

MWW website directions – stage 3, Horningsham to Upton Scudamore

Maps: OS Landranger 183, OS Explorer 143

Distance: 7.2 miles (11.5 km)

West to east

If starting from Horningsham, proceed east down its lengthy main street, past the church (on L) and take the turning on the L signposted Longleat, Warminster and Salisbury. Turn L at the junction very soon afterwards, and in 375m pass an **old fashioned phone box** on L.

If continuing from last stage, follow the road round to the R opposite the **old fashioned phone box** mentioned in stage 2, with houses 17, 18 & 19 on your L, and proceed uphill. When this road turns L, continue up the bridleway to reach the road from Horningsham to the Longleat/Cley Hill roundabout. Turn L onto this road and follow it, with care, for 1.6 miles (2.5 km), past the Heaven's Gate car park (on R), Batsford Timber, the entrance to Longleat (on L) and Center Parcs (on R) until it arrives at the roundabout. Turn L here (ignoring the entrance to Longleat for fast track ticket holders!), signposted Frome and Corsley Heath, A362, and after 400 metres or so turn R to get to the National Trust car park for Cley Hill. Proceed along the track past the car park, through a R/L kink and up to a kissing gate at the base of the hill. Please read the signs to ensure you ascend the hill by a route least likely to cause further erosion. The trig point at the top probably affords the best views. When you have had your fill of these, return to the kissing gate where you came in, making your descent to the south-east to comply with the National Trust's wishes to avoid the most eroded slopes.

When you reach the kink in the track, turn L onto a wooded path to the R of fields. After 300 metres, ascend the left hand bank to cross a stile at the top. Turn R and pass along the edge of two further fields to reach a minor concreted road. Here turn L, then R at a T junction to pass under the A36/A350. Shortly after this, turn L onto the Bugley road into Warminster. After approx. 450m and not far past a letter box, take a track on your L signposted "Footpath". Follow this round to the L and along the edge of a field with hedge to L to emerge onto the A350 via a stile. Turn R and walk beside the A350 for 500 metres until you reach a layby. Cross over the stile at the back of the layby and go along the left hand edge of a field before crossing it to turn L onto a wooded path. Soon go over a stile and cross two fields to pass to the L of Cross House Farm via another stile. Continue in the same direction on a path through trees to go over a half-stile very near the entrance to the farm, then go down the metalled road beyond to arrive at another of the roads, the B3414, leading into Warminster. Here turn L to arrive at a roundabout on the A350.

Take the third exit from the roundabout, signposted Chippenham, A350 and Trowbridge (A363) and almost at once cross a stile to the L. Cross over three fields on the other side connected by two small footbridges to arrive at another footbridge, this time over a railway, on your R, which you cross. Continue over the field beyond to reach a metalled road on the outskirts of Upton Scudamore. Turn R (effectively straight on) on this road, then take the first turn L, just before reaching the church. Stroll along this lane to arrive at the Angel Inn on your R.

East to west

Pass to the R of the Angel Inn and turn R at the T junction beyond. Where the road bends to the R, cross over the stile on the L and head for the railway bridge on the other side of the field. Turn L after crossing it. Pass over three fields connected by two small bridges to arrive at a roundabout on the A350. Take the first exit off the roundabout, signposted Warminster, B3414, and after 300 metres turn R onto the lane to Croft House Farm. Go over a half-stile at the end of this lane, and go L on the path through trees, as indicated by the yellow arrows, with the farm to your L. Go over a stile and across two fields to reach a wooded path. Cross the field beyond this and continue to the L of the wood on the other side to emerge in a layby on the A350.

Turn L and walk on the grass verge beside the A350 for 500 metres. Turn L over a stile and proceed along the track beyond with hedge to R. Keep on the track when it bends R to arrive at a metalled road which leads into Warminster. Turn R along this road towards Bugley; after a few minutes take the track leading off it to the R and pass under the A350. Immediately after this turn L, and soon arrive at a stile on the R. Go over this and proceed along the edge of two fields. Quite soon after entering the third field, look for a stile on the L. Cross this and descend onto a wooded path which, after 300 metres, comes out on the track from the National Trust car park for Cley Hill to the hill itself. Turn R here and pass through the kissing gate at the base of the hill. Please read the signs to ensure you ascend the hill

by a route least likely to cause further erosion. The trig point at the top probably affords the best views. When you have had your fill of these, return to the kissing gate where you came in, making your descent to the south-east to comply with the National Trust's wishes to avoid the most eroded slopes. Having passed through the kissing gate, proceed down the track to the car park via a R/L kink. Turn L onto the A362, and arrive at the roundabout after 400 metres or so.

Take the second exit off the roundabout, signposted Horningsham and walk 1.6 miles (2.5 km) along this road past Center Parcs (to L), Batsford Timber, the entrance to Longleat (to R) and the Heaven's Gate car park (to L). After negotiating a couple of bends in the road, and after Nockatt Coppice car park to L, at the end of the wood on the R turn R on a bridleway heading downhill. When this joins a road, continue in the same direction to a T junction, on the other side of which is a red, old-fashioned phone box.

If terminating in Horningsham, continue past the old fashioned phone box for 375m to reach a T junction. Turn R here, and very soon after turn R again at another junction. This is Horningsham's lengthy main street and will eventually lead you, past church on R, to the Bath Arms pub.