

WALKS IN THE VALE OF PEWSEY



CIRCULAR WALK

BRUCE ARMS, MILTON LILBOURNE & EASTON ROYAL

LONG ROUTE 7.7 MILES / 12.4 KM
3 hours

SHORT ROUTE 4.3 MILES / 6.9 KM
1.5 hours

Generally level, but with a steepish climb up and down the hills. Field paths, footpaths, gravel tracks and lanes: some tracks rutted. Gateways but no stiles.

Not suitable for buggies or wheelchairs.



THE VALE OF PEWSEY WILTSHIRE

Imagine quintessential England.
Rolling countryside, thatched cottages,
country lanes, white horses on chalk hills.
Welcome to the Vale of Pewsey,
one of the most beautiful
and unspoilt places in the UK.

Readily accessible by road and rail, the Vale
is located in the North Wessex Downs
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
and on the Great West Way.

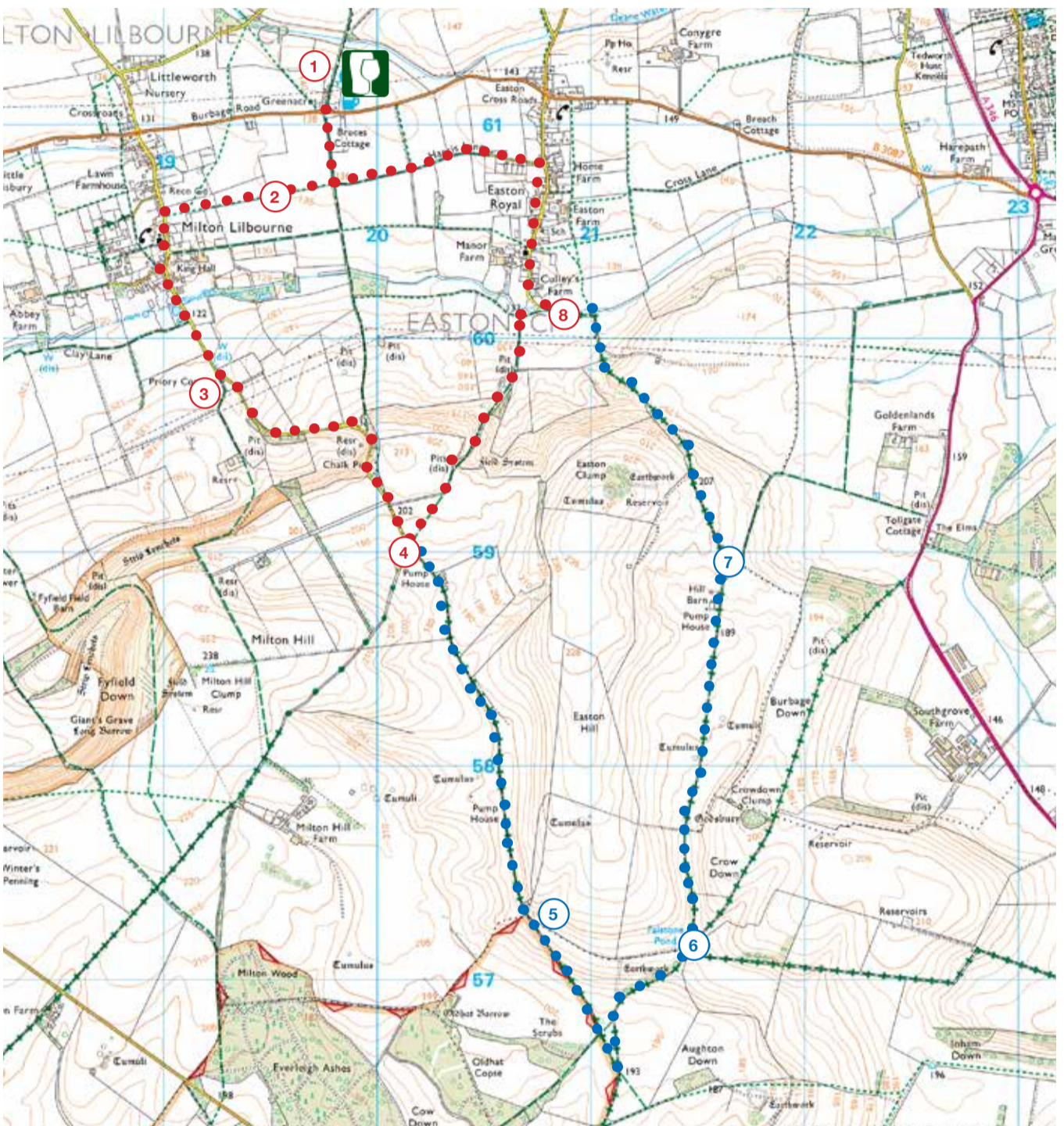


Traversed by the Ridgeway
and Kennet & Avon Canal,
served by a network of ancient footpaths,
tracks, and bridleways, the Vale of Pewsey is ideal
for walking, riding or cycling, with welcoming
places to stay, friendly and atmospheric places to
eat, drink and shop, and local events
to enjoy throughout the year.

For more information go to
www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk



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1 Begin at The Bruce Arms on the B3087, where there is a spacious car park at the rear of this CAMRA Heritage pub. Come out of the car park on to the B3087, turn right and almost immediately cross over to the signposted footpath. Continue along this path until you reach a crossroads of footpaths and turn right, through the gate into a field where the path is quite clearly defined. To your right is a fantastic view of Martinsell Hill.

2 Go through the gate in the left-hand corner of the field and in to the next field where the pathway initially meanders to your right and then straightens to provide a wonderful view of Milton Manor House. When you get to the metal gates, go through and on to the lane and turn left. You are now in the very pretty village of Milton Lilbourne. On your right is the Church of St Peter Continue along the lane, which turns into more of a gravel track – at this point, there are lovely views of Milton Hill ahead of you.



3 At the fork in the track (with Priory Cottage straight ahead of you), take the left fork. The track turns back into tarmac as you go. The track turns back into a gravel track as you go through a small wood. Shortly after this, you will find a stile on your right with an information board – this area of chalkland has permissive access for you to explore. The views here of the Pewsey Downs across the Vale are fantastic and you can understand why on an August whilst in 1826 whilst on a ride north from Everleigh, the parliamentarian, William Cobbett, described this view as 'My land of promise or at least of great expectation'.

4 Continue along the lane and once it has levelled out, you come to a cross-roads of tracks. At this point you can either continue straight ahead for the longer walk over the downs, or turn left for the shorter walk.

SHORTER ROUTE

4 At the crossroad of tracks, turn left following the bridleway through a gateway through the middle of the field to the bridleway sign in the opposite corner. Follow this track to the left of the fence line – it is steep-sided with abundant wild flowers and butterflies in the summer. To your right are the remains of a medieval field system. At the end of the grassy track, you come out on to a hard track. At the bottom of the hill, turn right and then left towards Culley's Farm.

LONGER ROUTE

5 At the cross-roads of tracks, go straight on along a fairly rutted track, narrow in places, to a military zone where you must keep to the track. Continue until you reach a small wood on your left and at the end of the wood you will meet another track where you should turn hairpin left.

6 Take the track and at the fork just beyond a barn on your right take the left-hand grass track – it can be very muddy and wet as it is the site of Falstone Pond. Continue past Crowdown Clump to your right and Easton Clump to your left.

7 The track descends, and at the road take the left-hand fork towards Culley's Farm, where you re-join the shorter route for the final section.

8 Just before Culley's Farm, bear right onto the village lane. Along the lane turn left into Harris Lane past the kissing gates on your left. At the crossroads of footpaths, turn right and back up to The Bruce Arms.

