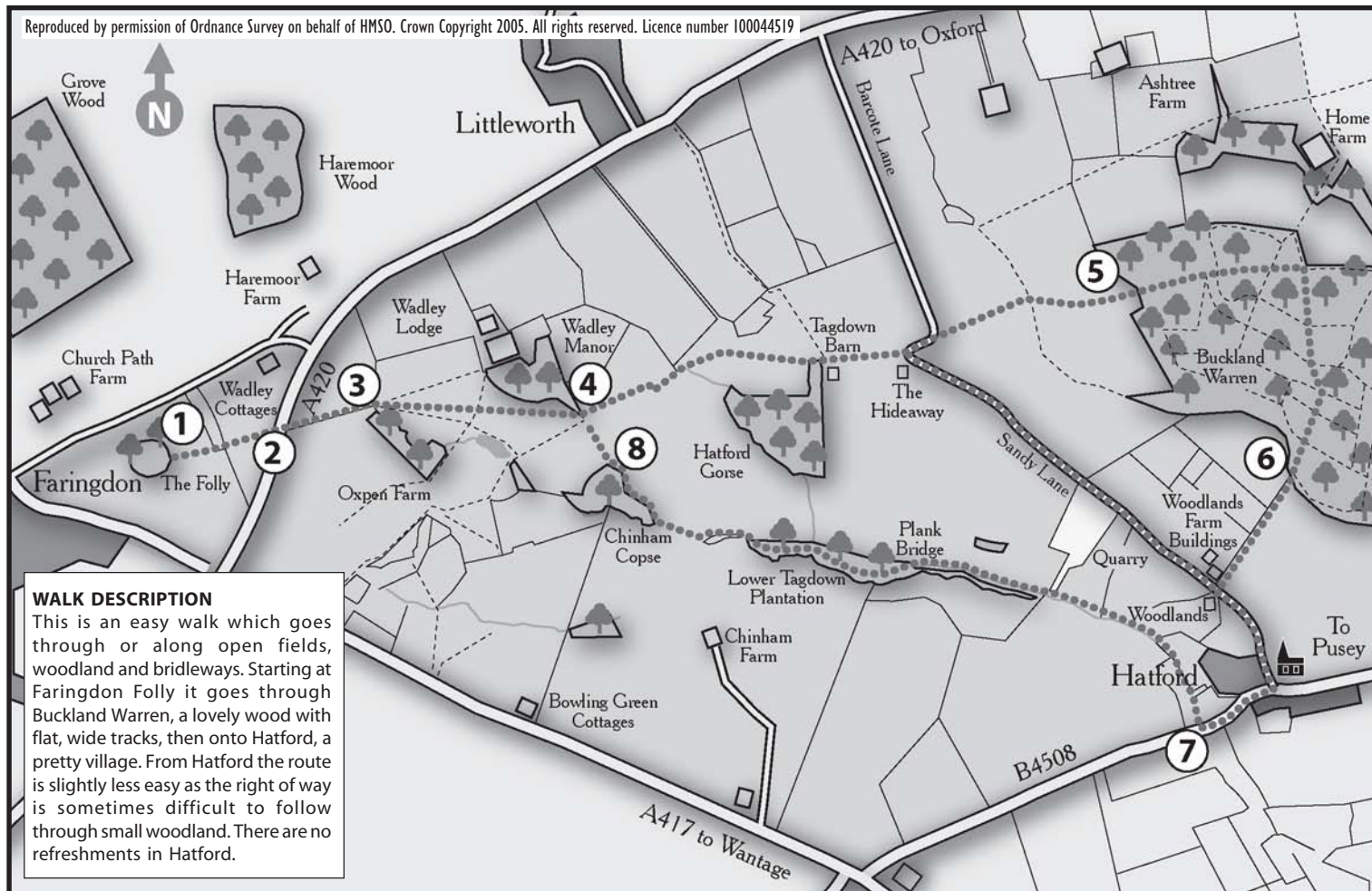


Walk 3

Faringdon Folly, Buckland Warren and Hatford

approximately 7 miles/11.5km



WALK DESCRIPTION
 This is an easy walk which goes through or along open fields, woodland and bridleways. Starting at Faringdon Folly it goes through Buckland Warren, a lovely wood with flat, wide tracks, then onto Hatford, a pretty village. From Hatford the route is slightly less easy as the right of way is sometimes difficult to follow through small woodland. There are no refreshments in Hatford.

To reach the Folly Hill, either walk through the town, or go through Folly Park (*entrance on Park Road, parking for cars*) to Nursery View Estate. At the Stanford Road head for Folly Hill.

1) At Folly Hill walk on the path through the trees, out to the other side of the Hill (*Folly Tower is on your left*). Walk downhill into the next field. There is a white metal stile that you can walk around.

2) The path then goes across the middle of a field to a wooden stile. Go over the stile and cross the A420 to another stile. Follow field edge, then go over a white metal stile. There are gates on either side. Notice the tree lined stream to the right.

3) Take a path across the field, (visible unless the crops are high) and **go over a stile.** Wadley Manor is on the left and Oxpen Farm on the right. **Cross the track, go through a field to a metal stile.** After the stile, **bear right on the track** (*no signs*). Notice a small lake over to the right. *You can look back at this point for a good view of the Folly.*

4) When the path reaches a junction, bear left along the side of the field. Continue through large, open fields and on past Tagdown Barn and a cottage called Hideaway, both on the right. **When the road is reached turn left for a short distance then take the bridleway (signed) on the right.** The bridleway leads to a thick hedge (which marks the boundary between Hatford and Buckland parishes). Through a gap in the hedge, **continue on through a golf course,** the way

being marked by metal railings.

5) Follow the path through the woodland for about half a mile (1km) until a junction is reached (*note the 'All dogs on lead' sign*). There is an open field in one quadrant, the other three are woodland). **Turn right here.** (*The path straight ahead goes to Pusey - approx 1 mile. The path to the left goes through Home Farm and up to the A420 - approx 3/4 mile*). Later go through a yew grove.

6) The path emerges into fields again. Follow the path across the field towards the road. At the road (*opposite a house called Woodlands*) **turn left and go into Hatford.** On the main road, **turn right (west) towards Shellingford...**

If you wish to shorten the walk, turn right opposite Woodlands and walk on the road (Sandy Lane) until you reach the cottage called Hideaway. Then retrace your steps to the Folly.

...7) Just over the bridge, climb the stile on the right and follow Frogmore Brook, keeping it on your right. About 165 yards (150m) further on, **go right (yellow arrows mark the route) over the stream.** The path follows the bank on the left, and continues through 3 gates. Climb a stile to reach a track to a quarry. Cross this track, keeping the stream to your left. **Look out for a plank bridge over the stream and go into the woodland.** The path follows the left hand woodland edge initially and then travels to the right, where it emerges from the wood. There are several fallen trees in the woods and the path is not very distinct. Keep

persevering through the woods and you will eventually emerge through a well-defined exit. This woodland path passes Tagdown plantation.

8) Follow the field edge, past Chinham Copse where soon it becomes a wide grassy track with a hedge on the left.

9) Follow the track until it returns to point 4, bearing left to return to Faringdon Folly.

Comments about these Walkcards are very welcome, and can be emailed to: walkgroup@faringdon-online.co.uk

Accessibility
 If you see any part of the walk that needs attention (eg stiles, gates, vegetation, surfaces, signage etc) please report this to Oxfordshire County Council Tel: 01865 810226 or email countryside@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

- Countryside Code**
- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs.
 - Follow paths across land that has crops growing on it, wherever possible.*
 - Leave gates and property as you find them.
 - Use gates and stiles wherever possible.
 - Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home.
 - Keep dogs under close control.
 - Consider other people.

* Follow the walk directions where possible as this is the legal right of way. If because of an obstruction, animals, or the path is obscured, you are allowed to take as little avoiding action as is necessary to continue your journey while not causing criminal damage.

For more information on the countryside code see: www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk/countryside_code and for walks in the area www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/countryside.

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