

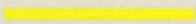


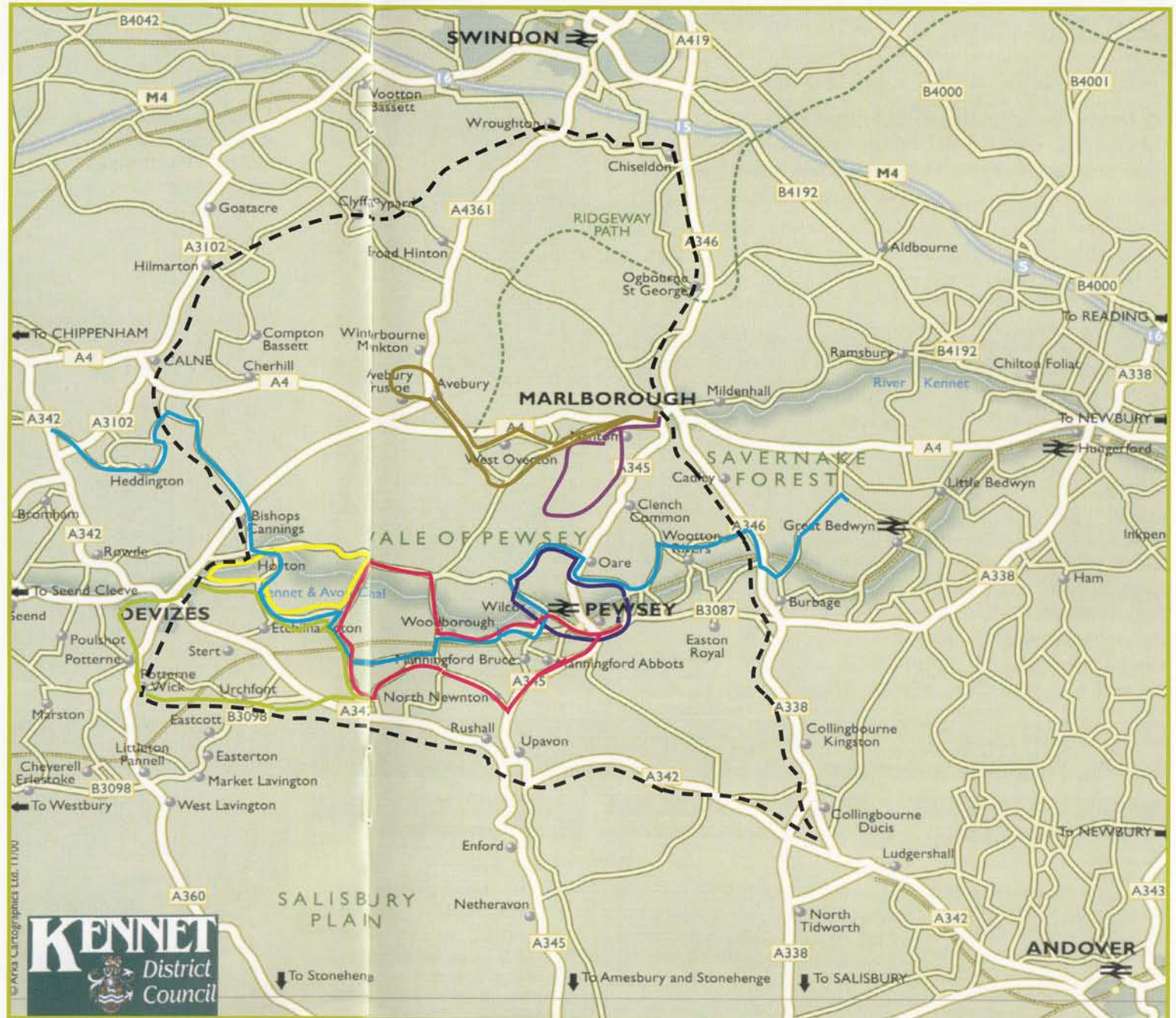


CYCLE ROUTES in the Wiltshire Downs



KEY

-  Project Boundary
-  Wiltshire Cycleway
-  Route 1
-  Route 2
-  Route 3
-  Route 4
-  Route 5
-  Route 6





ROUTE 1

PEWSEY via ALTON BARNES

Approx 20.5 miles (33km)

- From the centre of Pewsey, take the Marlborough road out of the village.
- Go out following the signs for the Sports Centre, go past and turning left at the church; signed for Manningford.
- Continue until you reach the next T-junction and turn right following the sign to Upavon.
- Continue along this road as far as the Woodbridge Inn at North Newnton. At the mini-roundabout turn right for Woodborough.
- Follow this road into Hilcot.
- At the next junction turn left at the fork, and almost immediately you will come to a stop sign. Go straight over following the sign for Marden and Beechingstoke.
- Continue along this road as far as the next T-junction and turn left for Marden.
- In the village of Marden, go straight through the main street and continue along the same road until reaching the T-junction at the edge of Chirton.
- Turn right here signed for Patney. This road will take you through the centre of Chirton and then into Patney.
- The road now has many bends but continue for several miles through Patney and on to All Cannings.
- Stay on the top road past the cemetery and cricket pitch; go over the canal bridge and up the hill to the next T-junction.
- Turn right here signed for Alton Barnes and continue.
- As you approach the junction you will see a White Horse carved in the hill on your left.
- Turn right at the junction towards Alton Barnes and continue along this road.
- Pass over the canal bridge at Honeystreet (The Bridge Inn is off to the right alongside the canal), and take the next left turn to Woodborough.
- This route will take you around a right hand bend followed by a sharp left and to a crossroads. Follow all signs for Pewsey.
- Go over the crossroads and continue along this road and into the village centre.



ROUTE 2

DEVIZES via HORTON

Approx 12 miles (19km)



- From the centre of Devizes, follow the signs to the Devizes Wharf. The Towpath is located on the opposite side - but returns to the town side at this point.
- Get onto the towpath and leave the town in the direction of Honeystreet (green sign at the entrance to the towpath).
- The towpath crosses a road - **CROSS WITH CARE** - then it will go under 2 bridges. It is much safer to dismount at the bridges.
- Continue along the towpath as far as Coate Bridge - a new, red brick bridge with a crest and date mark. Go up the path to the road.
- Cross the road and go along the road opposite signed for Coate - route 4 signs here too.
- Keep cycling along this road for about a mile until you reach a crossroads. Turn left following the Wiltshire Cycleway and Route 4 signs.
- This road will take you through Little Horton and eventually meet up with the canal again at Horton.
- On the bridge (by the Bridge Inn), turn right signed for Horton.
- Continue through Horton and climb up the hill crossing the canal and continue.
- You will pass Allington village. Stay on the top road and continue round the bends and up again.
- At the next junction, turn right for All Cannings and go down the hill and over the canal again.
- Pass All Cannings and continue to the next junction turning right for Etchilhampton.
- This is quite a long road with several bends, but keep going until reaching Etchilhampton.
- Turn right signed for Coate and go up the steep hill - from the top you can see both the Devizes and Alton Barnes White Horses.
- Go down the steep slope - take care - and into the village turning left for Devizes at the crossroads.
- Continue along this road to the T-junction at the end.
- Cross the road with care at the end and enter the gate, which will take you onto the towpath once more. **CARE:** the pathway down is very steep, it may be best to dismount and walk down.
- You will pass under 2 bridges once more as you follow the signs for the Wharf and the start of your ride.

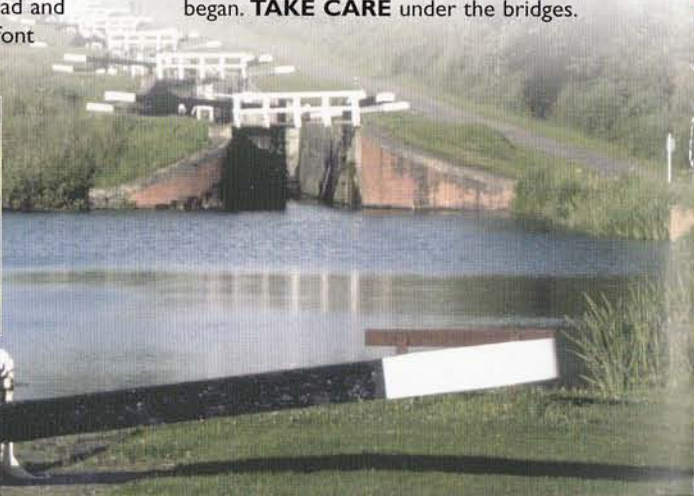


ROUTE 3

DEVIZES via CAEN HILL LOCKS

Approx 19 miles (30.5km)

- Follow the signs to the Wharf Centre in Devizes. Cross over the bridge and enter the towpath following the green sign for the Caen Hill Locks.
- At the end of the section of towpath you will need to dismount, cross the canal and continue, using the underpass, on the towpath, which has now switched sides.
- Continue on the towpath going down the hill alongside the flight of locks. Take care under the bridge.
- At the bottom of the flight is another bridge. Dismount and go under, then turn immediately left to go onto the road.
- Turn right towards the dual carriageway.
- This section is the busiest on the route so great care is needed - walk if you are unsure!
- At the dual carriageway turn left and go part way up the hill.
- Take the next right turn signposted to Potterne - dismount and walk here if the road is very busy.
- Continue along this road for about a mile where it will lead you into the village.
- At the T-junction, turn right (by the church) and cycle down the hill and through the village. **TAKE CARE!** This is a blind corner for some traffic!
- On the bend, take the left fork signposted to Urchfont. This is a long and twisty road and will lead you into the village of Urchfont (approx 2miles).
- Go into the village, passing the pond and church and bear left towards Devizes just past the shop.
- Continue along this road for approx. 1.5 miles, over the crossroads and to the T-junction at the end.
- Turn right here - Take Care! This road can be busy. Cycle as far as the turning for Chirton.
- Turn left and down the slope into the village and continue through.
- You will now stay on this road for quite a long distance. It will take you through Patney, over the railway bridge and on towards All Cannings.
- After the narrow bends, turn left signposted for Etchilhampton and Devizes.
- Follow this road for about 1 mile as far as the village of Etchilhampton and turn right at the T-junction towards Coate.
- Go up the hill and down into Coate (this is a narrow road and the downhill can be fast).
- At the crossroads, turn left signposted to Devizes - also route 4 and Wiltshire Cycleway.
- Continue along this road for about 1 mile reaching the T-junction at the end.
- Cross the road and enter the towpath once more via the gate to the left of the bridge.
- This route will take you back into the centre of Devizes and the Wharf where your journey began. **TAKE CARE** under the bridges.



ROUTE 4

WEST WOODS

Approx 7 miles (11km)

- Leave Marlborough on the A4 - signed Devizes - **TAKE CARE!**
- Turn left for Manton and follow through the village.
- At the crossroads turn left - signed Pewsey.
- Follow the road for about 1 mile. Take the right turn into West Woods (Forestry Commission sign by the gate).
- Follow the track into the Woods and down into the valley.
- At the T-junction turn right and continue up hill.
- At the barrier go through and continue to the small car park.
- Follow the track down the hill.
- You will meet the road at the end. You now have the choice to go straight across into the village of Lockeridge, or right to Manton. Both routes will return you to the A4 and Marlborough. Take care on the A4.





ROUTE 5

PEWSEY via OARE

Approx 8 miles (12.5km)

- Leave the centre of Pewsey in the direction of Burbage, following these signs out of the village.
- Continue until reaching the sign for Milkhouse Water. Turn left at this junction and follow this road. You will cross the railway line and the Kennet and Avon Canal.
- On reaching the 'No Through Road' sign, turn sharp left following the Wiltshire Cycleway and Route 4 sign, and continue.
- At the end of the village, turn right onto the A345: **CARE!**
- Cycle along the road for a short distance and turn left for Stowell (*Wilts Cycleway*).
- Continue until you reach the crossroads and turn left, signed for West Stowell/Pewsey.
- You will drop down into a left hand bend. On this bend, turn right following the Wilts Cycleway sign and continue along this road. The village of Wilcot is at the end.
- On reaching Wilcot you will have noticed the Kennet and Avon Canal on your left. Turn left at the T-junction and cross the canal.
- On the bend by the Golden Swan, turn right signed to Manningford and continue along this road.

- At the T-junction, turn right; signed Manningford.
- Take the next left for Pewsey and continue along this road until reaching the Church.
- Turn right by the church and return to the centre of Pewsey.



ROUTE 6

AVEBURY via WEST WOODS

Approx 15 miles (24km)



- Leave Marlborough on the A4 - signed Devizes - Take care on this busy road.
- On leaving the town, turn left for Manton and continue through the village.
- At the crossroads, go straight over and continue towards Lockeridge.
- Go through the village, bearing left, and continue to the right hand turn (small road) signed East Kennet.
- Turn right onto that road and cycle on through the village to West Kennet and up to the A4.
- **TAKE CARE!** You need to cycle a short distance having turned left, then turn right at the road for the Avenue of stones. This will take you into the village of Avebury.
- To return, you need to go back along the Avenue of stones, turning left, then right once more. **TAKE CARE** on the busy A4.
- This road will take you back through East Kennet once more. Follow through the village - the street is narrow - and up the hill (2 miles from A4).
- Turn left for Lockeridge. Go into the village and, at Lockeridge Dene, take the right fork towards Clatford.

- At the crossroads turn right, signed Pewsey. This is a long and narrow road.
- Go up the hill, round the bend and up another hill to the T-junction.
- Turn left towards Marlborough - this is the A345, **TAKE CARE.**
- Take the left turn directly on the sharp bend, signed Manton and cycle up the road.
- Go down the steep hill into Manton (30 zone) to the junction. Turn right into the village by the sign for the school. (No other sign here).
- Go through the village and up to the A4 once more.
- **TAKE CARE!** Turn right onto the A4 and return to Marlborough.





LONG DISTANCE CYCLE ROUTE around the WILTSHIRE DOWNS

Starting from Pewsey. Approx 47 miles (75.5km)

- From the centre of Pewsey, leave the village in the direction of Burbage.
- Continue on this road as far as the turning for Milkhouse Water. Turn left here and continue along the road.
- After crossing the railway bridge, turn right on the descent towards New Mill, which is a small road with the Wiltshire Cycleway and Route 4 signed.
- Continue along this road for several miles until New Mill.
- At the junction, take the left turn, then the next left signed to Clench Common.
- **CARE!** Take the left turn onto the A345 towards Oare.
- A little further on, take the next right turn signed Manton.
- Follow this road for a few miles. It will take you around a sharp right hand bend and past the Forestry Commission land of West Woods on the right and continue.
- At the junction, take the right turn for Manton and continue.
- **CARE!** At the junction with the A4, take the right turn to Marlborough.
- Go into the centre of the town, and turn left by the Town Hall and go up the hill (**STEEP & NARROW**).
- At the top, turn left on the bend signed for Broad Hinton. This road is steep in places, is 6 miles long and has a steep and winding descent (View of White Horse and Barbury Castle Race Course).



- At the next junction, turn right and immediately left to Broad Hinton (Summer Lane). Go through the village and left, signed for Clyffe Pypard **TAKE CARE** - the road bends round and drops steeply - follow it round and into Bushton turning left at the crossroads signed for Hilmarton /Calne.
- After about 2 miles, turn left onto the very narrow road, signed Highway.
- At the T- junction take the left turn for Compton Bassett following round the bend and on towards Calne.
- About 1/2 mile further on, turn left for Cherhill (Marsh Lane) and go through the village and up to the A4.
- **CARE** - You now need to turn right onto the A4, this is a fast road!
- Cycle along for about 1/2 mile to the edge of Calne and turn left signed Bishops Cannings/Blacklands.
- This road is long (3 miles+), with a steep climb. It drops down onto the busy A361. Cross over this road and down into the village of Bishops Cannings.
- Go through the village keeping to the main route passing the church and pub and on to the end where you turn left (signed Pewsey).
- Continue along this road through Horton, Allington, passing Stanton St Bernard and on to Alton Barnes.
- At the junction, turn left and immediately right and continue up the hill for 1/2 mile.
- Take the left fork for Oare and cycle through.
- At the junction with the A345, turn right for Pewsey and return to the village.



VILLAGE FOCUS

ALLINGTON

Village with small flint and stone 19th Century church.

Landranger OS ref: 173/069632. *Phone.*

ALTON BARNES

A Saxon Church. The White Horse cut in 1812 by Mr Robert Pile of Manor Farm, who owned the land. This horse closely resembles the earlier Cherhill White Horse.

Landranger OS ref: 173/105623. *Phone.*

AVEBURY

Village in the centre of a World Heritage Site. Area includes Silbury Hill, Avebury Manor, West Kennet Long Barrow, and the Neolithic stone circle itself.

Landranger OS ref: 173/103698. *Phone, Pub, Shop.*

BISHOPS CANNINGS

Church with 12th Century origins. The church organ was presented by local man, William Bailey, who sailed around the world with Captain Cook in the 18th Century.

Landranger OS ref: 173/039642. *Phone, Pub, Shop.*

BROAD HINTON

An attractive church which has on display the armour of Colonel Francis Glanville who died fighting for his king at Bridgwater in the Civil War.

Landranger OS ref: 173/105763. *Phone, Pub, Shop.*

CALNE

A town, once important for its weaving industry, having had 20 mills. Now more recently remembered for the Harris Bacon Factory, which no longer exists. Situated on the old Bath Road was a rest place for travellers and drovers.

Landranger OS ref: 173/999711. *Phone, Pubs, Shops.*

CHERHILL

A village once important as a staging post on the West Country to London route and was notorious for the highwaymen. The Cherhill Gang (You can see their picture in the pub).

The village has a coaching inn, a 15th

Century church, a tithe barn and a manor house. The village is overlooked by Cherhill White Horse, which lies below Oldbury Castle and the Lansdowne Obelisk.

Landranger OS ref: 173/032701. *Phone, Pub.*

CHIRTON

The village has a number of Georgian buildings and a Norman church, which has been described as the best in England. Of particular interest is the carved doorway, font and timber roof.

Landranger OS ref: 173/075573. *Phone, Pub.*

COMPTON BASSETT

The church originates from the 12th Century, with many features added in later centuries. A particularly interesting feature is the Tudor screen.

Landranger OS ref: 173/038722. *Phone, Pub.*

CLYFFE PYPARD

An attractive village with a Stuart Manor House, lying under the hills, which form the eastern edge of the Avon valley.

Landranger OS ref: 173/065768. *Phone, Pub.*

DEVIZES

An attractive market town with a fine square and a large number of listed buildings including the 19th Century castle, which stands on a Norman stronghold. Other attractions include the Wiltshire Heritage Museum; the Kennet and Avon Canal including the flight of locks and Oliver's Castle - an Iron Age hill fort.

Landranger OS ref: 173/005615. *Phone, Pubs, Shops.*

HONEYSTREET

The origins of this settlement are entirely due to the canal, which was completed in 1811. A variety of businesses grew up around the wharf including timber for boat building. A ferry used to operate here as the canal cut across a track once used for livestock to get to the Tan Hill Fair (which no longer takes place).

Landranger OS ref: 173/104623. *Phone, Pub.*

LOCKERIDGE

Mentioned in the Domesday Book, a village that does not have a church. You can also see many Sarsen stones in a field - Lockeridge Dene.

Landranger OS ref: 173/148677. *Phone, Pub.*

MANNINGFORD BRUCE

Part Saxon and part Norman church with a memorial to Mary Nicholas who helped her sister Jane Lane to help King Charles II to safety after the battle of Worcester in 1651.

Landranger OS ref: 173/137587. *Phone.*

MARDEN

An interesting Norman church. Marden Henge earthwork is the largest henge monument in Britain. Hatfield Barrow has since been ploughed away.

Landranger OS ref: 173/085576. *Phone, Pub.*

MARLBOROUGH

A popular town to visit, with one of the finest and broadest high streets in England. Has many splendid Tudor and Georgian buildings. Once a popular stopping place for stagecoaches it still has many hotels, restaurants, inns and teashops. Close to Savernake Forest, Fyfield Down and Marlborough White Horse.

Landranger OS ref: 173/180690. *Phone, Pubs, Shops.*

OARE

Has an Iron Age Hill Fort providing excellent views of the area. Also Oare Hill, Giants Grave Long Barrow, Martinsell Hill.

Landranger OS ref: 173/159632. *Phone, Pub.*

PATNEY

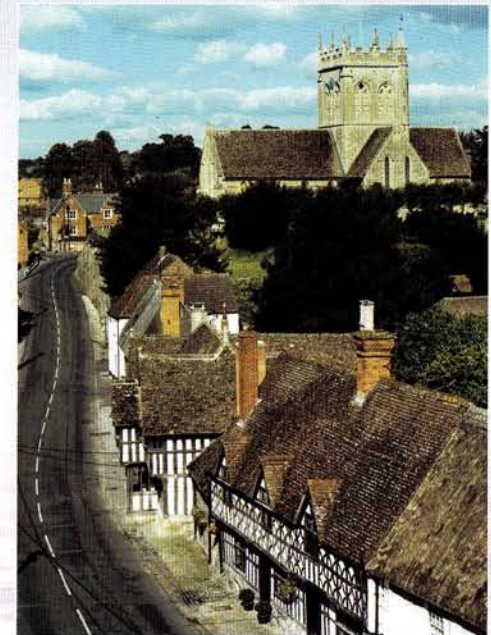
The church has an 18th Century organ with painted pipes.

Landranger OS ref: 173/072586. *Phone, Shop.*

PEWSEY

A village once owned by King Alfred, a statue of whom stands in the centre. Has many timbered houses and thatched cottages. Many attractions in the area including: Pewsey Wharf, Pewsey White Horse, Jones' Mill and Scotchell Nature Reserves and Swanborough Tump.

Landranger OS ref: 173/159632. *Phone, Pubs, Shops.*



Main picture and inset courtesy Richard Pearce.

POTTERNE (pictured above)

An early English church with a Saxon font. Half timbered early Tudor Porch House, now a private home.

Landranger OS ref: 173/997586. *Phone, Pub, Shops.*

URCHFONT

William Pitt once owned the Elizabethan Manor House, now a residential college.

Landranger OS ref: 173/040572. *Phone, Pub, Shop.*

WEDHAMPTON

Wedhampton Manor (NGS).

WEST WOODS

(Forestry Commission)

A network of forestry tracks runs through the woods (map: Explorer 157). The Wansdyke forms one boundary of the wood. This path is believed to date back to the 6th Century and it has been suggested that its use was as a defence by the Saxons against the Danes.

Landranger OS ref: 173/150660.

WILCOT

The Domesday Book records Wilcot as having, 'a new church, a very good house and a good vineyard'. This village straddles the Kennet & Avon Canal.

Landranger OS ref: 173/146609. *Phone, Pub.*