

MARLBOROUGH DOWNS CHALLENGE – SHORT ROUTE (20 MILES)
March 2009

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

Rough guide	Mile	Detailed Route Description for SHORT 20 mile route
Follow arrows (Start is private, avoid before event)	0.3 1.0	<i>TR over small bridge. Follow TK 100yds cross bridge over river. TL on FP. Through BG and SO to trees. TR through kissing gate & BR up gully. At top TR. Keep to top of hill with hedge on left for 900yds (over gully & through wood). SO over two stiles. BL diagonally across field to far corner. BR over stile 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 on TK. Follow TK for 300yds into field.</i>
Follow arrows to West Woods	1.2 2.2	BL diagonally across field (passing LHS of thicket) downhill to hedge, aiming for ivy covered trees. Down bank, over stile, through hedge 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 (GR165667) (open 9.00am - 11.15am)
Go South-West. Join and follow WDK (Wansdyke)	2.2 3.1 3.5	Cross RD and up TK for 250yds. At signpost on right, TL through wooden barrier and up FP. After 150yds FP levels out. At wooden post TR (ignore FP arrow) on indistinct path for 100yds. At TK junction SO on FP; WDK joins route after 150yds. At XTKs, SO beside WDK for 600yds. At next TK, TL then 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 alongside WDK down into valley.
S-W in valley	3.5	TL on BW leaving WDK. Follow BW in valley bottom for 1300yds to group of trees and XTK.
BR into wood to top of hill	4.2 4.8	At XTK ignore BG on right. BR beside fence (CB 202). After 100yds BL on FP (leave fence) up through woods to BG. Through BG & BR uphill on TK 300yds to FG and then signpost.
West along top of escarpment	4.8 6.3 6.6	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 (GR115638) (open 9.30am - 12.15pm)
N-W up hill to WDK	6.6 7.2	Cross RD through gate. SO beside fence (CB 332) for 500yds. BL (CB 295) on TK uphill beside fence, over two stiles to reach WDK. Cross WDK. TL follow WDK on your left for 700yds.
West on WDK	7.8 9.2	TL on TK. Cross WDK & follow TK for 40yds. TR on TK beside WDK (possible gate). Follow WDK for 1 mile through two BGs. BR through FG. BL down TK (GR081652) CP3 (open 10.00am - 1.00pm)
North to Beckhampton	9.2 11.5	(Routes divide.) TR on TK heading just East of North towards trees in distance. After ½ mile (where TK turns right) SO on FP (leave TK). Follow FP on LHS of field. At wood, SO on TK over brow of next hill and downhill passing barn on left. SO on TK to RD junction.
	11.6 11.8	TR along RD for 300yds. Go round left hand bend. After 50yds leave RD and go SO up steps. Cross RD (A4) with great care – fast traffic . Go to left of pub into car park. TL & follow FP between fences for 200yds. Cross RD (A4361) with great care . SO on minor RD beside houses.
N-W, then N, then N-E	12.0 12.5	At T-junction, TL on TK. After 100yds TR on grass TK. (33 mile route rejoins here.) Follow TK NE & then due N for 750yds to barns. CP7 (GR089698) (open 11.45am - 3.45pm)
Due East to Avebury	12.6 13.5	TR on RD for 300yds. SO at junction on "No through road" (signed Avebury) 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 public toilets. At grass triangle cross main road with care on first corner. BL along narrow grass verge.
Straight on, ENE	13.5 15.1	SO on RD signed 'No tourist parking' (CB 070) across Avebury circle. After 5/8 mile pass farm buildings on right. SO on TK for one mile to Ridgeway (GR125708).
Straight on, ENE	15.1 16.5	SO through BG ("Welcome to Fyfield Down") on grass bridleway (CB 084) 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 2 gates to CP8 (GR143714) (Open 12.10pm - 4.45pm)
Follow signs to Finish (Part private, take another	16.6 17.9 18.5	TR on TK just after CP8, SE (signed Fyfield Car Park). After 1200yds BR on same TK with triangular grass verge on left. Continue on TK, BL to car park (GR159699). BL through car park to RD. TR along RD for 500yds. <i>SO through gateway on private TK. After 300yds SO over RD onto grass TK. BL following TK to hedge with signpost. TR down grass path for 600yds. At</i>

route before day of event)	19.0 19.8	signpost TL (signed Barton Farm) and follow grass path on LHS of field downhill and then uphill. At far end of field TR then TL downhill into valley. TR on TK, SO 220yds to Finish (GR182689) (FINISH CLOSES 5.30pm)
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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 at other times.* Follow road further south and use map to follow rights of way.