

About Woolhope

This walk takes place in an area of the County known as the Woolhope Dome. The Woolhope Dome is a rim of hills and folds resulting from the underlying geology of Silurian limestone. The limestone rock layer provides beneficial conditions for species-rich grassland, a habitat which isn't widespread in the county as much of Herefordshire lies on old red sandstone. In the centre of the dome of hills lies Woolhope, a quiet, pretty village which has built up around a 12th century church.

Quite a few places in Herefordshire have the word 'Hope' in their name including Soliers Hope, Fownhope and of course Woolhope. The word 'Hope' means a small, enclosed 'blind' valley, and when you look at the hilly landscape in this area it is not surprising that the name appears so often.

Soliers Hope is situated in a perfect example of an enclosed valley and has had a castle, with a church and a later Elizabethan manor house. It's not really a defensive position, which indicates that the castle was more of a manorial residence than a defensive fortress, although there is a deep stream on the west side. In the 13th century the manor belonged to the Sollers family.

Herefordshire's Orchard Heritage

This walk shows off Herefordshire's claim to be "The County of Orchards". Look out for the traditional farmhouse orchards with their regular patterns of mature apple trees displaying mistletoe in winter, sparkling pinky-white flowers in Spring and brightly coloured apples in Autumn. Orchards are also home to a wide range of wildlife including the rare Lesser-spotted Woodpecker and iridescent Noble Chater beetle. See what wildlife you can spot along your walk!

Parking

There is ample parking at the village hall and a few spaces on Broadmoor Common.

Refreshments

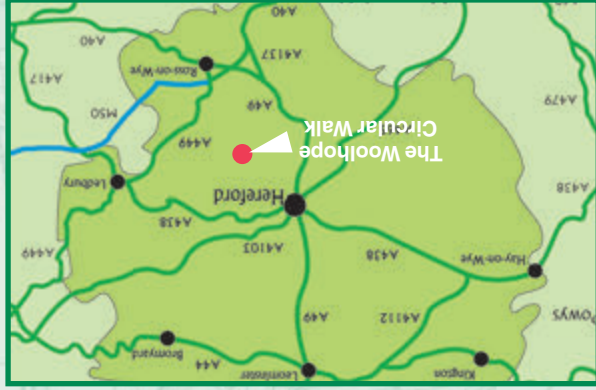
Local pubs serve food and a range of locally produced ciders and perry, though many get busy during the summer months so booking may be advisable.

Walk Information

This leaflet has been designed to tell you all you need to know about the route **before** you set out.

Stiles
Gates
Steps
Narrow
Bridges
Slopes

30
19 (6 kissing gates)
0
5
Two steep sections



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Walk them all...

There are 15 circular walks in the county ranging in distance from 2 to 10 miles and four of these walks are 'Miles without Stiles' routes.

For more information on the other routes or to download the leaflets please visit:

www.herefordshire.gov.uk/circularwalks

This route is managed by Balfour Beatty Living Places on behalf of Herefordshire Council
www.herefordshire.gov.uk/contactus

Designed & produced by Herefordshire Council in partnership with the Hereford Cider Museum

Herefordshire Council



The Woolhope Circular Walk

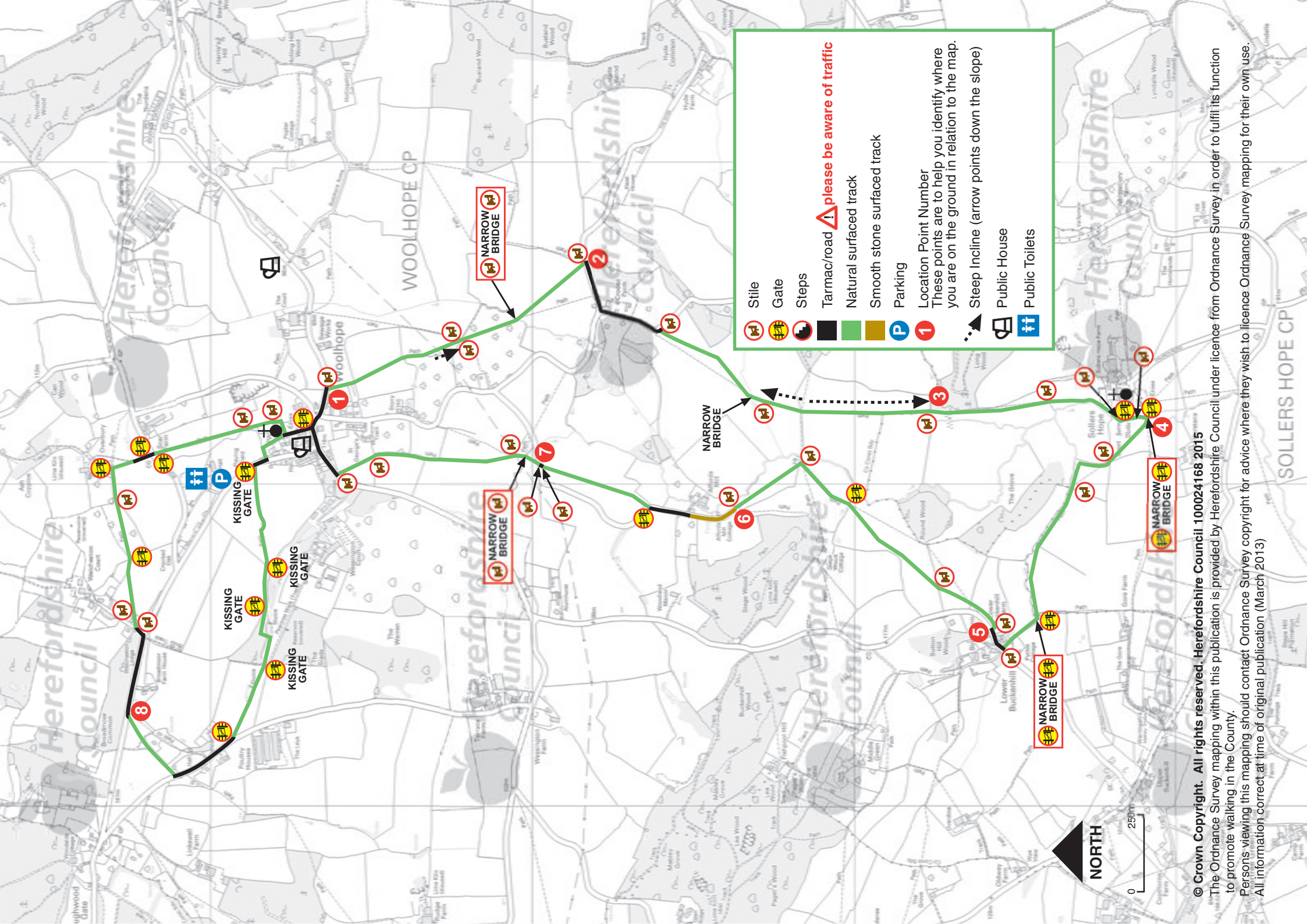
DISTANCE: 6.5 miles



Active Herefordshire



FREE



Stile

Gate

Steps

Tarmac/road **please be aware of traffic**

Natural surfaced track

Smooth stone surfaced track

Parking

Location Point Number
These points are to help you identify where you are on the ground in relation to the map.

Steep Incline (arrow points down the slope)

Public House

Public Toilets

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