

Miles Without Stiles

Stow-on-the-Wold



This walk takes in the famous Cotswold town of Stow-on-the-Wold and surrounding countryside, including the village of Mangersbury.

Distance:

5.5 kilometres/3³/₄ miles

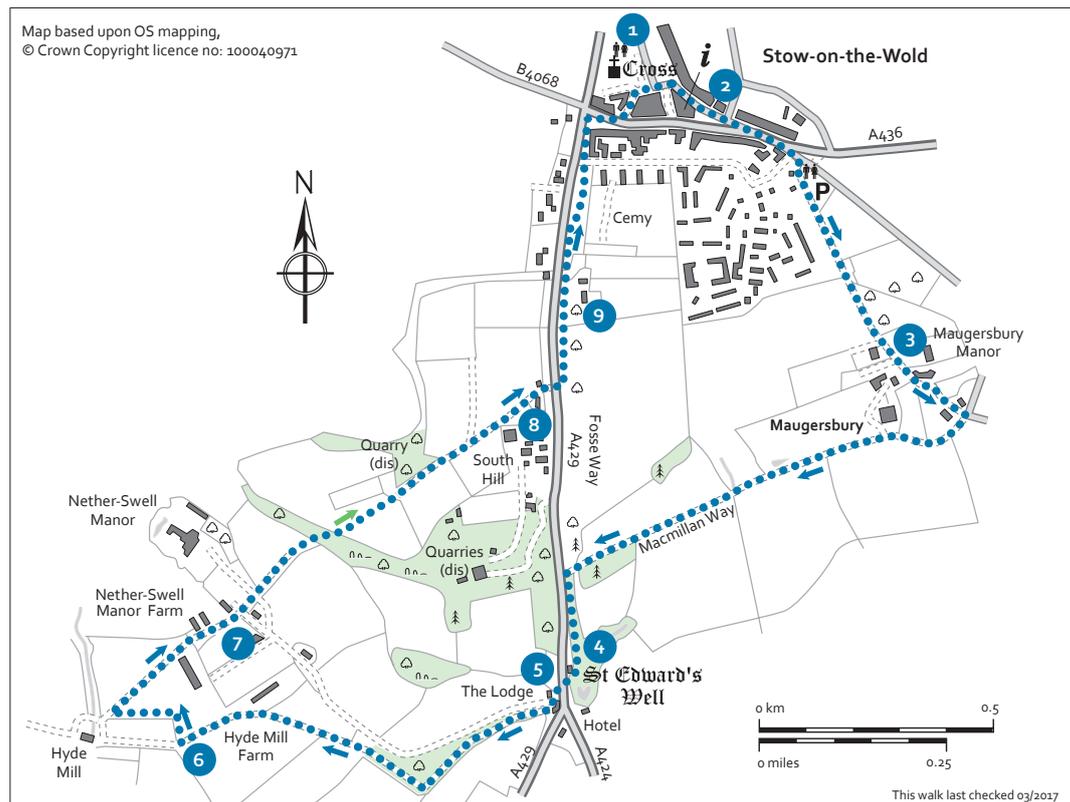
(2 hours) with ups and downs of 130m or 427ft

Start: Stow Cross in the Market Square. Car parking available at Tesco's public car park and Oddington Road car park. SP 191/257 GL54 1BQ

Route:

From the cross, **1** walk down Digbeth Street to the Porch House Hotel **2**. Cross Well Lane, then use the pedestrian crossing to reach the other side of Park Street. Follow Park Street downhill and cross lower Park Street, before walking down the unmade road to Mangersbury Manor **3**. After passing the Manor on your left follow the road downhill until you reach a minor cross-roads. Turn right and follow this tree-lined road for 800 metres until you reach the Fosse Way.

Turn left down South Hill, passing St Edward's Well **4** hidden in the trees on your left, to the junction with Burford Road (A424). Cross the Fosse Way with extreme caution, using the first traffic island. Turn left down the verge to pass Nether Swell Manor gate lodge. **5** Almost straight ahead follow the bridleway down the lower of two



surfaced roads (marked Private drive to Hyde Mill only) for 850 metres in the direction of Hyde Mill.

As you approach a tree lined avenue to the mill **6** turn right and follow the track around the field and emerge near the mill itself. Turn right and go through two white gates and head for the left hand corner of the large equestrian training centre ahead, go through a gate and up steps passing the equestrian building on your right. Walk uphill through Nether Swell Manor Farm **7**. Look for a series of white gates ahead,

go through them all and uphill through the white gate on the edge of a strip of trees. Bear right through these trees to the next gate on the edge of the wood. Leaving the wood bear diagonally right and up across the meadow towards the right hand edge of the trees on the skyline.

As you approach these trees, you should see a wicket gate ahead of you to the right of a farm gate at the end of a hedge-lined track. Follow this track for about 400 metres, passing South Hill Farm **8** on your right, to the Fosse Way.

Cross the Fosse Way with great care then turn uphill towards Stow. About 200 metres after passing Bretton House **9** turn right into the cemetery then left and follow the line of yews to the iron gate ahead. Cross Back Walls and walk along the front of Wragg's Row to the traffic lights on Sheep Street. Cross Sheep Street and turn right in front of the Unicorn, then turn left down Church Street.

Follow Church Street round, past St Edward's Church, to re-enter the Market Square opposite the Cross.