (*Gulf Service Station* on corner). Follow to river (**Do not X bridge**). TL along towpath for 1500yds. Immed after *The Angel Inn* PH TR along *Henley Bridge*.. At far end X rd (**with great care**), using “*Island Bollards*”. TR on pavement. Ahd past *Little Angel* PH. Cont uphill on pavement. When pavement ends TL (FPS) up steps. GR 769 826
2. **1.6 miles** Follow enc path into & thru wd, WM on trees, to rd at end of wd. GR 774 831
3. **2.1 miles** TL on rd, in 20yds (FPS) TR thru gate. X 2 flds (CB80), thru gate, ahd thru wd to drive. At FPS TL (CB50) down drive, ahd on FP, between short concrete posts to rd. TR up rd towards *junc* (A4130). GR 783 828
4. **2.8 miles** Immed before “*Give Way*” sign TL (FPS) into fld. Along RHS. Follow around backs of houses to tk. TL at tk (WM on large tree). Along RHS. In 500yds (approx 70yds before wd) TR (yellow arrow) thru gap. TL along LHS of fld. In 230yds TR (FPS by 1st tree) along tree line, & up to tarmac drive. TL. In 80yds FL down hill. TR (FPS & *Hayden Nurseries* sign) along drive. At *Thames Path* FPS, TL thru gate & cont following *Thames Path* signs & FP. Along drive to rd. TR on rd, & FR immed before the *Flower Pot* Hotel along *Ferry Lane*. GR 784 842
5. **4.7 miles** In 140yds TL at FPS, pass cottages, then ahd on enc path to fld. TR on wide stony tk to river. TL along bank to **HAMBLEDEN LOCK**. X lock by 1st gate to follow bridge over the weir. Follow WM to rd (A4155) GR 785 850. X rd **with care**. TR, in 40yds TL on rd (*Hambleden* road sign). In 350yds TR on rd (*Rotton Row*). In 650yds at wd edge TL (FPS) up steps, X stile. Ahd RHS fld. X stile, X fld, X stile into wd, after 5yds TL down to X stile, ahd to TL on tk. At FPS (CW) TR. In 350yds TL thru metal K/G (easily missed!). ½R (CB290) towards 2 large trees, into carpark & checkpoint.

CP 1. HAMBLEDEN GR 785 866 6.9 miles.
08.30 - 12.00

6. **6.9 miles** Thru car park to TL on rd, past *The Stag & Huntsman* PH on L. In 30yds TR along rd with church on L. In 350yds (FPS), TR on stony tk. Between houses uphill. Ahd on FP for 900yds. 75yds before fm buildings (HUTTON'S FARM) TL X stile by wide gate. Ahd on wide tk for 400 yds (ignoring 1st path junc on L). At 2nd junc by WM tree (24A), FL (CB40) on tk into wd. Stay on main tk thru wd (NORTH CLOSE COPSE PLANTATION). Leave wd & follow tk to end. X stile onto rd (FPS). GR
792 880
7. **8.3 miles** TR on rd for 360yds, passing *Russells Barn* on R, to reach ROCKWELL END rd junc by rd direction/*Farm shop* signs. Swing sharp L with rd & in 65yds TL on FP (FPS). X fld (CB250) & cont along tree-lined tk. 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. GR 780 880
8. **9.6 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 650yds. Just short of top, FL (CB270) on WM stony tk for 125yds & as tk turns L, cont ahd (CB260) to WM tree & follow FP (*HA43*) thru dense woodland & descend to tk. TR on wide tk & descend to FP/BW junc in valley. GR 767 877
9. **10.5 miles** X diag R (CB270) to *Public Bridleway HA37* & 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 400yds look for stile on L (**do not X**) & 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
10. **11.5 miles** TL on rd to rd junc at wd edge. TR over stile (by *Kimble Farm* sign on gate) & into fld. Ahd X fld (CB10) to X stile into wd. Follow path which swings L with conifers on R & cont down thru trees to valley bottom. Ahd at X tk (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 powerline then diag R (CB48) to X double stile into wd corner & follow FP down & then up by fence on L. Cont thru holly bushes to leave wd at stile. X stile & ahd X fld (CB335) to X WM stile. TL on concrete lane for 200yds to reach checkpoint.

CP 2. SOUTHEND COMMON GR 753 898 12.7 miles.

9.30 - 14.30

OXON 40 route only. OXON 20 continues at paragraph 36

11. **12.7 miles** **LOOP A.** Leave checkpoint on (CB 50) to X stile by FPS. 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 270yds to rd T junc. GR 751 908
12. **13.5 miles** At FPS, TR into fld & X diag L (CB315). At far side, FL with hedge on R & in 160yds, 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 X paths TR. In 20yds TL down steps. Ahd X WM stile into fld. Ahd down LHS of fld by fence to X stile onto rd (FPS).GR 750 918

- 13. 14.3 miles** X diag R past entrance to *Wormsley Estate* & X tree trunks (to R of gate) onto wide FP into wd (CB60). In 100yds FR along WM BW & in 60yds FL uphill on path. In 100yds X concrete drive & ahd on FP thru woodland area. 20yds after *Wormsley Estate* sign, TL over stile in corner & 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
- 14. 15.4 miles** X rd to enc FP opp to the R of *Keepers* driveway, & follow to X stile. TL down LHS of fld & ahd thru large gap in trees to reach stile. X stile by *Harecramp Estate* sign into wd on FP. In 40yds X tk & ahd on WM path, then along LHS of garden, down to stony tk. (TWIGSIDE FARM on R). TL down stony tk & in 120yds, immed before gravel pile, TR on path thru fir trees. Descend to X a 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
- 15. 15.8 miles** Cont ahd on level forestry tk thru woodland for 330yds & ahd over X tk. In 530yds ahd at major X tks. In 120yds FR following WM tk & in 150yds FL onto main tk again. Cont ahd thru PENLEY WOOD. In 530yds pass WM on tree showing fork 20 yards ahead. FL on tk along wooded edge. GR
762 944
- 16. 16.7 miles** After 100yds enter fld corner & cont ahd along LHS of fld. At far corner ahd on path under trees. Follow path uphill 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
- 17. 17.5 miles** X rd to IBSTONE COMMON & TR along common edge for 180yds to checkpoint. (*The Fox* PH is 50yds ahd on R).

**CP 3. IBSTONE COMMON GR 751 938 17.6 miles.
10.20 - 13.30**

- 18. 17.6 miles** From checkpoint (CB240) along RHS of common. At corner TR under tress & swing L to enter wd by *Wormsley Estate* sign. Cont downhill on BW for 340yds 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
- 19. 18.2 miles** Ahd X stile by *Wormsley Estate* sign & ahd X fld (CB270) to X stile onto estate rd. X to fld opp & X diag L to stile to L of gateway. TR on tk for 35yds & FL on FP. In 170yds TL on WM FP *SH8*. GR 736 935
- 20. 18.6 miles** Follow WM FP steeply uphill thru wds (BLACKMOOR WOOD). At top emerge amongst scrub, ferns & gorse. Pass under power-line & ahd, thru recently cleared area to rd (opp entrance to *Brackendale & Barnfield*) at NORTHEND. GR 730 928

- 21. 19.2 miles** TR on rd for 240 yds to TL on BW (BWS). In 65yds swing R & pass thru metal brideway gate &, in 10yds, TR on drive (buildings now on L) (LAUNDER'S FARM). At 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 210yds to X stile at earth bank (fld on R). 20yds after stile, TR & cont down to WM path T junc. GR 721 927
- 22. 19.8 miles** TL on wide tk (*W18*) (*OW*), & downhill thru wds for 1300yds (ignoring all side turnings to L & R) to reach major WM X paths. TR on *PS4* (*OW*) uphill to X stile into fld. TR (*OW*) & 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
- 23. 20.8 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
- 24. 22.0 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 enc tk. Join iron railings on L & in 65yds 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
- 25. 23.0 miles** TR on rd signed *Turvill 2¼*. In 110yds 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 60yds TL (CB 160) to follow grassy path thru open ground. Pass seat on L to reach rd by *Chapel Cottage* & red letterbox. TL on rd to rd junc. GR 747 908
- 26. 23.4 miles** Ahd on rd for 20yds & TR by green box into wd (FPS). In 170yds FR (WM) & cont on path to gap in earth bank. FL & follow WMs thru SUMMERHEATH WOOD to reach wd edge & stile. X stile & X fld diag (CB140) to X stile in fld corner. Ahd along RHS of fld with fence on R to pass solitary tree (on R) & in 110yds X stile in fld corner. TR to reach checkpoint & end of **LOOP A**.

CP 4 SOUTHEND COMMON. GR 753 898 24.2 miles
11.30 - 15.30

- 27. 24.2 miles** **LOOP B.** From checkpoint, follow grassy path (CB120) for 30yds. TR (CB220) on grassy path into bushes. FL on FP out to a stony drive. TL along drive, pass *Kiln Cottage*, & 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 (BW) (CB80) thru GUSSETTS WOOD. GR 757 891
- 28. 24.8 miles** In 140yds (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
- 29. 26.1 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 POYNATT'S FARM. Cont ahd on drive to rd at SKIRMETT. GR 775 903

- 30. 27.0 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
- 31. 28.6 miles** X to FP opp to the R of *Whitefield Cottage*. Follow 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 OWNERS' PRIVACY AND CLOSE THE GATES.** TL on rd at LITTLE FRIETH. In 50yds at sharp RH bend cont ahd on unsurfaced BW. GR 791 905
- 32. 28.9 miles** Follow FP/BW (ignoring all side turnings to L & R) for 500yds. Cont on FP/BW as it swings sharp L (CB280), for further 260yds to reach gate at fld entrance. Ahd X fld (CB290) to small gap into *Hanger Estate Fingest Wood*. Cont downhill for 120yds 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
- 33. 29.9 miles** X rd & TL thru *Fingest* village. Pass *The Chequers* PH on L & church on R. 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) to far corner, thru gate, TL over stile & down tk to rd in TURVILLE village. (The *Bull & Butcher* PH is 30yds on L). GR 768 911
- 34. 30.7 miles** X rd diag R to *School* sign & along lane past *Sleepy Cottage*. At end cont along BW (CB230) between hedges to reach fld. Ahd X fld (CB220). **DO NOT FR UPHILL.** At far side of fld, just to L of buildings (DOLESDEN), thru gap onto rd (DOLESDEN LANE). GR 763 904
- 35. 31.2 miles** X stile opp & 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 32.0 miles

12.40 - 18.15

Remainder of route common to OXON 40 and OXON 20

- 36. 12.7/32.0 miles** From checkpoint, cont on lane (CB250) for 80yds to rd junc & TL by *Drovers*. In 130yds TR on tk (FPS). In 500yds FL on WM FP & in 20yds 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
- 37. 14.1/33.4 miles** TL on rd for 650yds (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 FL on 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 (driveway now on R) & cont along tk for ¾ mile to fld. Cont ½R down fld keeping hedge/fence on R for 150yds, 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 (CB200) to rd (B480). GR 737 861

- 38. 15.9/35.2 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 1¼*) for 65yds where TR on FP (FPS *OW*) steeply uphill on tk to reach fld. Cont uphill X fld (CB90) &, by fenced enclosure, thru gap in tree-belt/hedge. X fld diag R (CB90) to X hidden stile onto lane. GR 748 856
- 39. 16.7/36.0 miles** X lane to tk opp (FPS *OW*) & follow for 800yds where tk becomes tarmac & passes houses on L. As tk turns sharp L, ahd thru WM gateway (FP *OW*) into fld. Ahd X 2 flds (CB160) to K/G. Down path thru trees & then fences to rd (A4130). GR 758 833
- 40. 18.3/37.6 miles** TL on pavement passing *The Old White Horse* PH. 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* & in 90yds TL along *Ravenscroft Road*. Ahd thru carpark. Out thru alley walk to rd, X in front of Town Hall. Go thru 2nd carpark (*Pizza Express* restaurant on R) & ahd to rd. TR, pass *Bird in Hand* PH (on L) to X rds. TL into *Church Street*. GR 759 823
- 41. 19.0/38.3 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 along *Vicarage Road* for 700yds & swing sharp L with rd (immed before *South Avenue*) to reach main rd. X **with care** & (to R of phone-box) along BW (*Peppard Lane* sign) for 190yds to TR into YMCA Sports Pavillion & finish.

HENLEY YMCA SPORTS PAVILION GR 766 815 19.8/39.1 miles.

08.00 - 20.00

WELL DONE!