

MWW website directions – stage 2, Kingston Deverill to Horningsham

Maps: OS Landranger 183, OS Explorer 143

Distance: 4 miles (6.4 km)

West to east

If starting in Kingston Deverill, take the road off the B3095 signposted to Maiden Bradley, passing Bell Cottage on L after a junction.

If continuing from last stage, turn L at T junction to pass Bell Cottage on your L.

When the road bends sharp L, go R down the lane marked by a sign saying “Ford, 550 yards”. Soon reach a gate on the L; pass through this, ascend the first field with fence to L, then follow track ascending to R. Soon after, veer off to the L on a faint track going due north. Pass to the L of a short line of trees forming a V with another line of trees in the middle of the field and aim for the lone tree on the horizon. On arrival, pass through the gate at its side marked by a red and white metal pole, and turn L with fence on L.

Follow the fence for approx. 1 ½ miles (2.4 km) along the ridge, ascending to a beacon on a hill top, then descending and climbing again. Shortly before reaching the end of the fence, strike out across the field towards the wood on your R. Go through the gate and follow the path, initially slightly uphill, then downhill, quite steeply towards the end, to emerge into another field at the bottom. Note a memorial stone at this point about 20 metres to the R. Go down the field edge, with fence to L, to another gate, then along a tree-lined path to a quiet country road. Continue on the bridleway slightly to the L to reach a metalled road on a bend. Turn L here, then R at the first junction, signposted Longleat, Warminster and Salisbury, then L at the junction very soon after. The stage finishes after 375 metres at an old-fashioned red phone box on the L.

To terminate in Horningsham, do not turn R at first junction but continue along this road, which becomes Horningsham’s lengthy main street, past church (on R) to eventually arrive at the Bath Arms pub.

East to west

If starting in Horningsham, head east from the Bath Arms along the village’s lengthy main street, past the church (on L) and past a signposted junction.

If continuing from last stage, with the old-fashioned red phone box where you finished the last stage on your R, walk along the metalled road until you reach a T junction. Turn R here, then L at the next T junction shortly afterwards, signposted to Longbridge Deverill, Shearwater and Shaftesbury.

After a few moments, as the road bends L, turn R onto a bridleway just past the Warminster place name. On reaching a quiet country road, cross it and continue on another bridleway slightly to the L. Here trees briefly line the route, but after going through a gate it continues along the side of a field with a hedge to the R, ascending gradually. Just before going through another gate to enter woods, note a memorial stone about 20 metres to the L.

Follow the path uphill, quite steeply at first, through the woodland. It levels out at the top and then descends a little to reach a gate. Keep going in the same direction across a field towards a fence along the ridge top in front of you. On reaching this, turn L and follow the fence east-south-east for approx. 1½ miles (2.4 km). On the way, descend then ascend to a beacon on the hill top. Shortly after this, ignore a track veering off to the L towards a trig point. Arrive at a gate in the fence on your right, just past a lonely tree, with a red and white metal pole beside it (OS Explorer map reference 849 380). Go through this and turn half right downhill, aiming just to the R of the bottom of a V formed by two lines of trees in the middle of the field, directly in line with a house in Kingston Deverill below. Shortly after passing the trees, turn R onto a track which takes you to the field corner, then go L down the next field edge with fence to R to reach a gate in the corner. Go through this onto a narrow metalled road at the bottom of the ridge. Turn R and, on reaching a junction, turn L to enter Kingston Deverill.

If finishing in Kingston Deverill, reach the B3095 at the T junction ahead.

If continuing on next stage, turn R just before reaching the main road, immediately after Bell Cottage.