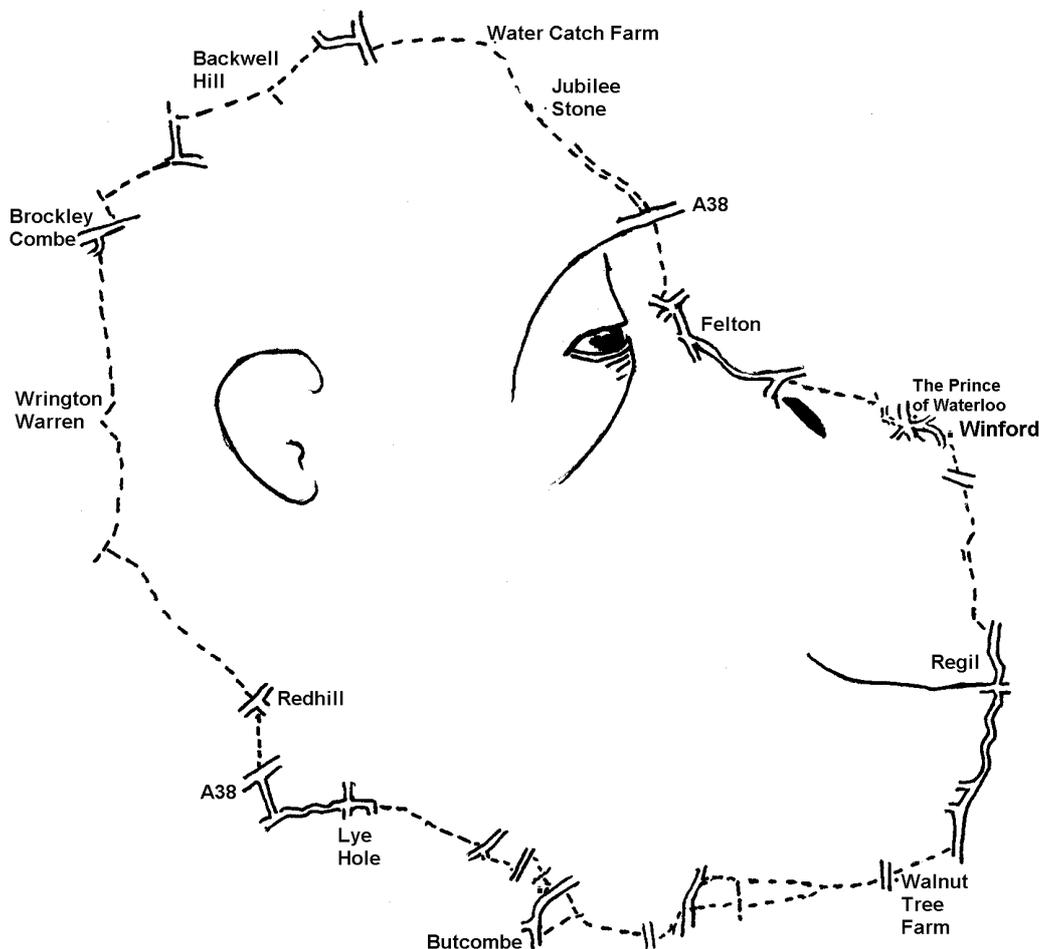


Waterloo

A 14 mile circular route exploring the watershed between the two rivers of the Two Rivers Way, namely the Chew and the Congresbury Yeo starting from the Prince of Waterloo in Winford.



(Winford or *Wunfrod* was originally a Welsh or British stream name meaning 'white, fair or holy stream' (*Gwenffrwd* in modern Welsh). The stream emerges from under the road opposite the pub and flows past the church to join the Chew at Chew Magna. The Orang utan is another form of Green Man. I discovered the route, when I used some elements of Pete's Long One to reccie the middle section of the Two Rivers Way.

From the pub, turn left and follow the **Winford Brook** down the back lane towards the Church,

Join **The Monarch's Way** by following the road over the stream by the church, then, as the road bends to

the right again, turn left over a stile into a field.

Bear right to find a stile onto the road in the far corner.

Cross the road carefully and turn left to find a stile into the field past the house.

Bear left across the field to a stile into the site that used to be a cattle market.

Continue on the same line to find a stile out of the site. (The map shows the path going over a gate in the corner, thus avoiding the cattle market site, but the stiles look more official on the ground.)

In either case, head for a gate in the opposite top corner of the field.

Turn right and follow the hedge to another gate onto a muddy lane.

Turn left and follow the increasingly rocky lane past a barn and crossing tracks, downhill, through a ford and up the other side to a narrow road. (***The stream eventually runs into the Winford Brook below Powdermill Farm.***)

Turn right and follow Whitling Street over a cross road and past two road junctions on the right.

400m past the second junction, look for a stile on the right to join **The Two Rivers Way**.

Go straight ahead through some horse paddocks to a stile.

Follow the right hand hedge to another stile and continue straight ahead following the left hand hedge to a stile ahead onto a road.

Go straight across, through a gate and down a track to a gate and bridge over a streamlet., which is a tributary of the Chew Stoke stream, which joins the Chew downstream of the water works.

Go straight ahead to another gateway (not the stile into the thicket on the right, which is blocked by a fallen tree.)

Bear left up the field to the opposite corner and go straight ahead up a narrow field until you come to a stile onto another muddy rocky track.

Common sense would take you straight ahead over a stile and across a couple of fields. but **The Two Rivers Way** turns right along the track, through a badger city, round a bend to the left, through a small lake, up to a junction, left along the road to find a stile on the right opposite the stile at the other end of the common sense path (which used to have a difficult stile in the middle).

In the field on the right (or straight ahead for those with common sense) bear left across to another stile onto a road.

Go straight across and through a gate into the field opposite.

Follow the right hand hedge along the top of the escarpment until you have crossed two field boundaries and then bear left to a conspicuous tree¹, which I would guess was an oak, though it was not in leaf when last I saw it.

Go past the tree to find a stile around a hedge corner.

Bear left downhill to another stile and continue downhill to a wrought iron kissing gate onto a road.

Turn right and right again and then left down the path past the church.

Go straight ahead through some rough grass until you reach a boggy patch. Then bear left downhill to a bridge over a stream.

(This stream runs into the Blagdon Lake, and is thus one of the sources of the Yeo, indicating that we have crossed the watershed.)

Over the other side, the path goes rather straighter uphill than is suggested by the map. The route is obstructed by brambles, and it is probably best to turn left and then right

¹ There is a footpath on the map, which continues along the line of the escarpment, allowing a descent to the parish church. Now that the Butcombe pub is shut, this might be a better route.

to begin the climb up between the anthills (a sign of ancient grasslands) to a stile onto a road.

Turn left to find a gate on the left, just past **Cleeve's Well**.

Bear right up to a gate onto another enclosed track in the diagonally opposite corner of the field. (***The difference between a road, a track, a bridle path and a footpath is indistinct in this area.***)

Turn right to a junction and go straight ahead to a gate into the left-hand field.

Head diagonally downhill to a bend in a stream and follow the path above it to a gate onto a minor road. (***This stream runs into the Yeo near Perry's Bridge on the A38.***)

Turn right over the stream and go straight ahead at a cross road.

Turn right at the next junction, just before you reach a piggery (**leaving the Two Rivers Way**), and go uphill past some cottages to the A38.

Cross over carefully and follow a drive uphill to a cattle grid.

Over the grid, bear left to a step-stile over a wall and turn right uphill to a stile.

In the road, turn left to a junction and go straight ahead to a path up a drive between the houses to a stile into a field.

Follow the path around the right hand edge of the field up to another stile and bear right.

Over the next stile, make your way into the field through some scrub and turn left.

Follow the edge of the escarpment over two stiles.

After the second, follow the enclosed path into the field and turn left.

When you reach a finger post in a fence, bear right to the diagonally opposite corner of the field.

Over the stile, go straight ahead for a few yards and look for a stile on the left into an enclosed track.

At the end of the track, turn right on a muddy rocky bridle path and follow it for over a mile and a half, until it emerges on a tarmac drive leading to Brockley Combe.

Cross over and turn right (using as much of the path through the trees as is still accessible.)

Turn left up a steep rocky bridle path or by-way and right at the next junction.

Keep going till you pass a pair of houses and turn left past Home Farm.

Turn right at the top of the road along the bridle path along the top of Backwell Hill until you emerge on a road.

Keep going straight ahead to a T-junction.

Turn right and then left on the path past the new quarry.

Keep right at the top of Bourton Combe and again past Water Catch Farm.

Go through a gate at either end of a narrow linear wood.

In the following field, bear right to another gate and then turn left to follow the path past Barrow Hill Wood and the Jubilee Stone.

Go through the gate ahead onto the lane past Freeman's Farm, which leads to the A38.

Cross over (very carefully!) and turn left to find a stile immediately on your right.

Go straight ahead to a stile and follow the right hand hedge to find another

into an enclosed path to the right of some houses (not the line on the map.)

Turn left on the road and go straight on at a crossroad.

Follow the road past the post office and then turn left down Vee Lane.

At the junction with Kingston Lane, go straight across to a gate near a cattle shed.

Make your way through the mud to a stile ahead.

Keep going straight ahead to a gate and then a stile at the top of a steep slope.

Keep straight ahead past a chicken run, and keep going along the backs of some houses, over a wire mesh fence, a stile and another stile into an enclosed path.

Turn right and follow the path down some steps.

Turn left at the bottom and go down another path down some steps past a road junction on the right.

At the bottom end of the path, turn left and cross the road.

Turn right to return to the pub.