

START Aldbury village green (GR 965125)

- 1.1 Leave Aldbury village green on Toms Hill Road. In 50m, **bear left** on stony track. Ignore all turns and cross tracks and continue steeply uphill. Track joins from the right. Continue up hill to reach open area with Bridgewater Monument to the left and café on the right. Follow roadway round to main entrance drive and ahead down drive with Ashridge House in far distance. In 400m, **turn right** at green footpath sign on right. Concrete track quickly changes to broad rutted track and follow in same direction for 1000m, ignoring all cross-tracks and passing field on left. Reach a driveway with house on left and ahead to road (GR 974118).
- 1.2 **CROSS ROAD WITH EXTREME CARE** and continue ahead for 500m. Pass waymark post with white arrow and in 10m **turn left** at waymark post. In 100m, at waymark post **turn right**. Ignore tracks from right and left and continue ahead to emerge onto open common. **Bear right** keeping woods on right. In 200m re-enter woods at waymark post showing Ashridge Estate Boundary Trail (AEBT) and in 60m, where track bears right, continue ahead for 50m. At waymark post, **bear left** then in 15m, at waymark post and cross-track, continue ahead (direction of AEBT) with “No Horses” sign at entrance to grassy path.
- 1.3 Ignore track from right and in 50m, at fork with small oak at centre, **bear right** and continue on grassy path. In 100m, emerge into clearing and **turn sharp right** thro woods with waymark posts on path. Reach small car park at top of Norcott Hill and **turn left** onto lane (GR 969105).
- 1.4 Descend on lane for 500m then **turn right** at first junction, blue “TP” sign in hedge. In 150m follow lane as it turns left. In 200m, immed before bridge over railway, [**check – is there a gate here?**] **turn right** onto Public Bridleway and follow onto enclosed path, keeping railway on left. Path turns right away from railway and in 90m, **turn left** between hedge and fence. In 80m, **turn left** thro hedge and cross field to cross footbridge over railway. Cross second field and emerge onto lane. **Turn right** and follow lane over canal bridge to reach main road at BMW dealers.

Cow Roast (GR 960103) 5 km 3.5 miles

- 1.5 **CROSS BUSY ROAD WITH EXTREME CARE** towards Cow Roast pub and **turn right** on pavement opposite. In 20m **turn left** onto track (footpath sign “Tinkers Lodge ½”). Follow track for 800m to reach road. **Turn left** and pass under road bridge. Immediately **turn right** between metal barriers onto concrete track (footpath sign “Hemp Lane ½”).
- 1.6 In 120m, just after path becomes enclosed, **turn left** thro kissing gate and cross field on path. Thro second kissing gate and ahead with bank and fence on right. Thro small metal gate, still with fence on right to reach edge of woods and thro kissing gate. In 40m at fork, take **right fork** (FP sign “Church”) and in 200m thro kissing gate and ahead with hedge on right. Thro next kissing gate now with hedge on left. At top of field, ahead thro kissing gate and cross field to enclosed path and emerge onto road. **TAKE CARE CROSSING ROAD** and **turn left** to reach checkpoint in car park beside village shop on the right.

CHECKPOINT - WIGGINTON 8 km 5 miles (GR 938099)

- 1.7 Leave checkpoint and turn right on pavement. Follow road down then up. **BEWARE – NO PAVEMENT ON LATER PART OF ROAD**. Just after last of houses on the left, **turn right** thro kissing gate (footpath sign “Chiltern Way”) and cross field on path. Thro next kissing gate and **bear left** across field on path. Thro the next kissing gate to cross the corner of a field and then thro kissing gate and **bear left** again on path towards woods. In corner of field, thro kissing gate to cross track and reach waymark sign.

- 1.8 Continue ahead to yellow-topped way mark post and follow series of similar posts and white arrows on trees (the path here is often obscured by rutted tracks from vehicles) to reach road. **CROSS WITH EXTREME CARE** and ahead on track (footpath sign “Hawridge Common $\frac{3}{4}$ ”). Remain on track, passing Tring Grange Farm on right and then continue for 500m to reach road.

Near Hawridge Common (GR 944071)

- 1.9 *Turn right* on road and in 140m, *turn right* onto path. Remain on track for 1200m, always keeping slope on left and hedge boundary on right. Ignore all turns to left and right. At 4 wooden posts, emerge onto road and **CROSS WITH CARE** to gravel driveway with cream-fronted house on right.

Near Cholesbury (GR 933075)

- 1.10 Ahead on driveway and in 20m, *bear left* onto path. In 150m, reach road and *turn left*. In 25m, *turn right* onto footpath. In 150m, at rectangular sign “Cholesbury Camp”, *turn right* and follow path on bank for 300m keeping ditch of iron-age fort on left and ignoring stile on right. At cross-track, *turn right* (waymark post in base of holly tree). In 100m, thro small metal gate and ahead with fence and field on left. At kissing gate, ahead to second and third kissing gates to enter woodland.
- 1.11 *Turn left* and follow path for 800m keeping wood boundary and fields on left. Path becomes enclosed with holly bushes and reach T-junction. *Turn left* and in 100m, *turn right* to cross stile. Follow path as it winds thro woods. Beware of the dinosaurs! Cross stile across path and in 30m at fork with waymark post, *bear right*. At next waymark post (“The Chiltern Way”), ahead towards small metal gate and along enclosed path to reach road [*Beware following others - Loop 2 follows alternative route from here*]
- 1.12 *Turn left* on road and in 230m, *turn left* onto Public Bridleway. In 300m at footpath sign, *turn right* and follow path across two fields to stile to emerge onto road *Turn left* on road and, as it bends to right, continue ahead towards 3 metal barriers. **You are now at the highest point in Hertfordshire!**

Near Hastoe 16km 10 miles (GR 914093)

- 1.13 At 3 metal barriers, continue ahead following direction of Public Byway sign. Descend on track for 400m ignoring all turns to left and right. The track narrows and towards the bottom there is a field on right. Ignore right turn and continue ahead as track levels then gently rises to pass white house on right. Continue on gravel drive to lane and cross with care. Continue ahead for 400m and, after crossing path, track runs alongside dual carriageway road and rises to lane. *Turn right* to cross bridge over dual carriageway. Descend to road.

Aylesbury Road, Tring (GR 910111)

- 1.14 **CROSS ROAD WITH EXTREME CARE** then ahead on path keeping hedge on right to reach road (Icknield Way, Tring). *Turn right* on road edge and in 20m, at lay-by, **CROSS ROAD WITH EXTREME CARE** towards driveway. On left of drive entrance, cross stile onto path through trees then *turn right* onto grass with chicken shed on left. At corner of shed, *bear left* towards fence and thro kissing gate. Cross small field and cross stile. Ahead on path through small shrubs to second stile. Cross stile and *turn left* keeping hedge on left (do not cross field diagonally). At field corner, *turn right* keeping fence on left. Cross stile and pass between buildings onto concrete path which becomes tarmac and descends to lane. *Turn right* and follow lane to canal bridge.

- 1.15 Cross bridge and *immed turn left* to descend steps (**BEWARE** uneven and steep steps) to towpath. *Turn right* and in 100m *turn right* up steps (Signpost “St Mary’s 15th Century Church”). Through kissing gate into churchyard and ahead with church on left to second kissing gate and track. Keep fence on left to reach large metal gate and through kissing gate. *Turn right* and in 50m *turn left* through wooden kissing gate to cross field, aiming at right-hand end of tree line.
- 1.16 At kissing gate, join lane and *turn left*. In 40m, *turn right* through kissing gate and continue ahead across field and through kissing gate towards distant tree line. At kissing gate follow direction of middle of 3 footpath signs. Towards end of field, *bear left* and thro wooden kissing gate to cross footbridge. In 5m, *bear left* on enclosed path following direction of black arrow on yellow background “Tring Reservoir Trail”. Just before path turns right at corner of reservoir, *turn left* into field then immed *turn right* to cross field and cross stile to road. **BEWARE BLIND BEND ON ROAD TO RIGHT WHEN CROSSING.**

Near Wilstone Reservoir 22km 13.5 miles (GR 898133)

- 1.17 **CROSS ROAD WITH EXTREME CARE** to footpath sign and ahead with hedge on right. At field corner, follow path thro hedge, passing waymark sign on right. Ahead with hedge on right and at next field corner, again take curved path thro hedge. At field end, ahead and up 7 steps beside power pole to canal towpath
- 1.18 *Turn right* along towpath and continue for about 1600m, passing beneath 2 bridges, passing a footbridge over canal, passing beneath a third bridge. At 4th bridge (No.2), pass beneath and *turn sharp right up onto road. Turn right over bridge and canal.* In 20m, at finger post (“Lower End 2/3”), *turn right* and follow path to right which then bends left away from canal to cross field.
- 1.19 At tree line, go thought gap in trees onto concrete surface then *bear left* with trees on left to reach large metal gate and road. *Turn right* and remain on right-hand side of road. When road bends left, keep ahead to reach footpath sign with large metal gates on right. Thro kissing gate and, beyond next kissing gate, *bear right* to cross field, thro further kissing gate and diagonally to cross stile and reach road. *Turn right* on road and shortly cross canal bridge passing Red Lion pub on left.

Marsworth village 29km 18 miles (GR 920147)

- 1.20 At road junction, by church, *turn right* and at finger post after white half-timbered house on left, *turn left* up driveway and ahead to path between fence and wooden house (Stable House) on right. *Turn right* with fence and thro small metal gate to cross field. Thro kissing gate and *bear left* to reach further kissing gate and canal. Climb steps on left to cross pedestrian bridge over canal. *Turn left* and **CROSS ROAD WITH EXTREME CARE** to join towpath. In 20m at Bluebell Café *turn right* down steps beside café and ahead to Startops Reservoir Car Park and checkpoint.

CHECKPOINT – STARTOPS RESERVOIR CAR PARK 26.5 km 16.5 miles

- 1.21 Retrace route back up steps and *turn right* on towpath. Continue on towpath for about 2000m keeping canal on left passing several locks. In this section: cross bridge over Wendover Arm and continue on towpath to Grand Junction pub at Bulbourne: pass under road bridge and continue until towpath rises to meet Marshcroft Lane.

Marshcroft Lane canal bridge (GR 938128)

- 1.22 *Turn left* and cross bridge to follow lane, shortly passing between houses and farm buildings. Lane becomes a track and crosses bridge over railway. Pass thro gap to left of large metal gate (please walk through stables yard) and ahead to reach road.

- 1.23 **WITH EXTREME CARE CROSS BUSY ROAD** (GR 945134) and *turn left* along path beside road with hedge on right. In 250m, *turn right* through kissing gate and in 15m, *bear right* to pass through metal barriers and follow enclosed path uphill. Ignore all gates on right, pass through small metal gate and continue uphill with fence on right to reach cross-track (Ridgeway signs).
- 1.24 *Turn left* and in 25m, *turn sharp right* onto sheep trod and climb back towards fence line and crest of hill. At fence corner, *turn right* on path keeping fence and woods on right. Path descends and cross stile. Keep fence and hedge on right to follow field border and reach stile/gap in field corner.
- 1.25 Cross stile (or gap beside stile) and *turn right* on road (GR961142). **TAKE CARE ON NARROW ROAD.** In 150m, *turn left* onto lane (“No Through Road” sign). Ahead for 800m as the lane ascends and then levels out. Just before large wooden gate across lane, *turn right* onto footpath and cross field to gap in hedge. Cross second field to reach track. Cross track to metal gate and thro kissing gate. Ahead with hedge on the right. Thro kissing gate and ahead with fence on left. Thro kissing gate and ahead on drive. Cross tarmac and thro small metal gate to cross field ahead. Thro kissing gate and continue ahead (ignore waymark arrow on post). Cross field to metal gate in right hand corner. Through small wooden gate to road. **TAKE CARE ON ROAD.** *Turn left* and in 300m reach Aldbury village green.
- 1.26 **CONGRATULATIONS!** – you have completed the **Tring Boundary Trail, Loop 3, 35km, 21.7 miles.**