

Northern circular walk ●●●

Discover chalk grassland, box woodland, extensive views, village churches, streams and boxwood objects.

Distance: 3.5 miles; up to 2 hours.

Access information: Mainly un-made paths which can be muddy. One steep ascent and descent, several stiles and steps.

Start/finish: Great Kimble A4010 parking layby or bus stop.

Route description:

1 Take the bridleway signposted off the A4010 Aylesbury Road layby. Walk up the steep hill to reach an kissing gate on your left.

2 (For the combined circular walk, refer to the alternative directions under 2 below). Follow the worn path into Chequers Knap grassland with the perimeter fence on your left and after about 100m two old box trees on your right. Keep to the fence as it curves right and continue straight ahead.

3 Upon reaching a junction of paths and a Ridgeway signpost, turn left to follow the Ridgeway.

4 Pass through the kissing gate on your left to walk along the other side of the valley. Follow the worn path along the edge of the valley and then right, over the top of the hill and down. Look for the gate into the adjacent field.

5 With the fence on your left, walk straight on into the trees to a gate.

6 At the crossroads of tracks, go over the private track and straight ahead along the public footpath into the woods. Head across the open grassland to reach steps down into a valley thick with box.

7 Take care on 58 steps.

8 Pass through the kissing gate and follow the worn path around Beacon Hill and down through fields towards the church. To view the pillow mound, climb Beacon Hill.

9 Go through the gate and take care crossing the road! Enter the churchyard and pass to the left of the church. Go down the steps – take care! Pass through a gate and head straight across the field to a stile (ignore the stile nearby to the right). Now walk ahead to the two kissing gates and take the left gate.

10 Continue straight ahead. Pass through a gate, over a single plank bridge and then through another gate.

11 Walk along the edge of the field with the watercourse on your right. Pass through another gate. Continue along the field edge and, ignoring the field gate, follow the edge of the field round to the left. Go through two gates, taking care on several steps. Cross a stile and keep to the fence on your right.

12 Pass over two stiles to cross a private track near with houses. Head diagonally across the field to find a roadside stile. Turn left along the A4010.

13 Look for a footpath on your left near to the bus stop. Go down this tarmac track between houses and Brookhouse Farm and through a private garden to reach a kissing gate.

14 Head across a series of fields, passing through gates.

15 Reaching the Ellesborough Road, turn right to walk along the pavement and pass Little Kimble church.

16 At the large T junction, turn right along the A4010. Look back to enjoy views of the escarpment and head for Little Kimble train station on the left.

17 Take the footpath signposted to the left of the train station. Pass alongside the railway line and through a gate into a field. Continue along the edge of the field with the railway line on your right to reach a kissing gate on your right in the hedge. Head through this gate to reach a nearby pub or continue the walk by turning left across the field with the railway line behind you.

18 Pass over the stream and through a gate to follow a fenced path. Pass beside the school on your right, through a gate and out onto the road of Great Kimble village.

19 Turn left along the road, taking care as there are no pavements! At the T junction, turn right onto the A4010 to pass Great Kimble church and reach the parking area or bus stop.

Southern circular walk ●●●

Discover a hill fort, chalk grassland, box trees, beech woodland, boxwood objects and historic routeways.

Distance: 3 miles; up to 2 hours.

Access information: Mainly un-made paths that can be muddy. Several steep ascents and descents and several stiles.

Start/finish: Pulpit Hill roadside parking area, near Monks Risborough

Route description:

1 From the roadside parking area, walk with the road on your right along the adjacent track and at a signpost, turn left up the slope. At a crossroad of paths, turn left up the hill along the public footpath. Keep on up the hill until you reach a crossroad with a wide track.

2 Turn left along this wide permissive track.

3 At a crossroads, follow the sign straight ahead to Pulpit Hill hill fort. Follow this permissive track.

4 Follow the sign for the hill fort, turning right along a permissive path with the boundary mound and ditch on your left. Look for a wide, flat entrance on your left into the hill fort.

5 Cross the ditch into the hill fort.

6 Continue into the central flat area of the hill fort and take the right hand fork.

7 Upon exiting the hill fort and finding a steep drop ahead, turn right at the T junction to put the steep slope on your left. Continue along this path to reach a crossroads with a public bridleway .

8 Walk straight ahead over the bridleway to follow a public footpath and pass through a gate. Continue down the hill to reach the corner of the field.

9 (For the combined circular walk, refer to the alternative directions under 9 below). Ignore the stile and gate, turning left to keep the fence on your right.

10 At a Ridgeway signpost, turn right to follow the fenceline along a worn path straight ahead and then left at the corner. Pass two old box trees and reach a gate.

11 Turn left up the bridleway and continue ahead to reach a right turn signposted for the Ridgeway. Climb the steps to a gate.

12 Follow the Ridgeway straight ahead across the Rifle Range grassland and through gates to cross a bridleway into Grangelands grassland. Continue along Ridgeway with the fence on your right.

13 Upon reaching a gate on your right, follow this path down to the Cadsden Road.

14 Turn left, taking care on the road. Pass the pub and find a stile to the left of the pub parking area.

15 Follow the wide track to a junction of numerous paths and take the steepest (middle) path ahead. There are numerous permissive paths in this woodland so take care!

16 Take care on the steep path and head on through woods, ignoring several turnings along forestry tracks and footpaths.

17 Upon reaching a waymarked bridleway, turn left along the bridleway and then almost immediately sharp left again to keep to the bridleway.

18 Continue along the bridleway to reach a junction with a footpath and sunken routeway.

19 Follow the bridleway straight ahead to the Cadsden/Longdown Road.

20 Take care crossing the road and turn left along the track parallel with the road to reach the parking area.

Combined circular walks ●●●●●

Distance: 6 miles; up to 4 hours.

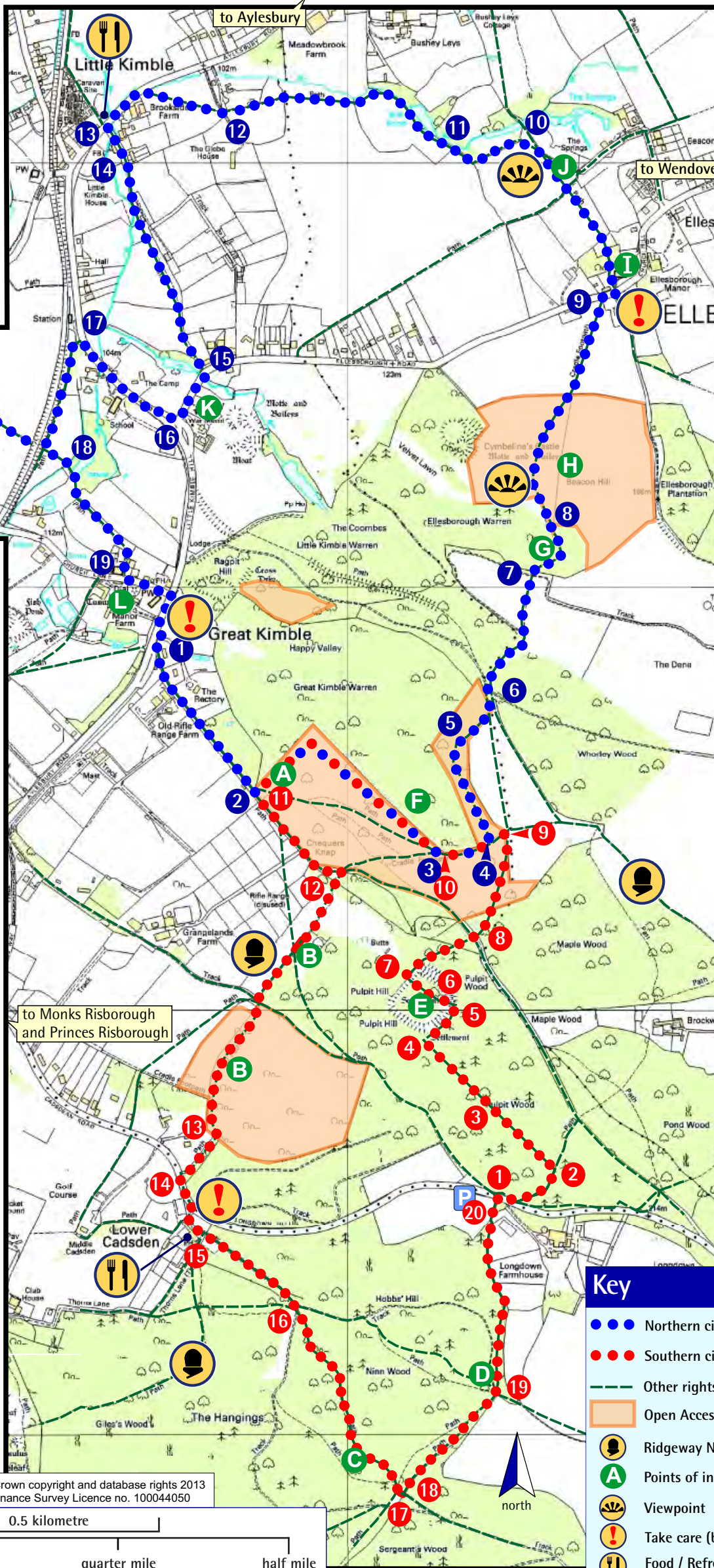
Access information: The walk is mainly on un-made paths that can be muddy. There are several steep ascents and descents, several stiles and steps.

Follow the directions for the southern circular walk from 1 until you reach 9, at which point follow the alternative instructions below for 9. This will take you on to the northern circular walk. Upon reaching 2 on the northern circular walk, follow the alternative instructions below for 2. This will take you back on the southern circular walk to return you to the starting point.

Start/finish: Pulpit Hill roadside parking area, near Monks Risborough

2 Continue up the bridleway until there is a path on your right, signposted for the Ridgeway. Go across the steps to pass through a gate into the Rifle Range. Follow instructions from 12 under the Southern circular walk.

9 Ignore the stile and gate, turning left to keep the fence on your right and then pass through the gate in this fenceline. Follow the worn path across the open grassland along the edge of the valley and then right, over the top of the hill and down the slope into the head of the adjacent valley. Look for the wooden kissing gate which takes you into the adjacent field. Follow instructions from 5 under the Northern circular walk.



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0.5 kilometre

quarter mile

half mile

Key

- Northern circular walk
- Southern circular walk
- Other rights of way
- Open Access land
- Ridgeway National Trail
- Points of interest (see over)
- Viewpoint
- Take care (busy road)
- Food / Refreshments