

MARLBOROUGH DOWNS CHALLENGE - Short Route

2019

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
0.0	SU183685	START	100
0.1	SU183685	TURN RIGHT over small bridge. *** PRIVATE LAND: no access before race ***	120
0.1	SU183684	TURN LEFT on footpath. Continue through bridle gate.	210
0.2	SU185683	Through gap in fence (marshalled) then TURN LEFT beside fence. TURN RIGHT up gully.	310
0.4	SU185681	At top, TURN RIGHT. Keep to top of hill with hedge on your left. Continue STRAIGHT ON over gully and through woods.	1,100
1.0	SU175680	Over two stiles, then BEAR LEFT diagonally uphill across field to far corner.	200
1.2	SU174679	Over "stile" (like a small horse jump), then continue on footpath around left-hand side of field beside hedge.	180
1.3	SU173677	50yds past left-hand bend, TURN RIGHT on footpath.	290
1.4	SU170676	TURN LEFT on road.	130
1.5	SU171675	TURN RIGHT on track. Follow track into field.	320
1.7	SU168675	TURN LEFT diagonally across field, downhill to hedge aiming for ivy-covered trees.	280
1.8	SU167673	Down bank, over stile then TURN LEFT along top of steep field with fence on your left.	340
2.0	SU167669	Over stile, then 50yds on BEAR RIGHT diagonally downhill to road and entrance to West Woods.	340
2.2	SU165667	Over stile, cross road, then STRAIGHT ON up forest track.	20
2.2	SU165667	Checkpoint 1. Opening times: 09:00 – 11:15	
2.2	SU165667	Leaving Checkpoint, continue up forest track.	260
2.4	SU163666	At signpost on right, TURN LEFT through wooden barrier and up footpath.	270
2.5	SU163664	At track junction, TURN SHARP RIGHT on track.	90
2.6	SU162665	Turn LEFT on footpath.	380
2.8	SU159663	At cross-tracks, continue STRAIGHT ON.	470

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
3.1	SU156660	TURN LEFT on next track, then shortly after, TURN RIGHT at signpost onto footpath, with Wansdyke on your right.	490
3.4	SU154657	At edge of wood, go through wooden posts. TURN RIGHT on track.	750
3.8	SU147654	At bottom of valley, TURN LEFT on bridleway.	1,200
4.5	SU142644	At cross-tracks, BEAR RIGHT onto a footpath running alongside the fence (ignore gate on right and tracks dropping down the hill).	100
4.5	SU141644	BEAR LEFT on footpath, leaving fence.	480
4.8	SU140640	Through bridle gate then BEAR RIGHT uphill on track.	300
5.0	SU138641	Through field gate. TURN LEFT at sign-post.	480
5.2	SU133639	Cross metal stile and follow fence on your right.	600
5.6	SU128638	Over metal stile and continue STRAIGHT ON.	700
6.0	SU122638	Over metal stile beside field gate. Follow grass track, passing Knapp Hill on your left.	650
6.3	SU116636	Through bridle gate then TURN RIGHT on track.	130
6.4	SU115638	Checkpoint 2. Opening times: 09:30 – 12:15	70
6.5	SU115638	Leaving Checkpoint, cross road and through gate. Continue STRAIGHT ON beside fence.	600
6.8	SU112642	BEAR LEFT on track uphill beside fence, through 2 bridle gates to reach Wansdyke.	750
7.2	SU106645	Cross Wansdyke through gap. TURN LEFT through gate to follow Wansdyke on your left.	700
7.6	SU100647	Through gate then TURN LEFT on track. Cross Wansdyke and follow track.	40
7.6	SU099646	TURN RIGHT through gate onto bridleway with Wansdyke on your right. Continue through 2 gates.	2,100
8.8	SU082650	BEAR RIGHT through next gate then BEAR LEFT down track.	250
8.9	SU081652	Checkpoint 3. Opening times: 09:45 – 13:00 Routes divide here.	
8.9	SU081652	TURN RIGHT on track to leave Checkpoint.	800

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
9.4	SU083659	Where track turns sharp right, leave track to go STRAIGHT ON on footpath.	1,400
10.2	SU086671	At wood, continue STRAIGHT ON on track, over next brow and downhill passing barn on your left.	1,800
11.3	SU087687	TURN RIGHT on road.	310
11.4	SU090687	Follow road round left-hand bend.	70
11.5	SU091688	Where road turns sharp right, leave road to go STRAIGHT ON up steps.	30
11.5	SU091688	Cross road (A4) with great care. *** DANGER! Fast-moving traffic *** Go to left of pub into car park.	70
11.5	SU090689	TURN LEFT onto footpath between fences.	150
11.6	SU089690	Cross road (A4361) with great care. *** DANGER! Fast-moving traffic *** STRAIGHT ON on minor road beside houses.	190
11.7	SU089692	At T-junction, TURN LEFT on track.	150
11.8	SU087692	TURN RIGHT on grass track. (33-mile route rejoins here.)	650
12.1	SU089698	Checkpoint 7. Opening times: 10:45 – 15:45	50
12.2	SU089698	Leaving Checkpoint, TURN RIGHT on road.	350
12.4	SU092698	At junction, continue STRAIGHT ON on 'No through road', sign-posted 'Avebury'.	410
12.6	SU096699	At end of road, continue STRAIGHT ON on footpath.	150
12.7	SU097698	BEAR LEFT on path over river bridge.	210
12.8	SU098699	Continue STRAIGHT ON on footpath to churchyard.	50
12.9	SU099699	In churchyard, BEAR RIGHT to lich gate.	60
12.9	SU099698	TURN LEFT on road. Pass public toilets on your left.	220
13.0	SU102699	At junction, continue STRAIGHT ON, crossing main road with great care. *** DANGER! Fast-moving traffic ***	50
13.1	SU103699	Where main road bends sharp left, continue STRAIGHT ON on road signed 'No tourist parking'.	1,000

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
13.6	SU111702	Pass farm buildings on your right, then continue STRAIGHT ON on track uphill to Ridgeway.	1,700
14.6	SU125708	Cross Ridgeway, through bridle gate beside sign-board then STRAIGHT ON on bridleway.	550
14.9	SU130709	Through 2 gates, crossing racehorse gallops, then STRAIGHT ON down gravel track into valley.	310
15.1	SU133709	BEAR LEFT on same gravel track uphill and follow through 2 gates.	1,400
15.7	SU144714	Checkpoint 8. Opening times: 12:00 – 16:45	0
15.8	SU144714	Leaving Checkpoint, STRAIGHT ON, then TURN RIGHT on gravel track, sign-posted 'Fyfield Car Park'.	1,500
16.7	SU153703	At fork, BEAR RIGHT on same gravel track. Continue on track to car park.	900
17.2	SU159699	BEAR LEFT through car park.	90
17.3	SU160700	TURN RIGHT on road.	830
17.7	SU165696	NB DO NOT GO STRAIGHT ON. THIS IS PRIVATE - NO RIGHT OF WAY Stay on ROAD bear right & slightly downhill TURN LEFT onto Concrete road at wide brick wall lined entrance marked BARTON & FYFIELD YARDS / MANTON HOUSE FARM	230
17.9	SU167697	TURN RIGHT at gap in hedge onto grass/gravel track NB electricity poles/lines on Left, 2 large boulders in entrance	420
18.1	SU170695	TURN RIGHT on grass track, sign-posted 'Manton Hollow'.	600
18.5	SU171690	TURN LEFT on footpath, sign-posted 'Barton Farm' (signpost well hidden in trees). Continue along edge of field, keeping hedge on your left.	800
18.9	SU178691	At end of field, TURN RIGHT then TURN LEFT (between two rocks) downhill into valley.	220

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
19.0	SU182692	TURN RIGHT on track.	100
19.1	SU182691	Continue STRAIGHT ON on road.	200
19.2	SU182689	FINISH! Opening times: 12:30 – 17:30	

NB: The Start is in the grounds of Marlborough College, which is strictly private land. There is no access before the event.

If you want to check the route, start at the west end of George Lane, past the new flats, or at Preshute, just east of Marlborough. You can then join the route at grid ref SU183684.