

MARLBOROUGH DOWNS CHALLENGE 2004 LONG 33 MILE ROUTE

BG Bridle gate	CB Compass bearing	GR Grid reference	SO Straight on	XTK Cross tracks
BL Bear left	CP Checkpoint	LHS Left hand side	TK Track	WDK Wansdyke
BR Bear right	FB Footbridge	RD Road	TL Turn left	(large ditch/rampart)
BW Bridleway	FG Field gate	RHS Right hand side	TR Turn right	

Rough guide	Mile	Detailed Route Description for LONG 33 mile route
Follow arrows	0.3 1.0	<i>TR over small bridge; follow TK 100 yds cross bridge over river. TL on FP. Thru BG and SO to trees. TR through kissing gate and up gully. At top TR. Keep to top of hill with hedge on left. SO for 900 yds. SO across two stiles; BL diagonally across field to far corner. Cross stile, SO along path on LHS of field beside hedge. 50yds past left hand bend TR on path for 300yds to RD (GR171676). TL on RD for 100yds. TR off RD onto TK. Follow TK for 300yds into field.</i>
Follow arrows to West Woods	1.2 2.2	<i>BL diagonally across field (passing LHS of thicket) downhill to hedge. (Aim for ivy covered trees). Through hedge, down bank, over stile, and TL along top of steep field for 250yds. Cross stile, SO for 50yds; BR diagonally down hill to TK/RD junction, entrance to West Woods, CP1.</i>
Go South-West Join and follow WDK (Wansdyke)	2.2 3.1 3.5	<i>Cross RD and up TK for 250yds. At signpost TL beside wooden barrier and up FP. After 150yds FP levels out. 40yds past fallen tree at indistinct cross paths TR on path for 100yds. At TK junction SO up surfaced FP; WDK joins route after 150yds. When surfaced FP turns right, go SO on beside WDK for 600yds. At next TK, TL and TR to follow along other side of WDK. After 500yds at edge of wood, go through wooden barrier (ignore footpath sign on right) and TR on TK. WDK still on right. Follow TK following WDK down into valley.</i>
S-W in valley	3.5	<i>TL on BW leave WDK. Follow BW in valley bottom for 1300yds to group of trees and XTK.</i>
BR into wood to top of hill	4.2	<i>At XTK ignore BG on right, BR along fence (CB 202). After 100yds BL on FP (leave fence) up through woods to BG. Through BG & BR uphill on hardcore TK to FG beside signpost.</i>
West along top of escarpment	4.8 6.3 6.6	<i>TL along top of hill following fence on left. Cross metal stile with FP sign and follow fence on right with escarpment on left. SO at next stile in same direction (CB 269) to meet fence coming in from right. Follow grass TK downhill, cross metal stile beside FG, follow grass TK on right of Knap Hill. Through FG onto TK. TR CP2 (GR 115 638). (Open 9.10am - 12.10pm)</i>
N-W uphill to WDK	6.6 7.2	<i>Cross RD, over stile & SO beside fence CB332 for 500yds, then BL CB295 following TK uphill beside fence, crossing two stiles to reach WDK. Cross WDK & TL following WDK for 700yds.</i>
West on WDK	7.8 9.2	<i>TL on TK. Follow TK for 40yds and TR on bridleway following WDK (either side) for 1.4miles to XTK (GR081652) CP3 (Open 9.40am - 1.15pm) (routes divide here) (after 11.15am you may be asked to divert on to short course)</i>
West along WDK	9.2 10.6	<i>SO thru BG along WDK for 1000yds to TK. SO on WDK (over stiles) for 200yds. TR for 20yds, then TL on TK to pass barns on left, and BL to rejoin WDK. Keep on WDK, cross 3 stiles & at the 4th TL on TK (GR056657). (If water tower is ahead you are on wrong TK!)</i>
S-W on TK to RD. S-W over field. West to white cottage.	10.6 11.5 12.1	<i>After 350yds pass black barn. Follow TK for 1200yds. Go past farm barn (Easton Farm) to RD. TR for 15yds. BL over stile (signed Bishops Cannings). Go diagonally across field CB222 passing electricity pole to reach corner. BR over stile. SO on LHS of field; over stile & FB. SO over next FB. TR and in 40yds TL round RHS of field for 350yds to white thatched cottage.</i>
TL South to canal.	12.1 12.5	<i>Before reaching cottage TL (sharp) on grass TK CB166 across field for 400yds. (<u>Not</u> towards church) At end of field, over FB. BL across field between two oak trees to canal bridge.</i>
TR on tow-path to CP4	12.5 15.6	<i>Cross swing bridge over canal. (Bridge No. 133). TR along towpath for 3 miles, going under 5 bridges. At the 6th bridge (No.139)(GR006618) TR over bridge. CP4 (Open 10.40am - 1.15pm)</i>
N-E on path	15.6 16.2	<i>After 20yds go through iron gates and SO on wide path for 1000yds. Cross road. SO through metal barrier on path with line of trees across open fields for 500yds.</i>
Go North Cross road and uphill. and uphill.	16.5 17.1	<i>Under electric wires, BL (leave TK) follow electricity posts towards hill. Follow path to road. TL along RD for 50yds round left hand bend. 15yds past bend, beside yellow bin TR over stile opposite FP sign. Cross LHS of field to corner beyond dip. BR over stile and up hill past pylon to double gates. Cross RD, SO up steep grass bank on indistinct path for 50yds to top of hill.</i>
East through wood.	17.2 17.5	<i>TR on path along top of hill; 100yds SO through wood (Leipzig Plantation) for 300yds to reach small car park at top of tarmac road (GR015642). Marker post "R1"</i>

N-E on TK	17.5	TL on wide track (towards radio masts). After 1200yds track bears left just after marker post
North on TK	18.7	"R2" (towards house). After 800yds reach XTK. TR, pass "R3" and after 600yds reach RD
at XTK TR	19.1	Cross road carefully. CP5 (GR028660) (Open 11am - 2.45 pm)
North up and over hill to WDK	19.4	TR before cattle grid on TK. After 500yds TL through metal BG. Follow fence on LHS of field for 200yds. Through BG, BR uphill CB20 to BG in shallow re-entrant. Through BG, BL 25yds through BG and BR on CB12 (bisect angle between right mast and fence on right). Over brow of hill aim for LHS of clump of bushes to reach BG. Through BG, TL along WDK for 40yds.
N-W over top and down. Northwards down, down to farm.	19.8	TR beside fence (towards monument in distance). After 50yds TL, pass trough on right. Under electric wires BR on fence line to top of hill. Follow fence downhill and through gate. BL down gully 70yds to TK. SO over stile. Follow hedgerow downhill for 550yds. At wood TR, 40yds to FG. TL and keep left for 40yds to next stile. BR across field, then keep to LHS through electric fence gate. SO & then TL through FG. SO down LHS of paddock, through gate onto RD.
Keep north, down and up to CP6	20.9	TR through FG and past farm. At 'South Farm' wall BL down TK. Cross bridge over stream, then BR up path to reach farm TK. TR up TK. After 60yds leave TK, SO along LHS of field CB16. Through BG and SO to barn (GR 032694). CP6 (Open 11.20 am - 4.00 pm)
Due E up, to monument & White Horse. East to TK, N down TK. TR due East	21.7	TR on TK going east uphill. Over stile at top of TK onto Cherhill Down. SO, follow TK uphill keep to left of copse on top of hill. Cross double fence with gate and stile beside iron post with knob. Go uphill to Cherhill Monument. Follow rampart left to view White Horse. Just above back end of horse BR away from trees (CB102) (aim for Silbury Hill) to fence corner. Follow fence (east) downhill to TK. TL down TK through two FGs passing barn on right. SO downhill, after 200yds TR sharp up TK (after 50yds pass round barrow on right).
Follow TK East to the A4 road	24.6	Follow TK 0.9mile between fences CB106. Through FG onto open ground and after 150yds, BR at XTK for 10yds, TL along grass TK following grass bank on left for 300yds. BL through trees, into gully; follow FP in gully through trees for 400yds to car park. SO to A4 road (GR076692).
A4 for 700yds BL to two big stones. TL on TK to CP7	25.1	Cross RD carefully (fast traffic).
	25.1	BR down pavement CB110 for 700yds. TL & immediately BR along grass TK (signed Windmill Hill & Avebury). Ignore stony TK to right, SO on grass TK, trees on left & hedge on right. After 450yds at TK junction (with two sarsen stones ahead in field) TL on TK. Follow TK NE & then due N for 750yds to barns. CP7 . (Open 11.30am - 4.40pm)
Go due East to Avebury	26.2	TR on RD for 300yds. SO at junction on "No through road" (Bray Street) for 400yds. At end of RD SO on tarmac path. After 100yds SO over river bridge. (Good view of Silbury Hill). SO on FP into churchyard, BR to lich-gate. TL on RD. Pass shop, public toilets and Red Lion.
Straight on ENE	27.1	Cross RD with care. SO on RD signed 'No tourist parking' (CB 70) across Avebury circle. After 5/8 mile pass farm buildings on right. SO on TK for one mile to Ridgeway (GR125708).
Straight on East-North-East	28.7	SO through BG(English Nature sign)on grass bridleway (CB84) across open ground for 550yds to FG; SO through 3 gates, crossing racehorse gallops. SO down gravel TK into valley. BL on same gravel TK uphill through two gates to CP8 (Open 12.20pm - 6.15 pm)
Follow signs to finish	30.2	TR downhill SE. After 1200 yds BR on same TK with triangular grass verge on left. TK joins from R; SO for 700yds to car park (GR159699). BL through car park to RD. TR along RD for 500 yds. <i>SO through gateway on private TK. After 300 yds SO over RD onto grass TK downhill.</i>
	31.5	BL following TK to hedge with signpost. TR down grass path for 600 yds. At signpost TL (signed Barton Farm) and follow grass path on LHS of field downhill and then uphill. At far end of field TR and then TL down into valley. TR to Leisure centre. (GR 182689)
	32.1	
	32.6	
	33.4	

If you want to look at route beforehand, please note there are two places where private tracks are used with special permission for the event. These two sections on private land must not be used at other times.

1. *Start is private and not to be used before the event.* Suggest start at West end of George Lane, beside Citroen Garage; alternatively start at Preshute, just east of Marlborough, and go south up hill to join route.
2. *Part of last two miles (at 31.5 miles) is private land, NO right of way; and not to be used before the event.* Before event day follow road further south and use map to follow rights of way.

Sad note. The area just after CP4 at Devizes has been given planning permission for 250 houses (despite massive local opposition). Enjoy the path through the avenue of trees while you can.