

SWC 288: Moreton-in-Marsh Grand Circular

Moreton-in-Marsh Grand Circular		
1 st walk check	2 nd walk check	3 rd walk check
10 June 2017 (Main Walk only)	1 September 2018 (Broadway ending)	
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Start: Moreton-in-Marsh Train Station

Finish: Moreton-in-Marsh Train Station

Length: *Main Walk:* 26.5 miles (42.6 kilometers)

Main Walk with Broadway Ending (taxi required): 21.5 miles (34.6 kilometers), with possibility to shorten by taking taxi to start in Longborough, making an 18 mile/28.9 kilometer walk

Shorter Circular Walk: 12.5 miles (20.1 kilometers)

It is possible to shorten the Main Walk by taking a taxi to Longborough and/or arranging one to collect you from Blockley, Broadway, or elsewhere along the route. Distances with a taxi assist:

Longborough to Moreton-in-Marsh	22.0 miles	35.4 km
Longborough to Blockley	19.0 miles	30.6 km
Moreton-in-Marsh to Snowhill	17.5 miles	28.2 km
Ford to Moreton-in-Marsh	16.5 miles	26.6 km
Longborough to Snowhill	14.0 miles	22.5 km

The taxi fare to Longborough and from Blockley is approximately 10 pounds and a taxi to Ford or back from Broadway or Snowhill runs between 20 and 25 pounds. Recommended taxi companies are: **AAA Station Taxis** 07732 382 153/07871 936 651/07951 304 329; **North Cotswold Taxi** 07832 915 871/07774 693 720; **Cotswold Taxi** 07710 117 471; **Moreton Taxis** 0800 955 8584/01608 650 343/07800 957 646; **Jays Taxi** 07554 424 793. *It is recommended to book in advance.*

For those on the Shorter Circular walk, you can shorten the walk by 3 miles by catching a bus (Number 1 or 2 operated by Johnsons) in Blockley back to Moreton-in-Marsh. The last bus is usually between 18:30 and 19:00– but verify ahead of time.

Marchants Coaches operates bus 606 which passes through Stanton and may be of some use for purposes of shortening the walk. So, it may be worth checking its schedule.

Difficulty: 10 out of 10 (8 out of 10 for the Shorter Circular Walk).

Time: 13-15 hours for the Main Walk and 8-10 hours for the Shorter Circular Walk, including transportation, lunch, afternoon refreshment stops and time spent admiring views and sites.

Transport: For the Main Walk, take the train closest to **8:00am** from **London Paddington** to **Moreton-in-Marsh**. If taking a taxi to Longborough to start, the train closest to 9:00am would also work. For the Shorter Circular Walk, the train closest to 9:00am or 10:00am would be preferable. Return trains run hourly. Buy a day return to Moreton-in-Marsh.

Lunch/Tea: On the Main Walk:

The recommended lunch pub is **The Plough Inn** ([theploughinnford.co.uk/01386 584 215](http://theploughinnford.co.uk/01386584215)) in **Ford** (10.0 miles (16.1 km) into the walk), a 16th century inn serving traditional home cooked food. It is open Monday-Thursday from 12:15-2:15pm and Friday-Sunday 12:00-9:15pm (serving food all day). As it is a popular pub, it is worth calling ahead.

A potential late lunch stop for early starters from Longborough or Ford is the **Mount Inn** in **Stanton** ([themountinn.co.uk/01386 584 316](http://themountinn.co.uk/01386584316)) (15.0 miles (24.1 km) into the walk (or 11.5 miles/18.5 km if starting from Longborough or 5.5 miles/8.9 km from Ford)), a traditional country pub perched high on a hill with tremendous views. It serves food daily 12:00-2:00pm and drinks until 3:00pm.

The recommended tea stop on the main walk is the National Trust Tea Room at **Snowhill Manor** if arriving before 5:00pm. Snowhill Manor is a 1 km diversion (500 meters there and back) and entrance to the tea room requires NT membership or the purchase of a garden ticket. Alternatively, from 6:00pm (or sometimes before on weekends during the summer school holidays) the **Snowhill Arms** ([donnington-brewery.com/01451 830 603](http://donnington-brewery.com/01451830603)) in the village center is open.

On the Shorter Circular Walk:

The recommended lunch stop is the **Coach & Horses** in **Longborough** (01451 830 325), 3.5 miles (5.6 km) into the Shorter Circular Walk. It serves food from 11:00-2:30pm Monday to Thursday and all day on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The recommended tea stop is the **Blockley Village Shop and Café**, a community run venture (01386 701411/blockleyshop.com). It is open until 4:00 pm (3:00 pm on Sunday). If the café is closed (or you prefer something stronger), the **Great Western Arms** in **Blockley** (01386 700 362/ thegreatwesternarms.co.uk) also serves a variety of beverages (including tea). It is open from 5:30pm Monday-Friday and all day on Saturday and Sunday.

For all walks:

Moreton-in-Marsh has a number of options for post walk libations. Some recommendations include the **Bell Inn** (reputedly a haunt of J.R.R. Tolkien) and the **Black Bear Inn**. **Hassan Balti** serves good Indian food (also available on a take-out basis to eat on the train – don't forget to ask for plastic cutlery!)

Map: OL 45 OS Explorer

Walk Summary:

The Main Walk is a long and demanding journey out to the Cotswold escarpment and back. Along the way, you will have stunning views, pass through a race horse training facility and by an open mine harvesting Cotswold stone. You will also pass through three particularly charming and bucolic Cotswold villages – **Stanway** (with its stunning Manor House), **Stanton** and **Snowhill**. Lastly, as you head on from Snowhill you will pass by some lavender fields (in season). There is a slightly shorter alternate ending that passes by **Broadway Tower** before descending into **Broadway** where you will need to arrange a taxi to return to Moreton-in-Marsh. The Shorter Circular Walk is also a very lovely outing with some nice views, but misses the drama of the escarpment.

The Main Walk can be shortened with some strategic planning and fairly inexpensive taxi assistance – in particular, the route from **Longborough** to **Blockley** (19 miles/30.6 km) is delightful without missing any highlights. The Shorter Circular Walk can also be shortened by catching a bus in Blockley, making for a 9.5 mile/15.2 km walk.

On the Main Walk, some of the paths from Snowhill to Blockley can be overgrown with long grass during the height of summer – making the going a little more difficult on this stretch. However, the route in this section is largely steadily due East so route finding should not be too problematic.

Features of Interest:

Broadway Tower: Broadway Tower is a folly created by Capability Brown for the Earl of Coventry. It is located on **Beacon Hill** (the second highest point in the Cotswold) and overlooks the charming town of Broadway. A nuclear bunker used by the Royal Observer Corp during the Cold War to monitor nuclear activity is located nearby.

Cotswold Way: A 102-mile (164.2 km) long distance path running largely along the Cotswold escarpment from Chipping Campden to Bath.

Moreton-in-Marsh: Moreton-in-Marsh is one of the principal market towns in the Northern Cotswolds, Gloucestershire located on the **Roman Fosse Way** (a Roman road that linked Exeter and Lincoln). It grew up as a market town during the 13th century and there is still an active market on Tuesdays. Buildings of note include the **Redesdale Market Hall** (erected in 1887) located on the High Street and the **Curfew Tower** (probably the oldest building in the village dating from the 16th century) located at the corner of the High Street and Oxford Street. The bell was rung nightly until 1860 to warn people of the risks of fire at night. Moreton means "Farmstead on the Moor" and "in Marsh" comes from *henne* and *mersh*, meaning a marsh used by birds such as moorhens. An alternative suggestion is that Marsh is a corruption of March, an early English word for boundary.

Monarch's Way: The Monarch's Way is a 615 mile (990 km) long-distance footpath that approximates the escape route taken by **King Charles II** in 1651 after being defeated at the **Battle of Worcester**. It runs from Worcester to Brighton (via Bristol and Yeovil).

Ridge and furrow: A medieval agricultural technique evidence of which is extensive throughout the walk. It is basically the result of plowing the same strip of land with non-reversible plows each year. It is visible on land plowed in the Middle Ages but not since.

Snowhill Manor: Snowhill Manor is a National Trust property located on the edge of the hill top village of **Snowhill**. It is packed with extraordinary treasures collected by Charles Wade. Admittance is by timed ticket.

Stanway Watermill: Part of the Stanway Estate dating from the 8th century. The Estate was known to have 4 watermills in 1291. They have been used over the centuries for various purposes. This mill is a fully restored flour mill and has the 8th largest waterwheel in England.

Stanway House: An outstandingly beautiful Jacobean Manor House made from Cotswold Stone (Guiting Yellow). It has expansive water gardens and a tithe barn. It was owned by the Tewkesbury Abbey for 800 years, then the Tracy Family for 500 years. At present, it is owned and occupied by the Earls of Wemyss. It is open for visits on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and by special arrangement.

Main Walk Instructions:

1. Leaving the station platform, enter the car park and *turn left*. In 40 meters follow the road as it curves around to the right leaving the car park. In 60 meters at a three-way road junction (with Station Road heading off to the left) *turn right*.
2. In 90 meters at the High Street, *turn left*. In 75 meters cross the High Street at the traffic lights, pass through a parking area and then cross a smaller slip road and *turn left* to carry on in the same direction along the High Street. In 50 meters, you pass by the old market building, **Redesdale Market Hall**, built in 1887 on the left. *Also of note, the **Curfew Tower** (the oldest building in town dating from the 16th Century) is located on the opposite side of the High Street (almost opposite the Coop) at its junction with Oxford Street. The bell was rung nightly until 1860 to warn people of the risk of fire.* In 70 further meters, cross Bourton road to carry on in the same direction.
3. In 120 meters at Parkers Lane with the **Inn on the Marsh** visible ahead on the right in 30 meters, *turn right* onto Parkers Lane with a pond on the left-hand side.
4. In 170 meters at the end of Parkers Lane, *turn left* along a small lane following a public footpath sign (with a small Monarch's Way marker). In 100 meters carry on ahead along a wide grassy strip with houses on the left and a ditch and hedges on the right. In 140 meters, the grassy strip narrows into a path between hedges (having become slightly narrower over the prior 50 meters or so).
5. In 100 meters go through a sometimes open metal field gate with a yellow footpath arrow and Monarch's Way marker on the left-hand side and *turn half right* in the direction indicated by the footpath arrow. In 60 meters go through some wooden barriers to carry on in the same direction on the right-hand side of the next field with field boundary hedges on the right-hand side.
6. In 250 meters at a junction with another large arable field, *turn right* to follow a footpath sign on the left along the right-hand side of the field with a boundary hedge on the right. In 250 meters continue ahead into the next field still with hedge boundaries on the right-hand side (passing on your left a large tree and another hedge boundary running perpendicular down the field). In 250 further meters continue straight ahead into the next field again passing a field boundary running perpendicular on the left and following a yellow public footpath sign with a Monarch's Way marker 20 meters ahead on the right.
7. 40 meters after passing the post, *veer half left* (your direction 210°) across the field on a clear path through the crop (if planted). In 30 meters continue along this path as it curves to the right (your direction now 240°) and in 110 meters emerge from the field onto its boundary edge with a large tree in front of you to the left with a footpath arrow and Monarch's Way marker and carry on straight ahead as indicated by the footpath arrow on the tree. *Alternatively, if the field is not planted or the path not clear, continue along the field edge and in 230 meters at the right-hand corner of the field turn left to carry along the right-hand side of the field and in 45 meters at a large oak tree with a footpath sign and Monarch's Way marker, turn right.*
8. In 10 meters pass through a metal field gate that is usually open to follow a public footpath sign with a Monarch's Way marker now on the left-hand side of a field with a

- boundary hedge to the left. In 250 meters go through a wooden field gate to carry on across the next field in the same direction following a public footpath sign with a Monarch's Way marker.
9. **[!]** In 140 meters at a large wooden stump in the middle of the field (with a small fenced-in wood about 30 meters ahead to the right), *turn right* along a hard to see path through the grass following a footpath arrow located on the left-hand side of the stump (now leaving the Monarch's Way). Carry along this path which generally follows the line of the wood on the left (about 30 meters away). In 90 meters pass to the left of a short post with a footpath arrow to *veer slightly left* following the arrow along the left-hand side of the grassy field.
 10. In 90 meters follow the path as it *curves around left* at the end of the wood towards a wooden field gate. In 30 meters go through the wooden field gate and *veer half right* in the direction of the footpath arrow across a large grassy field towards the left-hand side of some farm out buildings in the far left-hand corner of the field. *Note: If there are animals in the field that there is a permissive route that runs the perimeter of the field over the stile to the left. Also, if the grass is long, you may want to walk along the perimeter of the field within the fence.* In 250 meters, the route joins a stony track and passes through a wooden field gate by the farm buildings on the right. In 30 meters go through another wooden field gate to carry on in the same direction. In 90 meters, the track passes by an area of concrete where you carry on in the same direction eventually along a tarmac track on the right-hand side of the field. In 230 meters continue along the tarmac track as it *curves left* at the field corner.
 11. In 80 meters *turn right* with the tarmac track and go through a wooden field gate. In 60 meters go over a cattle grid and in 380 meters pass through a sometimes open wooden field gate (or over a stile to its left) to continue along the tarmac track gently uphill. In a further 110 meters pass to the left of the Keeper's Cottage on the right-hand side.
 12. In 75 meters at the top of the field (just before another cattle grid) *turn left* to carry along the top right-hand edge of a grassy field with a boundary hedge on the right. In 75 meters carry on straight ahead through a sometimes open wooden field gate (or, if the gate is closed, *turn right* to cross a stile on the right and immediately *turn left* to carry on in the same direction). In 60 meters go through a metal gate to the right of a wooden field gate to carry on in the same direction (*noting the artistry of the gate handle as you pass through*) with a small wood now on your right. In 40 meters emerge into a large arable field to carry along its left-hand side with great views to the left of the Evenlode valley with Adlestrop and Chastleton Hill and Barrow (hill fort) in the distance.
 13. In 550 meters where there is a field boundary running perpendicular off to the right and a wooden post to the left with public footpath signs and Heart of England Way marker pointing straight ahead, **you have a choice:**
 - a. If you are doing the **Shorter Circular Walk** and eating in **Longborough**, carry on straight ahead to go through a wooden gate in 160 meters and pass by the back of the church and its churchyard to the left and in 50 meters carry on ahead along a tarmac lane to emerge in a further 40 meters at a junction with

another tarmac lane where you *turn left* to find **The Coach and Horses** pub, in 30 meters on the right.

Leaving the pub after lunch, *turn left* and in 575 meters at a T-Junction at a small triangular green with a three-armed sign post, continue ahead through a wooden gate into a wood, following a yellow footpath arrow on the right-hand side and continue with the walk with the second sentence of point 15 below. *Before entering into the woods, turn around and enjoy the view behind you with Moreton-in-Marsh in the valley below.*

- b. If you are doing the Main Walk and want to by-pass Longborough, *turn right* to go up the right-hand side of a large arable field with the field boundary on your right.

- 14. In 550 meters, you emerge onto a tarmac lane where you *turn left*. *Don't forget to enjoy the fine views of Moreton-in-Marsh off to the left in the valley below!*
- 15. In 250 meters *turn right* at a road junction with a small triangular green to pass through a wooden gate into a small wood following a yellow footpath arrow on the right. Continue through the wood on the clear main path which is part gravel, tarmac and dirt (ignoring vague routes off to the right and left) and in 120 meters ignore a clear fork to the left to continue on the right fork which veers slightly to the right and in a further 80 meters go through a wooden gate and emerge onto a somewhat busy road.
- 16. Cross the road carefully and *turn right* and *immediately left* to head down a tarmac lane sign posted Luckley and Condicote.
- 17. In 100 meters, *turn right* into some woods along a footpath (sign posted Hinchwick)

which may be overgrown during the summer.

- 18. In 50 meters emerge from the woods and *turn right* onto a car wide dirt track. In 350 meters, the track starts to descend slightly and in a further 250 meters it makes a more pronounced dip with a small group of trees to the left. In a further 220 meters on the far side of the dip you pass a house on the right and at some point past the house the track turns into a horse gallop – so be aware of any horses and walk along the elevated grassy track on the left.
- 19. [!] In 680 meters where the gallop starts dipping and curving to the left, *cross the gallop* and continue straight ahead on a footpath downhill on the right-hand side of a grassy field following a footpath sign on a post off to the right. In 70 meters follow the footpath between a gap in a stone wall deeply down into a dip. In 80 meters at the bottom of the dip go through a wooden gate to carry on up the hill on the other side.
- 20. On top of the far side of the dip, pause to catch your breath and look back at the lovely views, then, cross over a stile into a field and go *half left* (your direction 270°) across the field aiming for the left of a small clump of trees in front of you. *(Alternatively, if the field has been planted, follow the clear path straight ahead towards the trees and in 45 meters turn left to follow the edge of the wood on your right for 20 meters where you turn right with the wood edge).* In 45 meters, at the clump of trees, carry along the right-hand edge of the field with the trees on your right. Regardless of route, in 50 meters, you pass by (on the right-hand side) a rather dramatic tombstone for Haze and Michael Asquith whose ashes were scattered nearby.

21. In a further 50 meters (with impressive views of Hinchwick Manor below in the valley and your onward route visible on the horizon ahead to the right) cross over a stile into a field and *veer half right* (your direction 310°) diagonally downhill aiming for a small white broken disc on a fence post just in front of a stone wall and a small wood roughly 60 meters ahead (if the grass is long, the broken disc may not initially be visible – but will become so as you approach).
22. At the stone wall, *turn left* to continue downhill with the stone wall and wood on your right-hand side.
23. In 260 meters at the bottom of the hill in the lower right-hand corner of the field *turn right* to exit the field by a metal field gate and *turn left* onto a lane.
24. In 40 meters at a public bridleway signpost and a potentially muddy car-wide track, **you have a choice:**
- to carry on with the **Main Walk** out to the Cotswold escarpment, continue along the lane and with instruction 25 below; and
 - for a **shorter route**, back to Moreton-in-Marsh (about 7 miles/11.2 km away), *turn right* on the bridleway and pick up the **Shorter Circular Walk** instructions at the end of the Main Walk Instructions.
25. In 120 meters at a road T-junction with a signpost for Condicote and Stow-on-the-Wold, *turn right* to pass through a metal gate next to a metal field gate to carry on along a public footpath on a tarmac track (ignoring the bridleway off to the right). In 120 meters follow the tarmac track as it curves around to the left now with a stone wall and a small wood (Beechy Bank on the OS Map) on the right-hand side. In 150 meters go through a metal field gate to carry on along the tarmac track.
26. **[!]** In 640 meters at a footpath post on the left-hand side (about 100 meters before the tarmac track starts to turn to the right), *veer half left* off the track to follow a public footpath to the left of the tarmac track. You are now walking through the **Pig Trough** (as marked on the OS map) a wooded area with small trees (which opens up on the left for a spell after about 200 meters). In 450 meters at a cross path with a post on the left-hand side, continue straight ahead through a wooden field gate in 10 meters. Carry along this potentially muddy path along the valley bottom with gently sloping tree covered hills on either side. In 200 meters, you reach a more open area where you ignore tracks on the right and left going uphill and continue in the same direction along the valley bottom. In 200 meters ignore a track on the left to continue ahead. In a further 220 meters the route opens up on the left with a sloping grassy field, continue ahead ignoring a track to the right (also keep your eyes open for deer -- a playful group of young males was spotted here during research).
27. In 550 meters, *follow the path around to the left* and cross a stile with a Diamond Way marker to go up the right-hand side of a field. In 75 meters pass through a usually open metal field gate (or go over the stile to its left) to continue uphill on the right-hand side of a field. In 175 meters pass to the left of some stone farm out buildings and, at the second building with an oak tree on the right, pause to look back at the view, then, *veer half left* towards a wooden footpath post visible (but potentially hard to see) about 140 meters in the distance (your direction 190°).

28. In 140 meters at a T-junction with a public bridleway (as indicated on the footpath post), **you have a choice:**

- a. **for a slightly longer route that remains on footpaths which cross through fields**, *turn left* on the public bridleway. In 80 meters pass through a metal field gate with a white Diamond Way footpath marker to continue in same direction along the left-hand side of a large arable field. In 460 meters at a footpath post on the left with a public bridleway marker, *veer half right*, following the public bridleway across the field on a potentially very narrow path. In 350 meters at the far side of the field, follow the public bridleway arrow and Diamond Way marker into a small group of trees. In 75 meters, you emerge from the woods and *turn right* onto a track. In 10 meters at a footpath post on the right-hand side with multiple footpath markers, *turn right* to follow the Diamond Way and Gloucestershire Way along the right-hand side of a large arable field with a stone wall on the right. In 425 meters continue straight ahead on a car wide track between fields passing a stone wall on left running perpendicular through the field. In 300 meters carry on along the car wide track past a stone wall on the left (and a second on the right). In 200 meters continue along the car wide track between arable fields as it curves to the left with a stone house ahead on the right. In 300 meters follow the track as it curves to the right with a wood and wire fence on the left. In 80 meters

follow the track as it curves around to the left with a large horse trailer parking area on the right. In 40 meters *turn left* to pass in front of the main house and follow the tarmac drive as it curves around to the right in 40 meters. In 400 meters, you emerge onto a road directly across from the main gates for **Jackdaws Castle**, a race horse training facility. Cross the road with care and follow the public footpath sign through the metal gate to the left of the main gate for **Jackdaws Castle**.

- b. **for a shorter version, saving .75 miles /1.5km but involving 700 meters of road walking**, *turn right* onto the public bridleway and in 70 meters you have a small wood on the left behind a stone wall. In 200 meters continue through a metal gate to the left of a metal field gate along a farm track. In 220 meters continue straight ahead along a tarmac lane. In 360 meters ignore a farm track on the left to carry on in the same direction. In a further 400 meters cross the main road and *turn left* to walk along it. In 500 meters, you can walk along a grass verge on the right and in a further 200 meters you arrive at the front gate of **Jackdaws Castle**, a race horse training facility where you *turn right* to follow the Gloucestershire Way public footpath sign through the metal kissing gate to the left of the main gate.

29. Having entered **Jackdaws Castle**, ignore the “no entry signs” (for vehicles) and carry on straight ahead along the tarmac track with a horse gallop on the right and nice views off

to the left. In 500 meters when you can see the roofs of some barns on the right ignore a fork to the left and continue ahead now slightly descending. In 170 meters at a Walkers **Beware of Racehorses** sign – *turn right* to cross the gallop with caution heading straight across towards the footpath sign visible 50 meters away. In 50 meters at the tarmac drive *turn left* to continue downhill, with the gallop now on your left. In 250 meters pass a footpath arrow on a post to continue ahead ignoring gaps in the hedge on the right. In 400 meters ignore a tarmac track joining from the right and in a further 300 meters you pass a gap in the hedges on the right with a footpath sign and Winchcombe Way marker. This is actually the onward route after lunch, so if you are skipping lunch and drinks in the pub, you can *turn right* here and pick up with the third sentence of point 30 below. If going to the pub, carry on ahead and in 100 meters at the end of the tarmac drive continue along the dirt and gravel track towards a brown wooden field gate. In 20 meters go through the squeeze gate to the left of the field gate to emerge onto a road across from **The Plough Inn**, the recommended lunch stop in **Ford**.

30. After enjoying your lunch, cross back over the road carefully and back through the squeeze gate into the grounds of **Jackdaws Castle** to retrace your steps along the dirt/gravel and then tarmac track. In 75 meters at a gap in the boundary hedges, *turn left* through the gap to follow a yellow footpath arrow marked Winchcombe Way on a small post. Cross over a car wide track to carry on down a track between horse pastures.
31. In 175 meters at the end of the pastures at a T-junction of paths, *turn right* now with a pasture on the right and a drop to the left.

In 130 meters, the path dips and veers left away from the pastures and in a further 30 meters climb up to go through a wooden kissing gate and turn *half-right* to follow the public footpath and Winchcombe Way marker up the right-hand side of a shallow dip in the middle of an open grassy field on a clear path.

32. In 160 meters at the top of the field at some boundary hedges, *turn left* over a wooden bridge over a boggy section of the field. In 45 meters *turn right* to pass through a wooden kissing gate following the Winchcombe Way marker and once through the gate, immediately, *turn left* to follow the footpath up the left-hand side of a field aiming to the right of a church visible in the distance (your direction 320°).
33. In 175 meters, you reach the churchyard of the picturesque little church (St. James) in **Cutsdean**, *turn left* to go through a wooden gate into the churchyard. Continue ahead along the right-hand side of the churchyard along a stonewall and in 40 meters exit the churchyard through its front gate. 20 meters beyond the gate, *turn right* on a track and in a further 40 meters take the *left fork* at the little green triangle and *turn left* downhill along the tarmac lane.
34. In 90 meters after the tarmac lane has curved to the left, *turn right* off the lane to follow a public footpath initially along the left-hand side of a stream (an infant **River Windrush** (named as such as it winds through the rushes until meeting the Thames) made famous in 2007 for flooding several villages in the area) heading gently uphill into a wooded area where the path eventually curves to the left away from the stream. In 130 meters go through a metal gate into a field and *turn right* to carry on up the right-hand side of the field. In 120 meters cross a tarmac lane to carry on in

- the same direction over two stiles and up the left-hand side of a field with boundary hedges to the left. In 150 meters step over a metal gate to carry on in the same direction up the left-hand side of the field.
35. In 160 meters at the top left-hand corner of the field, *turn right* to walk along the top of the field with a wood to the left and a nice view to the right with **Jackdaws Castle** visible on the far right.
36. In 270 meters at the far top left corner of the field at a post with yellow footpath arrows *turn left* to go through a usually open metal field gate into a slightly wooded area. In 45 meters emerge from the wood into a field with a footpath post to your right and *veer half left* to walk along the left-hand edge of the field with some boundary hedges to your left. *Note: To the left, an open quarry where some of the famous Cotswold stone is being quarried.*
37. In 300 meters at the left-hand corner of the field *go left* through a wooden gate onto a tarmac lane which you cross heading *slightly right* towards a public footpath sign where you cross over a stile in the stone wall and *turn left* on a public footpath that runs parallel (just to the right of) the lane. (If you would like to skip some stiles, you could actually just walk down the lane until it meets a more substantial road and pick up at point 38 below). In 60 meters cross over a dirt track and another stile to carry on with a field to the right. In 130 meters cross over another stile to carry on ahead still with the stone wall and lane on the left-hand side (ignore the direction of the footpath arrow). In a further 30 meters pass a metal field gate to the left and cross over another track to carry on in the same direction. In 40 meters go over a stile to carry on in the same direction and in a further 110 meters *veer slightly left* to emerge onto the tarmac lane and continue in the same direction towards a junction ahead with a more substantial road.
38. In 70 meters, cross the more substantial road a little to the right and go through a wooden gate with a Cotswold Way wooden footpath signpost and *turn half-right* to follow the Cotswold Way footpath (ignoring the Cotswold Way bridleway straight ahead). In 200 meters, you pass to the left of a Cotswold Way marker post (this is the “first Cotswold footpath post” referred to in point 39 below) and follow the path as it starts to curve to the left with a drop off to your right and great views ahead.
39. [!] 100 meters after the first Cotswold footpath post (and 25 meters after a second one and a pronounced curve to the left of the path) by a bench on the right, *fork right* downhill on a clear, but narrow and sometimes steep, path to follow a Cotswold Way marker on a post 50 meters ahead downhill. In 170 meters, the path begins to level out with a Cotswold Way marker post on the left and in a further 60 meters pass through a wooden gate to the right of a metal field gate. Once through the gate *veer half right* following the arrow on the gate, around some support cables for a utility pole and aiming for a wooden post ahead.
40. [!] In 100 meters *turn right* to go through a wooden gate following the Cotswold Way and *veer half left* towards a Cotswold Way footpath marker post to carry along across the next field with a picturesque farm to the right with a yurt and swimming pool.
41. In 50 meters go down some steps and in a further 40 meters *turn left* through a wooden gate following a Cotswold Way marker and cross straight across the next field (your direction 280°). In 180 meters go through a wooden kissing gate and straight

ahead downhill towards a wooden post in the distance. *Note: A fine example of **ridge and furrow** medieval farming technique off to the right.* In 100 meters pass to the right of the marker post and continue gently downhill towards another wooden marker post ahead. In 80 meters pass the wooden post and continue in roughly the same direction steeply downhill towards a metal field gate visible in the valley below.

42. In 80 meters go through a wooden gate to the right of the field gate and *turn right* and in a further 35 meters go through another wooden gate next to a metal field gate to follow a car wide track curving to the left. In 90 meters go through a usually open metal field gate to pass through a stable area and in 35 meters go through a long but short (in height) gate to continue in the same direction down a car wide concrete track.
43. In 100 meters by a parking area to the right and a Woodlands Riding and Livery and Stables -- Glebe Farm sign, *turn left* to follow a very old and weathered Cotswold Way signpost down a tarmac lane into the village of **Wood Stanway**.
44. [!] In 140 meters (about 30 meters before the tarmac lane curves hard to the right and 20 meters past the last building on the right) *turn right* on a stony track to follow a hard to see weathered Cotswold Way footpath signpost towards Stanway. In 35 meters pass through a metal field gate to continue in the same direction across a field. *Note: more evidence of **ridge and furrow** agriculture in the field to the right.* In 280 meters cross a concrete bridge over a small stream and pass through a wooden gate to carry on in the same direction across the next field. In 150 meters go through a wooden gate and cross a bridge over a ditch to carry on in the same direction across the next field. In 200 meters go through a wooden gate, now with a wood on your right. In 30 meters ignore a footpath on your right to continue in the same direction.
45. In 65 meters cross a tarmac lane and *turn left* to carry along the pavement on the right-hand side of the road.
46. In 40 meters *turn right* through a wooden gate to the right of a wooden field gate to follow a Cotswold Way sign post to Stanway. In 10 meters pass to the left of a low wooden Cotswold Way marker and in a further 65 meters *veer slightly to the right* to follow another Cotswold Way marker on a post. In 40 meters, continue ahead to the right of a stonewall. In 30 meters pass through a wooden kissing gate to carry on in the same direction now with a wall on the right. In 40 meters pass the **Stanway Watermill** on the left and continue ahead.
47. In 40 meters at a tarmac lane *turn right* with the very impressive gatehouse of **Stanway House** coming into view straight ahead. Carry on down the tarmac lane towards the gatehouse and continue along the lane as it then curves left and then right through the bucolic village. *Note: The **tithe barn** of Stanway House on the right.*
48. 330 meters after passing **Stanway House** (and 100 meters after the last house on the right), *turn right* off the road through a metal gate to follow a Cotswold Way public footpath sign. In 30 meters go through a metal gate to carry on in the same direction diagonally across open grassy terrain following a clear path. In 130 meters follow a Cotswold Way sign on a post to *veer slightly to the left*. In 245 meters go through a wooden gate and *veer half left* following a Cotswold Way marker arrow on the gate. In 150 meters go over a stile to the left of a metal field gate to continue in

the same direction following a Cotswold Way marker, keeping to the left of a little hillock, as you contour around slightly to the right with the escarpment up to the right and views off to the left. In 260 meters go through a wooden gate, over a bridge and through another wooden gate to carry on in the same direction. In a further 240 meters go through a wooden gate to follow a Cotswold Way marker in the same direction, now between hedges. In 290 meters go through a wooden gate and *veer half left* to follow the Cotswold Way with the church spire of **Stanton** visible ahead.

49. In 175 meters go through a metal gate and *turn left* on to a tarmac lane.
50. In 40 meters at a junction with a road, *turn right* to follow a Cotswold Way signpost on the right and almost immediately *veer left* down the lane towards the village center of **Stanton** (ignoring the road that heads off to the right).
51. In 150 meters at a T-junction with another road, *turn right* to follow a Cotswold Way signpost through the village ignoring all ways off. In 220 meters where a lane forks off to the right, **[!]** *continue ahead* along the left-hand fork steeply uphill – *ignoring the right fork with a Cotswold Way signpost*; rather you will be following the sign post to the **Mount Inn**. In 110 meters, you pass the **Mount Inn** perched on the hill on the left-hand side, a possible afternoon watering hole if you pass by before the afternoon closure at 3:00 (4:00 pm Sundays) or lunch stop if starting the walk from Ford or early from Longborough. In 40 meters where the lane ends with a carpark for the Mount Inn on the right and the left, *continue straight ahead* uphill on a sunken public footpath between trees signposted the Wyche Way.
52. In 80 meters go through a metal field gate and in a further 20 meters *fork right* onto a

narrow path in the direction of the public footpath arrow on the gate (your direction 10°) with a barbed-wire fence initially on the right. In 150 meters go through a metal field gate and continue in roughly the same direction gently uphill. In 30 meters emerge into an open space and *bear right* to carry along the clear path on the right-hand side of the open space with some small trees on the right.

53. In 80 meters go through a metal field gate to follow a public footpath arrow ahead into an open area crossing over a track. **[!]** Once over the track *continue by bearing slightly right* (your direction 120°) to head gently uphill across the open space towards a wooden post barely visible just in front of the lower end of some trees dipping down into the open space in the distance (about 250 meters away). In 160 meters cross a broken stile in a wooden fence to carry on in the same direction (your direction still 120°) still heading diagonally uphill towards the trees with a footpath marker post eventually becoming more evident as you approach the tree line. In 130 meters, you reach the footpath marker post and continue ahead into a lightly wooded area on a path as it curves to the left now more steeply uphill. In 70 meters, you pass by a footpath post on the left and follow the arrow as the path curves around further to the left.
54. In 30 meters at a T-junction with a footpath marker post where the path starts to level out, *turn right*. In 40 meters, you pass by a concrete water-trough on the right-hand side where you continue ahead on a clear path into some small trees with a footpath post visible 40 meters ahead on the left-hand side of the path.
55. In 280 meters at a wooden post with a public footpath arrow, *turn left* to continue

on the footpath as it now climbs very steeply uphill in a wood with remnants of a stone wall on the right-hand side.

56. In 100 meters *turn right* to go through a metal field gate with a Gloucestershire County Council No Horses sign. [!] Once through the gate *veer immediately left* in the direction of the footpath arrow on the left gate upright VERY steeply up the open hill on an indistinct path (your direction 155°) – ignoring a broader track straight ahead contouring the hillside. In 45 meters pass through a gap in some bushes still heading steeply uphill into an open space (your direction 120°). In 70 meters, you reach the brow of the hill with a footpath marker post where you continue ahead on a faint path following the direction of the arrow steeply into a little dip. Cross over a track and continue through the dip (the very bottom of which can be overgrown in the summer – in which case you could turn left onto the track and carry along it as it curves to the right until reaching the footpath post on the right where you *veer half-left* uphill on a faint path) to head uphill on the other side following an arrow on a footpath marker post directly ahead on the upside of the dip. Cross over another track (by the footpath post) to follow the generally visible path uphill as it curves slightly to the right and then the left towards a wooden kissing gate at the top of the hill (the real top this time!). In 60 meters go through the gate onto a plateau with a house visible ahead to the right and turn around to enjoy the view from **Shenberrow Hill** (at 997 feet, the third highest point in the Cotswold) while you are catching your breath. *Note: Shenberrow Hill is the site of an Iron Age hill fort through which our route up the hill passed.*
57. Once recovered from the climb, *veer half left* to re-join in 30 meters the clear Cotswold Way footpath (which gains the plateau through a metal gate visible about 20 meters to the right) and continue along the plateau enjoying the views off to the left. In 80 meters ignore a bridleway coming up from the right to carry on straight ahead.
58. In 650 meters at a tarmac lane *turn right* – now leaving the Cotswold Way. In 60 meters ignore a public footpath and bridleway sign (to the left and right) to carry along the tarmac lane.
59. In 240 meters (after the road has dipped a little) at a signpost for the National Trust's Littleworth Wood, *veer left* off the tarmac lane and pass through a wooden kissing gate into Littleworth Wood. On a clear day, **Broadway Tower** is visible in the distance on the left through periodic gaps in the trees. In 40 meters ignore a track joining the path from the left to carry along the footpath in the same direction through the wood.
60. In 180 meters, the path curves left and in a further 60 meters (with a wooden gate visible 40 meters ahead to the right), [!] you *fork left* onto a less distinct path going downhill. Carry on along this narrow path as it meanders downhill (sometimes steeply) through a coppiced wood with wood anemones and bluebells in season.
61. In 150 meters, pass through a wooden gate next to a wooden field gate and *turn left* onto a tarmac lane – **Broadway Tower** now clearly visible ahead across the valley and **Snowhill** (your next destination) visible on the hill across the valley towards the right.
62. In 200 meters, just before a large farm, *turn right* through a wooden gate to follow a public footpath sign down into the field on the right, initially, very steeply down some

wooden steps; then following along the fence line on your left. In 140 meters, the fence line ends and you continue across the field in the same direction. In 170 meters go through a wooden gate to carry on in the same direction through a gently undulating area with bushes, small trees and wild garlic (in season).

63. In 170 meters cross a stile to the right and *go half left* up an open field in the direction indicated by the footpath arrow on the stile with a wire fence on the left. In 170 meters continue largely in the same direction (but veering slightly to the left) joining a car wide track on the left-hand side of the field with the wire fence on its left-hand side. In a further 170 meters go through a usually open metal field gate to continue along the track uphill as it curves to the left.
64. In 120 meters *turn left* onto a tarmac lane. In 100 meters, you arrive at the center of **Snowhill** with a church ahead and the **Snowhill Arms** on the left, a possible tea stop if you are lucky enough to find it open (it is usually closed between 3-6pm – but may be open on weekends during school summer holidays). If you have time, you can head to the tea room at **Snowhill Manor**, a nearby National Trust Property along a 1 km (500 meter there and back) diversion (*open until 5:30pm with last entry at 5:00pm – if you are not an NT member you will need to purchase admission to the gardens to gain access to the tea room*). If going to **Snowhill Manor** continue along the road past the pub and in 500 meters, *turn left* to walk down the entry drive to Snowhill Manor and after refreshments retrace your steps back to the pub. *Note: It takes about 2 hours to walk to Blockley and about 3 hours to walk to Morton-in-Marsh from here – so it is important to leave here*

no later than 6:30pm in order to catch the last train (at 21:50 as of September 2018).

65. From in front of the pub (with it at your back), cross over the tarmac lane and in 20 meters by the phone box *turn right*.
66. In 50 meters at a road junction *turn left* and in 165 meters at another road junction cross over to continue in the same direction.
67. [!] In 300 meters (where the lane levels out) *turn left* at a metal field gate to go over a stile to the right of the gate and follow an unclear path along a stonewall field boundary. *Note the lavender fields to the right and fine views to the left*. In 200 meters cross a stile to carry on along the field boundary.
68. In 360 meters at the right-hand corner of the field, *turn right* through a wooden gate into some woods.
69. In 10 meters *turn right* to follow a public bridleway signpost and in 100 meters emerge from the woods with an open field on the right to continue in the same direction with the woods on your left. In 165 meters bear right with the fence (ignoring a faint path forking left towards a gate) to carry on following the Wyche Way (WW) marker. In 60 meters go through a metal gate to continue along the Wyche Way with a field and wire fence on the right. In 80 meters go through a metal field gate to carry along a now potentially overgrown path with hedges on the right and a stonewall and field on the left, eventually passing a timber yard on the right.
70. In 180 meters, *turn left* on a tarmac lane
71. In 120 meters at a T-junction with another tarmac lane *turn left*. In 370 meters at a road junction with a Broadway 3 1/2 signpost, **you have a choice:**

- a. For the **Main Walk** (a further 4.5 or 7.5 miles/7.2 or 12.1 kilometers back to Blockley and Moreton-in-Marsh respectively), carry on straight ahead and continue with instruction 72; and
 - b. For the **Broadway Ending** (a further 3.5 miles/5.6 km to Broadway – note if it is after 4:30 PM you will not catch the last bus (at 17:53 as of September 2018), so you will either need to carry on with the Main Walk or call a taxi to collect you in Broadway), *turn left* and pick up the **Broadway Ending** instructions at the end of the Main Walk instructions.
72. In 330 meters where the lane curves to the left, [!] *turn right* to follow an unclear footpath (initially potentially overgrown in the summer – but becoming clearer as you progress) marked with a public footpath sign initially along the woods, then into the woods (your direction 150°).
73. In 80 meters go over a substantial ladder stile over a stonewall and *turn left* as indicated by a footpath arrow. In 130 meters cross over a dirt farm track to carry on in the same direction [!] aiming for a hard to see stile in the fence ahead (*note the stile is in the portion of the fence slightly towards the right which is lower than the rest of the fence and has three wooden cross rails*) with a marker at its left (your direction due East or 90°) and passing to the right-hand side of a mini pylon pole. In 100 meters cross over the stile into the field to carry on in the same direction, as indicated by the footpath arrow (still 90°). In 100 meters pass to the right of a utility pole *and veer slightly to the left* (your direction now 80°) across a very large field without a clear path (and potentially some long grass) aiming for a point about 100 meters to the left of the end of a line of trees on the right on the far side of the field and for a wooden gate in the stone wall which gradually becomes visible as you approach. In a further 400 meters go through the wooden gate to continue on in roughly the same direction through some large trees for 40 meters then back into an open field.
74. Once in the open field, *veer right* (your direction now 110°) to in 40 meters pass to the right of a utility pole to continue ahead downhill following a footpath arrow on the pole. In 210 meters pass to the right of a second utility pole and in a further 50 meters go through a wooden gate into a wood. In 180 meters cross a stile to the right of a wooden field gate to carry on in the same direction across an open field. In 160 meters go over a ladder stile over a stonewall to carry on in the same direction uphill through a wood. In 150 meters cross over a stile to the left of a wooden fence to carry on in the same direction slightly uphill across a field keeping to the left of some trees and aiming just to the right of a lone tree visible on the brow of the hill (your direction 70°). In 150 meters cross over a track and a stile to the left of a water trough to continue in the same direction along the right-hand side of a field with a stone wall on the right. In 540 meters at the end of the field carry on in the same direction (but slightly right) on the clear path into the woods with the cars on the A road visible ahead.
75. In 30 meters at the A road, cross carefully and *turn right* to walk along the grassy verge (the footpath technically runs along the right-hand side of this road – but the grassy verge is wider and smoother on the left-hand side).
76. In 70 meters, at an impressive gate, *turn left* to follow a footpath post (on the opposite

side of the A road) down the tarmac drive.
Note – if the main gate is closed, you can enter through the smaller gate to the left of the main gate. Ignore any no access signs as these refer to cars only, this is a legitimate public footpath through the estate.

77. In 380 meters at a cross paths with a bridleway just before the drive enters the grounds of Upton Wold Farm, *turn left* to follow the bridleway with a stone wall to the right.
78. In 60 meters, at a gap in the stone wall and a footpath post and utility pole on the right with a footpath arrow *turn right* along the right-hand side of a field with a stone wall on the right.
79. In 400 meters *turn right* through a gap in the stone wall with an ornate stone gateway on the right and cross over a tarmac track following a public footpath marker on a post on the right down the right-hand side of a field with a stone wall on the right.
80. In 100 meters at the bottom right-hand corner of the field curve around to the left with a track along the edge of the field.
81. In [!] 15 meters, *turn right* to go through a wooden gate and *turn half left* to carry on in the direction indicated by the public footpath arrow on the gate aiming for the left-hand bottom of the dip in the grassy field (your direction 130°). In 200 meters at the bottom of the valley, go through a wooden gate to carry on ahead across the bottom of the next field with a small wood to the left.
82. In 270 meters go through a wooden kissing gate into a wooded area and, in a further 10 meters, at a wide dirt track, *turn right*. In 10 meters ignore a track off to the left to carry on ahead along the main track as it goes downhill in a wooded area. In 100 meters ignore a track off to the right by a large brown gate to carry on downhill along a wide track through a wooded valley. In 260 meters cross a stile to the right of a wooden field gate to carry on in the same direction along a tarmac lane with some outlying houses of Blockley. In 160 meters ignore a track with a green barrier joining from the right (this is the incoming route for the **Shorter Circular Walk**).
83. In 100 meters at a T-junction with a more substantial road, *turn left* to walk into the village of **Blockley**.
84. In 75 meters, at a public footpath sign post on the right-hand side, *turn right* to go down a narrow tarmac path initially between houses, then stonewalls.
85. In 90 meters at a T-junction with a car wide shingle track, *turn right* to go steeply uphill.
86. In 100 meters *veer left* with the track where the it levels out (ignoring another track joining from the right).
87. [!] In 60 meters at a gap in a low stonewall on the left with a public footpath sign, *turn left* off the track to follow the footpath along the left-hand edge of a small open field as it gradually curves around to the right going slightly downhill.
88. In 140 meters go over a stile onto a busy main road where you *turn left*. In 10 meters cross the road carefully and *turn left* again to follow the public footpath sign (Heart of England Way) along a footpath that runs parallel to the road between some hedges.
89. In 100 meters, you emerge at a T-junction with a wide stony track sign posted as a public footpath (Heart of England Way) and here **you have a choice**:
 - a. to directly carry on with the route back to Moreton-in-Marsh, *turn right* to go gently uphill on the wide

stony track and continue with instruction 90; or

- b. if you have time and want refreshments at the pub or plan to catch a bus or taxi from Blockley, carry-on straight ahead along the road – the **Great Western Arms** will be about 250 meters ahead on the right and the bus stop about 200 meters ahead on the left-hand side of the road.

90. In 70 meters go through a metal field gate (or over a stile to its left) into a field to carry on in the same direction on the left-hand side of the field with field boundary hedges on your left.

91. In 100 meters pass through another field gate (or go over a stile to its right) at a field boundary and *veer half right* in the direction of a footpath arrow on the gate with Heart of England and Monarch's Way markers to carry on diagonally up across the field. In 175 meters cross a stile to continue uphill in the same general direction as indicated by the footpath markers (Heart of England and Monarch's Way) towards a marker post visible 60 meters ahead and continue to follow the line of marker posts up the hill.

92. In 420 meters, at the top of the hill in the upper left-hand corner of the field, cross a stile to the left of a metal field gate and *turn left* to follow Heart of England and Monarch's Way sign posts along the crest of the ridge with Blockley down in the valley on the left-hand side. *Don't forget to look back and admire the view and breathe a sigh of relief at having just completed the last climb of the day.....*

93. In 100 meters, pass through a wooden gate and *turn right* following a footpath sign post with a Monarch's Way sign to go along the right-hand edge of a field with a line of

trees on your right. In 260 meters pass by a field boundary on the left to carry on in the same direction along a farm track with a wall on the right. In a further 170 meters pass through a usually open metal field gate to continue in the same direction still following the Heart of England and Monarch's Way along a car wide dirt track for another 45 meters up to a T-junction with a road. Cross over the road and follow the public footpath signs (Heart of England Way and Monarch's Way) over a stile to the right of a wooden gate and stone wall to carry on in the same direction eventually downhill with a wall on your left.

94. In 420 meters at a footpath post on the right continue straight ahead over a path with a wooden gate to the left still following the Heart of England and Monarch's Way. In a further 35 meters the path joins a wider car wide track where you *turn left* to carry on downhill with the valley ahead of you on the right.

95. In 340 meters, at a fork in the track with a public footpath sign (Heart of England and Monarch's Way markers), *take the right-hand fork* (the narrower of the options). In 30 meters, cross a stile into a field to follow the Heart of England/Monarch's Way in the same direction gently downhill through a meadow (with evidence of **ridge and furrow** agriculture to the right).

96. In 150 meters pass through a wooden gate to the left of a wooden field gate and *turn right* along the grassy verge of a tarmac lane and in 5 meters *turn left* to cross the lane and pass through a wooden gate in 10 meters to cross another meadow still following the Monarch's Way footpath (with more evidence of **ridge and furrow** agriculture in the field to the right). In 120 meters veer slightly left with the path and in a further 120 meters continue over a

little wooden bridge before a wooden kissing gate to continue in the same direction on a clear path across the next field still on the Heart of England/Monarch's Way aiming for the left corner of the field. In 180 meters pass through a wooden kissing gate to carry on in the same direction with a barbed wire fence and field boundary on the left-hand side. In 250 meters cross over a narrow stone bridge with metal railings to carry on in the same direction. In a further 40 meters pass over a two-plank bridge and pass through a wooden kissing gate to carry on in the same direction through another meadow with the path curving slightly left. In 140 meters go through wood railings to carry on in the same direction still following a Monarch's Way footpath marker. In 150 meters, pass through a wooden gate to continue in the same direction now on a broad path across a field with a steeple in Moreton-in-Marsh directly ahead of you. In another 260 meters pass through another wooden kissing gate to carry on in the same direction. In 100 meters pass a redundant/broken wooden kissing gate on the left to carry on in the same direction still following the Monarch's Way. In 110 meters go through a wooden kissing gate and cross over a 3-plank bridge to carry on towards a footpath post.

97. In 50 meters at the footpath post, *turn left* through a wooden kissing gate in a gap in the boundary hedges on the left-hand side and then *turn right* to continue along the right-hand side of the next field with boundary hedges on the right heading towards the buildings of Moreton-in-Marsh.
98. In 100 meters follow the path as it *veers half left* through the field. In 150 meters pass through a metal kissing gate to continue down a gravel path with

allotments on the left and hedges on the right. In 100 meters, cross a tarmac lane and continue down a tarmac lane to reach the High Street of Moreton-in-Marsh in a further 90 meters with a variety of post walk refreshments available, including a **Coop** immediately on your right and **Hassan Balti**, an Indian restaurant, 200 meters to the left on the left. To go directly to the **Station**, cross the slip road and *turn left* through a parking/market area to cross the High Street at the street lights. After crossing the High Street *turn left* along the pavement and then in 60 meters shortly past the ASK restaurant, *turn right* to retrace your steps from this morning back to the Station. Alternatively, enjoy some refreshments along the High Street and then make your way to the Station.

99. For those going to **Hassan Balti**, coming out of the restaurant, *turn left*. In 50 meters when the slip road curves right towards the High Street, cross the High Street and *turn left* along the pavement with a wall on the right and in 20 meters follow the pavement around to the right onto a tarmac path with a grocery store for any last minute train supplies 20 meters on the left. In a further 40 meters you emerge into the car park for the Station. Trains to London are on the far platform.

Broadway Ending:

1. In 165 meters at a wooden sign post with a walking figure, *turn left* to go through a wooden gate.
2. In 25 meters at a T-junction with a wider track, [!] *turn right* (ignoring a footpath arrow on a post ahead pointing left) to carry along the track running parallel to the road in the wood with a slope to the left for approximately 780 meters until you emerge from the wood through a gap in a

stonewall. *Note: The status of this track is somewhat unclear – but it is obviously used quite regularly. As an alternative, you could carry along the tarmac lane for 780 meters where the public footpath re-emerges onto this lane (at point 3 below (the alternate option in parentheses)).* **In more detail:** In 30 meters the track starts to descend a bit and in a further 80 meters where another track joins from the left continue ahead in the same direction now slightly uphill. In 65 meters, you pass a wooden field gate on the right heading back to the lane and the path continues ahead curving to the left and going slightly downhill. In a further 275 meters follow the path as it curves right towards the lane slightly uphill with a small structure barely visible in the wood to the left and in 100 meters you pass a gap in the wall on the right with a tree across the opening. [!] In a further 160 meters just before the path dips slightly into an area where some large items have been discarded, *veer left* (your direction 320°) onto a small path going slightly uphill further into the thicket. In 30 meters follow this indistinct path around to the right and in a further 45 meters emerge through a gap in a stonewall towards the left into a small open grassy area. *If you miss this left veer, you will pass through an area with discarded items to arrive at a locked gate in 40 meters. If you turn left and walk along the wall for 20 meters or so, you should arrive at a point where there is a crumbled section of wall over which you can cross to arrive into the same open grassy field.*

3. If emerging into the grassy field on the recommended route, *turn right* and in 10 meters *take the left-hand fork* across the grassy field. In 130 meters go through a wooden gate to the right of a metal field gate and *turn left* to go slightly downhill on

the tarmac lane. (Alternatively, you can follow the footpath uphill with the stonewall on your right to cross over a stile and emerge onto a lane in 50 meters where you *turn left* and in 200 meters you arrive at the main entrance for **Broadway Tower** where, time permitting, you can visit the café and gift shop to the left (where you also buy tickets for the tower) or, if not planning a visit, *veer right* to go through a large black deer gate and pick-up with point 5 below).

4. In 40 meters *turn right* through a wooden kissing gate following a Cotswold Way Circular Walk marker and carry on *half right* uphill towards a building on the right. In 120 meters go through a black metal kissing gate to emerge near the **Broadway Tower** carpark with the ticket office and **Morris & Brown Café** ahead in 20 meters. *Note: If visiting Broadway Tower, it is recommended to buy a ticket here. If not planning on visiting the tower or after you have purchased your ticket, carry on along a wide shingle track past the café to emerge onto a tarmac drive in 40 meters where you continue ahead and in a further 30 meters veer half-left to go through a tall black deer gate near the entrance to **Broadway Tower**.*
5. In 60 meters, you pass to the right of a memorial on the site of a 1943 bomber crash and in a further 100 meters you arrive at the impressive **Broadway Tower**, a folly built in 1798 atop **Beacon Hill** – the second highest point in the Cotswold. After admiring the Tower and its stunning view and visiting with the local deer herd, pass through the black metal deer gate located just beyond the tower on its right and *turn left* to follow the Cotswold Way downhill. *Note: If you would like to make a slight diversion to see the visible portions of the nuclear bunker – rather than turning left*

*continue ahead through a wooden gate and veer right up the hill and walk along the top right-hand edge of the field with a stone wall on the right. In 150 meters, you will arrive at a portion of the field over the wall on the right which is enclosed with a wire fence with a few structures – this is where the nuclear bunker is located. A Cold War relic used by the Royal Observer Corps to monitor nuclear activity. The underground interior is 18x22 feet. After your visit, return to the wooden gate and turn right to go downhill on the Cotswold Way. In 100 meters go through a wooden gate to continue in the same direction downhill with a stonewall on the right and **Broadway** visible ahead in the valley. In a further 280 meters go through a wooden gate to continue following the Cotswold Way downhill. In 200 meters and again in another 200 meters go through wooden gates to carry on in the same direction downhill on the Cotswold Way. In a further 200 meters go through another wooden gate to carry on in 10 meters down some steep steps on the Cotswold Way. At the bottom of the steps carry on ahead downhill in the same direction along the Cotswold Way. In 200 meters go through a wooden gate and carry on in the same direction downhill along the left-hand side of an open field (with some small trees and bushes now dotting the open field) following a footpath signpost to Broadway on the left with a wire fence and tree line on the left aiming for a wooden post ahead (at 320°). In 120 meters pass the footpath post to carry on in the same direction downhill. In a further 100 meters go through a metal gate to carry on in the same direction still on the Cotswold Way.*

6. **[!]** In 65 meters at a footpath post on the left, *ignore the Cotswold Way arrow and*

continue downhill in the same direction along the public footpath on the left-hand side of an open field dotted with small trees and bushes. In 100 meters pass a footpath post on the left to carry on in the same direction and in a further 20 meters the path goes between some small trees. In 50 meters go through a metal gate to emerge from the trees into another field to carry on in the same direction along the left-hand side of the field (ignoring a footpath going diagonally right across the field).

7. In 150 meters in the lower left-hand corner of the field go through another metal kissing gate and *veer half-right* across this next field (ignoring the footpath ahead along the left-hand side of the field). In 160 meters go through a metal kissing gate to carry along ahead following a footpath arrow with a playground on the right and a pasture on the left. In 125 meters, the path becomes shingle and gravel and continues ahead between stone walls (one high and one low).
8. In 40 meters, emerge onto the High Street of **Broadway** with the **Horse & Hound** directly ahead for post walk refreshments. For the bus stop *turn left* (or right if leaving the **Horse & Hound**), it is 75 meters along the road on the right just before the **Lygan Arms**, another rather posh spot for a drink. Time permitting, you could explore the other shops and hostelryes along the High Street. In addition to the Horse & Hound, the **Swan Inn** a further 100 meters past the bus stop on the right is a pleasant option.

Shorter Circular Walk:

1. In 50 meters continue uphill into a light wood along a stony dirt track. In 190 meters towards the top of the hill at a footpath post where the path begins to level out *take the left-hand fork* to follow the footpath

arrow along a wide track in the woods along the top of the hill. Ignore all ways off as the path gently contours around to the right.

2. In 760 meters go through a wooden gate to emerge into an open grassy field and follow the public bridleway arrow on the gate to contour along the left-hand side of the field with a valley becoming visible below to the left. As you continue to contour around stay above the valley with an arable field off to your right (about 30-40 meters away).
3. In 500 meters you come to the crest of a dip with a line of small trees and bushes leading down to the valley on the left and a metal field gate with a stile to its right visible to the right in the bottom of the dip, *veer half-right* aiming for the metal field gate.
4. In a further 50 meters *turn right* to go through the metal field gate (or cross the stile) to continue up the left-hand side of the arable field following a white footpath arrow on the gate.
5. In 160 meters at the top left-hand corner of the field with a stonewall on the left go through the wooden gate onto a farm track and *turn right*. In 25 meters follow the farm track as it curves around to the left. In 200 meters (about 10 meters before a large conifer windbreak) *veer left* with the farm track, staying to the left of the large trees.
6. In 100 meters at the end of the line of conifers and a T-junction with another farm track, *turn left*.
7. In 50 meters *turn right* to pass through a wooden gate in a stone wall to carry along the top left-hand edge of a field which slopes down to the right. In 300 meters continue ahead through a wooden gate and *veer half-right* diagonally down across the next grassy field aiming for the lower left-hand corner if looking downhill in the field having turned half-right (NOT the upper left-hand which would require veering left

and also ignoring the stile more directly right). In 200 meters (about 20 meters before the lower left-hand corner of the field) *veer right* to go over a stile to the right of a metal field gate following a public bridleway arrow now downhill between trees. In 40 meters continue along the car-wide slightly rutted track as it curves to the right downhill towards a metal field gate.

8. In 30 meters go through the metal field gate and *turn left* to follow a clear path along the left-hand side of an undulating field with a stone wall and wooden and wire fence to the left and some small trees/bushes to the right.
9. In 180 meters after going slightly uphill still with a wire and wood fence to the left, go through a metal field gate to emerge in 5 meters onto a tarmac lane which you cross and *turn left and immediately right* to head in largely the same direction as before down a tarmac drive with a Far Upton Wold Private Drive sign post with a public footpath arrow. In 100 meters continue straight ahead passing some farm buildings, the one on the left being habitable and the ones on the right somewhat less so.
10. In 60 meters pass the last structure on the right and go over a cattle grid (or through a wooden field gate adjacent to it) to carry on slightly to the right along the grass to the right of the tarmac drive and left of a boggy stream aiming towards the right-hand side of a group of trees sticking into the field from the left. About 10 meters before the trees, cross over the boggy area in the field and carry on slightly to *the right and then left* basically around the group of trees eventually aiming for a wooden gate and stile ahead (your direction due North – once over the boggy bit and standing flush with the end of trees in the bottom of the valley). *Do not head up the right side of the*

valley – but continue ahead in the bottom with the trees on your left initially. In 80 meters go through the wooden gate, now with stonewall and little wood on your right-hand side and an open field on the left. In 140 meters go through a metal field gate to carry on in the same direction along a farm track that runs along the right-hand edge of a field with a wire fence on the right.

11. In 35 meters pass through a metal field gate to continue ahead uphill on the left-hand side of a field with a wire fence to the left. *Note: If for some reason the gate is locked, you can also walk up the left side of the fence and pass back across through a wooden field gate at the end of the field – the right of way, however, is on the right-hand side.*
12. In 390 meters go over a stile to the left of a metal field gate to emerge onto a busy A road where you *turn right* to walk along the grassy verge.
13. In 20 meters cross the road with care to follow a public footpath sign down a clear path through a wooden gate into a small wood. In 25 meters where a track joins from the left *veer slightly right and then left* to emerge in 10 meters into a large arable field with some lovely views straight ahead. Carry on straight ahead along the farm track between fields. In 260 meters at the far end of the field where another farm track joins from the left, continue straight ahead through some field hedge boundaries in the same direction along a wide farm track gently downhill. In 200 meters carry on straight ahead on the farm track as you pass through a gap in some boundary walls and hedges, now with some boundary hedges on the left and a field on the right.
14. In 180 meters pass by Warren Farm Cottage on your left-hand side and carry along the

track as it curves to the left and right and left again to continue in largely the same direction downhill ultimately with a boundary hedge on the left and a field on the right. *Ignore the farm track that goes off to the right slightly uphill!* In 80 meters the boundary hedge on the left falls away and you are now walking between arable fields. In 100 meters carry on straight ahead downhill on the track which begins to narrow as you enter a light wood with the track ultimately curving to the right with a drop to the left.

15. In 200 meters pass to the left of a green barrier to carry on ahead to join a tarmac lane in 10 meters where you *turn right* with the buildings of Blockley ahead. *The longer circular route joins here coming in along the tarmac lane to the left.*
16. In 100 meters at a T-junction with another tarmac lane, *turn left*.
17. In 75 meters at a public footpath sign post on the right-hand side, you **have a choice**:
 - a. to by-pass the amenities of Blockley, *turn right* following the footpath sign along a tarmac path between buildings and pick up with the Main Walk instructions at point 85; or
 - b. to visit the church or the **Blockley Shop & Café** or to catch a bus carry on ahead and with instruction 18.
18. In 350 meters at a T-junction with a lane coming up on the right, continue ahead (ignoring the Heart of England Way footpath sign) to pass the Crown Inn on the left-hand side in 40 meters. In a further 80 meters where the lane forks right to the church, carry on straight along Bell Lane between stone buildings. In 50 meters you arrive at the **Blockley Shop & Café**. To catch the bus, *turn left* to walk up the left-hand side of the village green towards the

stone bus shelter on the right at the top of the green in 100 meters.

19. If you are finishing the walk to Moreton-in-Marsh from the **Blockley Shop & Café**, *turn left* leaving the café to take the concrete pathway towards the church. In 45 meters in front of the church, *turn left* at the T-junction to walk downhill with the church on your right-hand side. In 45 meters pass through a metal barrier to *veer right* down a steep tarmac drive with a railing on the side to emerge in 40 meters onto a main road.

On the main road, **you have a choice:**

- a. to visit the **Great Western Arms** pub, *turn left* and the pub will be about 50 meters down the road on the right (leaving the pub retrace your steps back); or
- b. to continue with the walk, cross the road and *turn right* and in 210 meters (65 meters past a road with a Pasture Farm arrow), *fork left* at a public footpath post marked with Heart of England and Monarch's Way emblems along an initially wide stony track gently uphill (ignoring the small path continuing ahead parallel to the road) and continue with point 90 in the Main Walk Instructions.