

OXON 40-2013
Route Description

O.S. Explorer 171 (1:25,000)

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Directions

Ahd=Ahead
BL or *BR*=Bear Left or Bear Right
Cont=Continue
FL or *FR*= Fork Left or Fork Right
LHS or *RHS* = L/R Hand side
L =Left *R*=Right
Immed = immediately
Frm=from
Nr=near
Thru=through
Opp=opposite
X=cross
TL or *TR*=Turn L or Turn R

Descriptions

BW=Bridleway
CB=Compass bearing
CW=Chiltern Way
CWE=Chiltern Way Ext
K/G=Kissing Gate
OW=Oxfordshire Way
Fld=Field
FPS =Footpath Sign
TK=Track
WM=Way marked
GR=OS Grid Reference
Rd=Road
ST=Stile
Encl=Enclosed
RW=Ridgeway

Note: Follow your route description, not the person in front. Some paths are common to 20 and 40 mile routes but then split in different directions.
(Tricky Bits In bold, pay attention)

1.1 From YMCA entrance, thru car park then turn immed sharp L at *Noble Rd* sign onto encl BW. Ahd 200 yds to RD, X RD then TL on Harpsden Way. Single file when pavement ends after 300yds, downhill to BR at RD junction, to pass in front of church. At small 30mile limiter sign, TL on BW(*Woodlands Rd*). Ahd uphill. After climb Ahd following yellow WM. On reaching RD, BR of FPS (*Binfield Heath*), taking RH of two FPs. follow white WM to join metalled TK after 200yds at *Harpsden Wood House*.

GR SU759805

1.0ml

1.2 TL on metalled TK 250 yds, then X 2 ST at *Harpsden Wood End* into fld, X fld and ST, then thru encl FP, over and ahd at further ST, along LHS of next fld and X ST to Lane. TR then at end of metalled lane (*Highwood House*) ahead on FP to BR after 40 yds on blue WM on BW and follow 600 yds thru woods to RD. TL to follow RD as far as *Bottle and Glass* pub.

GR SU744793

2.2ml

1.3 TR into pub car park and ahd on BW past farm. After 400 yds, BL on BW at entrance to thick woods (blue WM). Descend on partially sunken FP/BW, to valley bottom ignoring **all** paths to left and right. Ahd up opposite side for 550yds bearing right along railings to pass *Keepers Cottage* on R and ahd to descend to RD

GR SU733804

3.2mls

1.4 TL on Rd (CWE) and in 100 yds TR up lane (CWE). In 500 yds, TL on encl FP just past *Kingsfield House*. Pass through 2 K/G and over stile then down wood edge. At bottom TR in wood to pass “*Welcome*” sign in 30yds. Follow path along valley bottom, ignore FP to R, then at end of wood TR to go thru 2 K/G into field. Ahead RHS of fld to wood then ahd on LHS of woods 850 yds to reach wide TK at double metal gates.

GR SU722819

4.6mls

1.5 TR and follow TK 100yds then TL thru wooden gate. Ahd on track for 600yds to reach metal gates. Ahd then through another metal gate and follow encl path 200yds to Rd. X Rd to path through woods to Rd. TL on RD for 400 yds then BR passing telephone box on left to Shepards Green. BL along left side of green passing in front of white cottage to reach grass track to K/G. Through gate TL along top of field behind houses to K/G. Ahd across field to K/G entering woods. Ahd to K/G leaving woods, through K/G to cross field to K/G, through next field, taking L fork after 40 yds, to K/G to enter woods. Ahd 40 yds to X TK. TR on track, Ahd to 200yds to road.

GR SU706839

6.1mls

1.6 X Rd then X stile and Ahd to X field into woods. Ahd 80yds to X track **TL, then after 15yds TR on path**, Ahd 200yds to T junction (new plantation). TL 200yds to X track at tree,(25yds before Rd) TR, after 30yds BL on faint path through bushes (parallel to road) to emerge on road at Highmoor. X Rd TR Ahd 200yds to checkpoint.

GR SU700843

7.1mls

CP 1 Highmoor Memorial Hall

Opening Time 7.30am – 12.30pm

1.7 Leaving hall **X Rd with care**. TL on pavement for 400yds to reach Pub (for sale). Past car park and then TR on TK (Bix 2ml). Ahd on TK 400yds to X TK, Ahd on TK to pass “*Merrimoles*” on right to reach X TK. Ahd on path into woods. Ahd on path for 400yds, **BR at finger post**, Ahd on path to reach and X TK. Ahd ascending up path, after 300yds BR on NE13 path through trees then BL on track for 300yds to Rd.

GR SU709862

8.2mls

1.8 X Rd with care then Ahd on minor road to reach Catslip sign. Continue Ahd on Rd for 300yds to BL at fork to reach green on right. Ahd with green on right to FPS (CWE). TR.

Ahd to K/G BL across field (CB mag N) to reach K/G in opposite corner. TR on TK to pass gated entrance to Soundess House. Cont Ahd on TK 300yds descending to X TK. Ahd on same bearing ascending TK opposite. **After 300yds FR at FPS(SW23)** and follow path down through woods to reach X TK. TR then after 15yds TL through K/G into nature reserve. Ahd on FP crossing several grass TK,s to climb to K/G. Through gate and Ahd uphill 300yds to emerge on TK. TL 5 yds to X track (grass triangle). Yellow “H” pipeline marker.

GR SU722882

10.2mls

1.9 TL on RD for 200 yds to second yellow ‘H’ Pipeline marker, where BL on TK and after 80 yds, keep L to head up LHS of common, hedge then bushes to L, to reach RD after 300 yds. TL on TK (CW) then after 130 yds, at new fence and gate TR on FP (CB 240) downhill across field, thru two sections of Nature Reserve, continue downhill to emerge at five-way junct in valley bottom.

GR SU710884

11.2mls

2.0 Ahd on TK opposite and follow this to the right of the farmhouse, then uphill on TK for 1400 yds,. BL at rattan fence to reach RD after 100yds. TL on RD past *Darkwood Farm* to meet main RD at T Junct

GR SU693885

12.3mls

2.1 TR for 40yds on verge then X RD WITH CARE at *Hollyhock* House. Take BW (*Ewelme*) opposite. Ahd after 400yds entering wood and ahead 600yds to X broad TK (white pole to L), then after a further 200yds reach path crossing, TR and X ST at steel gate (WM). Along LHS of field then swing L following WM onto RHS of second field, becoming TK. As TK turns right through gap BL along edge to reach TK into woods, follow TK as it BR and continues to Lane. TL follow lane for 400 yds, bearing R at fork to reach Ridgeway (RW) at EWELME PARK HOUSE

GR SU674893

14.0mls

2.2 TR onto RW and follow RW and WM signs as they bear R. After 300 yds, AHD on RHS of field, ignore path to R, then descend on RW thru trees to pass thru 2 K/Gs to valley bottom. TR (RW) on TK, 500 yds to ST BODOLPHS CHURCH.

GR SU682902

14.8mls

CP2 ST Botolphs Church (Outdoor)

Opening Time 9.30am – 1.30pm

TL up lane. X RD and ahead on RW as it descends then rises on LHS of field . Follow RW WMs on TK uphill then downhill through woods, ignoring all side paths,

eventually turning to L on RHS of fld to descend to NORTH FARM.TR onto wide track (RW) and ahead to Rd.

GR SU680922

16.3mls

2.3 X RD then Ahd on RW 1000 yds, to pass *Ridge Farm* on R. Ahd to 4 way junct (RW) BR on “Permissive Path” by gate. BL down LHS of field through gate to reach busy B480 Rd. **TR on Rd for 150yds (care needed) X Rd to K/G at gated drive.** Ahd on TK for 600yds to reach 4 way junction. Continue Ahd to field gate. Through gate then climb hill ahead to K/G at top. Through gate then TL on permissive TK / path, following WM through grounds to reach drive. TL through gates to RD. TL on Rd for 50yds, then TR on enclosed path, grave yard on your right.

GR SU714930

18.9mls

2.4 Follow WM through the woods bearing left to lane by house, AHD to X tracks. TR, then after 150yds TL onto OW TK (opposite large gates). Ahd on track for 200yds, as it bears right and starts to descend BL on FP (W50) rising up through woods. Ahd on FP following WM with field on left pass stile continue to arrive at broken stile in left hand corner of wood. X stile and cont on RH side of field, X three more stiles to reach gate and track. Ahd on TX for 30yds, then cont Ahd through K/G as TK turns right. Follow FP to reach RD. TR on Rd for 120yds, then TR on 4th drive. On approaching house TL to walk across grass in front of houses. On reaching TX cont Ahd to reach lane, then continue Ahd 500yds to reach green with village hall on right.

GR SU733924

20.3mls

CP 3 Northend Village Hall

Opening Time 10am – 3pm

3.0 On leaving CP TR and follow RD around to the right. After 300 yds, pass house on left, and then in a further 450yds TR through K/G into Fld. BL across Fld (CB175) to enter woods through K/G. Follow WM through woods descending to stile opposite farm. X stile to TK and TL. Pass farm, and as track turns L continue Ahd on grass TK. X stile by gate and continue Ahd in valley bottom. After 300yds pass through gap with track and continue Ahd with hedge on RT. **After 200yds at X TK before barn TR.**

GR SU733903

21.9mls

3.1 Ascend field with new trees on left to arrive at gate. Through gate across track and continue Ahd on encl path descending to stile and TK. TL to reach RD. TR on RD for 40yds then TL across RD to drive. Ahd on drive (OW). After 80yds pass Pishill church on right. Cont Ahd on drive, after 150yds as drive turns right BL through gate on PS17 OW. Cont on left side of field descending and then climbing to woods. Cont Ahd on TK ascending through woods, follow white arrows and signs for OW PS17 to reach RD. X RD and continue ahead bearing right on OW PS17. OW leaves wood

into open field, X field on bearing CB170 to reach opposite field corner. On reaching far corner turn sharp left to cross field on bearing CB70 to reach and enter woods

3.2 Down thru wood on WM path, then thru K/G and down field in direction of village. Pass L of copses to K/G and down field, to K/G cont to RD at STONOR.

GR SU736 886

24.4mls

3.3 TL on road for 300 yds, single file on RHS with great care at bend. TR thru metal turnstile (CW) into deer park. Follow path uphill passing R of STONOR HOUSE, eventually leaving deer park thru another metal K/G, then cont along path, after 130yds merging with TK, then 350 yds uphill. Ahd at multiple TK, then thru gate to RD.

GR SU752896

25.8mls

3.4 X Rd. Ahd on TK to pass *Kiln Cottage*. After 130 yds, where TK bears L to house, cont ahead over ST into field. Ahead on RHS of field, ignoring STs to R, for 500 yds, eventually leaving field over ST at far RH corner. Follow FP by fence downhill to path crossing and cont ahead up opposite bank for 300 yds , eventually leaving wood at ST, then X fld (CB 185 and further ST to RD junct.

GR SU757887

26.5mls

3.5 TL on Rd, fence and field to L, after 300yds at FPS TR through green gate to WM path entering wood, then ahd thru wood for 350 yds on faint WMs, ignoring path heading L, to leave wood at ST. Keep to RHS of first field, then ahead across 2nd field (CB 230) to X ST to meet BW.

GR SU760881

27.3mls

3.6 X BW and Ahd along RH side of field following fence bearing left to reach ST on right. X ST Ahd on LHS of field to reach gate and drive. Ahd on drive to rd. TL and follow Rd 800yds to reach check point.

GR SU755869

28.2mls

CP4 Fawley Village Hall

Opening Time 11.30am – 6.30pm

4.0 Leaving CP TR and retrace your steps 600yds to LH bend. TR on TK at “Round House”. Follow TK to house drive, BR on encl path for 200yds to reach woods. Ahd for 1000yds on main TK through woods, FL thru old gate posts (blue WM on left post) 400yds to emerge on a hill. BL down the hill to reach TK in valley. TR to reach gate.

GR SU775855

30.3mls

4.1 TL before gate at FP sign, Ahd on enclosed path bearing right after 100yds. **Cont Ahd for 300yds then BL on FP climbing through woods.** After 250yds at brow of hill TR by WM post. After 30yds TL at T junction and follow path as it descends to RD at Hambleton.

GR SU783863

31.0mls

Cross busy Rd, ahead over bridge to enter village.

(35.6 ml option). Do not cross bridge, turn right over stile before bridge. Follow path down the valley with stream on left and road on right, passing through several fields and through two K/G's at track. Leaving last field in RH corner through K/G. TR on RD for 40 yds to CP 5. Continue to follow route description from CP5.

BR passing church on left then ahead to pass *The Stag and Huntsman*. Continue up lane, pass *Kenricks* on R, lane becomes path then TK leading uphill. Pass thru gate at top of hill onto wider TK, pass barn on R then after 200 yds, TL at 4 way junct onto RD to pass *Huttons Farm* on R. Continue ahd then, 50 yds after sharp turn to L, TR thru gate onto TK (FPS, *No Biking*). Ahd on TK for 220 yds, swinging R into wood, continue ahd on main TK staying RT at two forks. After second fork ahd 170 yds to field gate. 10yds before gate BR at WM TK field on left. Ahd 800 yds to RD.

GR SU798876

32.4mls

4.2 TR for 10 yds, then X ST opp. X fld to far side then TR continue on fld edge to enter wood at ST. TR and follow path to edge of wood, X stile then pass along RHS of fld for 50 yds. As field edge swings R, cont on current bearing (CB 150) to X fld to TK. X to FP into woods. Ahd 30yds to X TK. TL then continue Ahd to X TK. Ahd down LH side of wood to X ST on L to TK.

Ahd at TK junct ascending for 400 yds, then at second bird enclosure, swing R with main TK, ignoring FP Ahd. Pass down side of fld, fence then trees to R, after 300 yds entering woods onto narrow FP. Cont on FP, X 2 TKs, then downhill to X wide TK in valley. Up opp side of valley, X ST, BR on WM to pass house to L on v faint FP, circumnavigating garden to meet RD at *Woodside House*. TR on RD for 350 yds, then take CW path on L, X stile into field Ahd on CB 260 (aim for houses ahead), X two STs and further fld to reach houses at ROTTEN ROW.

GR SU799867

34.5mls

4.3 Ahd on RD past duckpond for 150 yds, then after house TL thru gate (FPS), follow path along LHS of field and ahd thru wood ignoring paths to L and R. Swing L with TK into valley after 200 yds, joining TK from R, then 30 yds later, before grass clearing, TR on FP uphill to edge of wood. Ahd on TK across fld to reach lane at gate. TR on lane for 200 yds to RD. Cross RD and ST. TL on FP parallel to RD for 250 yds to X ST. TR thru K/G and ahd on path with barbed wire fence to R, over small rise, then downhill on Path /TK for 400yds to K/G. Ahd thru K/G to X fld. At

TK junct TL and follow TK for 400yds to reach X path, (60yds before RD). TL through K/G. BR across field to reach K/G in RH corner. TR on Rd for 40yds to reach CP in car park.

GR SU785855

36.3mls

CP5 Mill End Car Park (Outside)

Opening Time 1.30pm – 7pm

5.0 On leaving CP TR on RD cont down RD to T junc with A4155. X RD to driveway (*Hambleton Marina*) TR & in 15yds TL between houses (FPS). Ahd on drive towards white gate where BR & follow encl FP across weir & lock gates to far bank of River Thames.

GR SU782851

36.8mls

5.1 TL on TK and follow TK for 1000yds as it turns RT then LT and then RT through K/G to RD. TL on Rd to pass “Flower Pot Hotel”. BR with Rd as it climbs past house on right. At the end of the fence / wall TR over stile at FPS. Climb RHS of field over stile to reach FP sign at TK. Ahd on TK across open fields to reach gate at road. TL on RD for 150yds then TR through gap in hedge on FP. BL across field towards power line pole. Ahd through gap on path into woods. continue on path through woods to stile. Ahd across field to FPS then descend on enclosed path at edge of wood to stile. X stile and BR across garden to stile at bottom of field. X Rd and through gap into Henley Regatta grounds. Continue on left side of field to reach barrier and car park on left. TL through barrier and Ahd to RD. TR to cross bridge over Thames.

GR SU763826

39.4mls

5.2 TL by *Angel Inn PH* & in 20yds TL to join towpath. Pass *Hobbs & Co* office and keep Ahd on towpath with river on L for 1300yds. Over small FB & TR (*Pool House*) on lane away from river. Ahd on lane 600yds to main rd. Cross main RD with care & ahd up Noble Road to YMCA hall.

HENLEY YMCA SPORTS PAVILION GR SU765815 40.9 miles
07.00 – 20.00
WELL DONE!