

MARLBOROUGH DOWNS CHALLENGE - Long Route

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
3.1	SU156660	TURN LEFT on next track then TURN RIGHT on footpath with Wansdyke on your right.	490

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
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 beside fence (not through gate) with fence on your right.	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
9.0	SU081652	Checkpoint 3. Opening times: 09:45 – 13:00 Routes divide here(Cut-off enforced after 11:20)	
9.0	SU081652	TURN LEFT on track to leave Checkpoint	40
9.0	SU081652	TURN RIGHT through bridle gate and up onto footpath on left-hand bank of Wansdyke. Continue through 3 bridle gates and over 1 stile.	1,300
9.7	SU069655	At barns, go over stile. TURN RIGHT then immediately TURN LEFT on track.	50

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
9.8	SU068655	Go past scrub and through gate then BEAR LEFT to rejoin Wansdyke. Continue along Wansdyke through 4 bridle gates.	1,300
10.5	SU057657	TURN LEFT on track. (If water tower is ahead of you, you're on the wrong track!) After 350yds pass black barn. Continue on track to road.	1,600
11.4	SU049646	TURN RIGHT on road.	20
11.4	SU049646	BEAR LEFT through kissing gate, sign-posted Bourton / Bishops Cannings. Go diagonally across field (CB222) through 2 bridle gates and passing small stable to reach kissing gate.	250
11.6	SU047644	Through kissing gate then STRAIGHT ON following left-hand side of field.	160
11.7	SU045643	STRAIGHT ON through gate and over footbridge.	40
11.7	SU045643	STRAIGHT ON over next footbridge.	30
11.7	SU045643	TURN RIGHT. Follow edge of field round to left and continue to white thatched cottage.	360
11.9	SU043643	Before reaching cottage TURN SHARP LEFT (CB170) across field (not towards church).	340
12.1	SU043640	At end of field, over footbridge. BEAR LEFT across field between two oak trees, then over stile to canal bridge.	250
12.2	SU043638	Cross swing bridge over canal (Bridge No.133).	20
12.3	SU043638	TURN RIGHT along towpath	5,200
15.2	SU006617	Pass under 5 bridges. At 6th bridge (No.139) leave towpath and TURN RIGHT over bridge.	30
15.2	SU006618	Checkpoint 4. Opening times: 10:30 – 13:15	
15.2	SU006618	Leaving Checkpoint, continue STRAIGHT ON through iron gates on wide footpath.	950
15.8	SU010625	Cross road. STRAIGHT ON through metal barrier on footpath with row of trees.	550
16.1	SU013630	Pass under electricity cables then BEAR LEFT (leaving track) to follow electricity poles towards hill. Continue on footpath to road.	320
16.3	SU013633	TURN LEFT on road and follow round left-hand bend.	80
16.3	SU012633	At yellow bin opposite footpath sign, TURN RIGHT through kissing gate. Follow left-hand side of field to corner beyond dip.	130

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
16.4	SU012634	BEAR RIGHT through kissing gate and uphill past pylon to road.	550
16.7	SU010639	Cross road then STRAIGHT ON up steep bank on right-hand grass track to top of hill.	80
16.7	SU010641	TURN RIGHT on footpath along top of hill.	130
16.8	SU012641	Over stile then STRAIGHT ON through wood (Leipzig Plantation) to reach small car park.	400
17.0	SU015642	TURN LEFT on track toward radio masts.	2,100
18.2	SU022659	At cross-tracks, TURN RIGHT past metal trough toward road.	700
18.6	SU027660	BEAR LEFT across road onto track. Cross road with great care. *** DANGER! Fast-moving traffic ***	60
18.7	SU028661	Checkpoint 5. Opening times: 11:00 – 14:00	
18.7	SU028661	Leaving Checkpoint, TURN RIGHT on track (not through metal field gate).	490
18.9	SU032662	TURN LEFT through metal bridle gate. Follow fence on left-hand side of field.	240
19.1	SU032664	Through bridle gate then BEAR RIGHT uphill (CB020) to bridle gate in shallow re-entrant.	210
19.2	SU032665	Through bridle gate then BEAR LEFT.	40
19.2	SU032666	Through bridle gate then BEAR RIGHT across field (CB012) aiming half-way between right radio mast and fence on right.	140
19.3	SU032668	Over brow of hill, aiming for left-hand side of clump of small trees to reach bridle gate.	150
19.3	SU033669	Through bridle gate then TURN LEFT along Wansdyke.	60
19.3	SU033669	TURN RIGHT beside fence (towards monument in distance). Aim for water trough across field.	110
19.4	SU033670	BEAR LEFT under electric wires. Follow fence line to top of hill. Follow fence downhill and through gate then down gully to track.	500
19.7	SU030674	Through gate then STRAIGHT ON over stile. Follow hedgerow downhill.	600
20.0	SU028679	At edge of wood TURN RIGHT.	30
20.0	SU028679	TURN LEFT over fence beside field gate.	40

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
20.1	SU028680	Over fence beside field gate then follow fence on left around field, past stable and through electric fence 'gate' at far end.	370
20.3	SU030683	Through field gate then STRAIGHT ON down left-hand side of paddock.	190
20.4	SU030684	Through gate then TURN RIGHT on road.	100
20.4	SU032684	At 'South Farm' wall, leave road to BEAR LEFT down track to the left of metal gate.	220
20.6	SU032685	Cross bridge over stream. Leave track to BEAR RIGHT up path.	90
20.6	SU031686	At T-junction with concrete track, TURN RIGHT.	80
20.7	SU031687	Leave track and continue STRAIGHT ON along left-hand side of fields to barn.	850
21.1	SU032694	Checkpoint 6. Opening times: 11:15 – 14:45	
21.1	SU032694	Leaving Checkpoint, TURN RIGHT on footpath going east uphill.	550
21.4	SU037694	Over stile onto Cherhill Down then STRAIGHT ON on track uphill with fence on your left. Keep to left of copse at top of hill then aim for monument.	600
21.8	SU043694	Through wooden gate on left then TURN RIGHT passing iron post with knob.	20
21.8	SU043694	Through wooden gate then STRAIGHT ON uphill to Cherhill Monument.	500
22.1	SU047693	Follow rampart left to view White Horse.	400
22.3	SU050695	Directly above White Horse TURN RIGHT toward copse, then BEAR RIGHT on grass track going south east.	100
22.4	SU051695	BEAR LEFT to fence corner. Follow fence going east downhill to chalk track.	140
22.4	SU052695	TURN LEFT down track through two field gates passing barn on your right. Continue downhill.	600
22.8	SU055699	250yds after barn, TURN RIGHT up track. (After 50yds pass round barrow on your right.) Keep right on track between wire fences.	1,300
23.5	SU067696	Through gate then STRAIGHT ON on track.	460
23.8	SU070695	BEAR RIGHT through gap in earth bank.	20
23.8	SU070695	Immediately TURN LEFT along grass track following grass bank on your left.	290

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
24.0	SU073693	BEAR LEFT through trees, into gully. Follow footpath in gully through trees to car park.	420
24.2	SU076692	STRAIGHT ON through car park.	140
24.3	SU078692	Cross road (A4) with great care. *** DANGER! Fast-moving traffic *** TURN RIGHT down pavement.	700
24.7	SU083690	At "Drive Entrance" TURN LEFT, sign-posted 'Windmill Hill & Avebury', then immediately BEAR RIGHT along track.	70
24.7	SU083690	Ignore stony track to right, STRAIGHT ON on grass track with trees on left & hedge on right.	460
25.0	SU087692	At track junction (two large sarsen stones ahead in field) TURN LEFT on grass track. (20 mile route joins here.)	650
25.4	SU089698	Checkpoint 7. Opening times: 10:45 – 15:45	50
25.4	SU089698	Leaving Checkpoint, TURN RIGHT on road.	350
25.6	SU092698	At junction, continue STRAIGHT ON on 'No through road', sign-posted 'Avebury'.	410
25.8	SU096699	At end of road, continue STRAIGHT ON on footpath.	150
25.9	SU097698	BEAR LEFT on path over river bridge.	210
26.0	SU098699	Continue STRAIGHT ON on footpath to churchyard.	50
26.0	SU099699	In churchyard, BEAR RIGHT to lich gate.	60
26.1	SU099698	TURN LEFT on road. Pass public toilets on your left.	220
26.2	SU102699	At junction, continue STRAIGHT ON, crossing main road with great care. *** DANGER! Fast-moving traffic ***	50
26.2	SU103699	Where main road bends sharp left, continue STRAIGHT ON on road signed 'No tourist parking'.	1,000
26.8	SU111702	Pass farm buildings on your right, then continue STRAIGHT ON on track uphill to Ridgeway.	1,700
27.8	SU125708	Cross Ridgeway, through bridle gate beside sign-board then STRAIGHT ON on bridleway.	550
28.1	SU130709	Through 3 gates, crossing racehorse gallops, then STRAIGHT ON down gravel track into valley.	310

Total Distance (miles)	OS Grid Reference	Direction	Approx Distance (yards)
28.3	SU133709	BEAR LEFT on same gravel track uphill and follow through 2 gates.	1,400
29.1	SU144714	Checkpoint 8. Opening times: 12:00 – 16:45	0
29.1	SU144714	Leaving Checkpoint, STRAIGHT ON, then TURN RIGHT on gravel track, sign-posted 'Fyfield Car Park'.	1,500
29.9	SU153703	At fork, BEAR RIGHT on same gravel track. Continue on track to car park.	900
30.4	SU159699	BEAR LEFT through car park.	90
30.5	SU160700	TURN RIGHT on road.	480
30.7	SU164699	STRAIGHT ON (leaving road) through gateway marked 'private'. Follow private track to road. *** PRIVATE LAND: no access before race ***	380
31.0	SU167697	Cross road and continue STRAIGHT ON on grass track.	420
31.2	SU170695	TURN RIGHT on grass track, sign-posted 'Manton Hollow'.	600
31.5	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
32.0	SU178691	At end of field, TURN RIGHT then TURN LEFT (between two rocks) downhill into valley.	220
32.1	SU182692	TURN RIGHT on track.	100
32.2	SU182691	Continue STRAIGHT ON on road.	200
32.3	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 Citroen Garage, or at Preshute, just east of Marlborough. You can then join the route at grid ref SU183684.