

Monday 9th April: OUTLINE of SHORT ROUTE 45 km (28miles)

This route leads you through Ringwood and up the Avon Valley to Fordingbridge and the village of Breamore, returning via the pretty Western Escarpment of the New Forest.

- On a clear day the descent of Braggers Lane offers fine views as you drop into the Avon Valley.
- Continuing northwards to Crow you pass the New Forest Raptor and Reptile Centre on your left before diving west into the Forest market town of Ringwood, home to the Ringwood Brewery. A short walk the wrong way along a one-way lane leads to the town centre. Plenty of nice teashops and cafés here.
- After dodging round the outskirts of Ringwood, you cycle north along Highwood Lane catching glimpses to your left of lakes, which were formerly gravel workings. Some are used for water sports, others as wildlife reserves.
- Pass the Alice Lisle pub on your left. Dame Alice sheltered John Hickes at her home here after the battle of Sedgemoor. He and his men were arrested the following morning. Lady Alice was tried by Judge Jeffries at the Bloody Assizes in Winchester and was sentenced to be burnt for treason. This was commuted to beheading by James II as being more fit for her station.
- Continue thro' the ford at Moyles Court. There will probably be water here. There is a footbridge if required. Moyles Court School was the seat of the Lisles, one of whom, Col. Lisle, was one of the judges on the trial of Charles I. In a short distance on the corner as you turn left is the RAF Ibsley airfield information memorial.
- After crossing the A338 (where the Old Beams on your right offers refreshment opportunities) you come to a picturesque stone bridge over the Avon at Ibsley, where you can usually see a tranquil scene with swans on the river or in the fields.
- Before Fordingbridge you pass the Augustus John pub, the favourite watering hole of the controversial painter who lived here. There is a statue of him near the George Inn on the banks of the Avon, by the medieval seven-arched bridge. The town offers café stops and shops as well as more pubs.
- Crossing the River Avon you take small lanes through Stuckton, a hamlet with several Victorian buildings that was once home to the Stuckton Iron Works, which closed in 1908, before climbing up the Western Escarpment of the Forest to Hyde.
- After cross roads beside the school you go past the Stables Tea Room café on your left beside a garden centre.
- Dropping down across yet another ford, you approach an area called Ogdens, a hamlet named after Ogden Rooke, a local landowner who possessed Ogdens Purlieu in the latter half of the 17th century. Purlieu is a Norman-French word meaning "the outskirts of a forest" – a place free from forest laws.
- As you approach a large grass triangle at South Gorley you pass on your left the Cuckoo Hill miniature steam railway at the Avon Valley Nurseries which is open at Easter.
- Passing back down the Gorley Road towards Ringwood, you cross the A31 towards Hightown and Crow and retrace your route to return to Avon Tyrrell.

km	Instruction	total
0.0	R at T from centre	0.0
1.7	R at X (sp Ringwood)	1.7
4.3	R (sp Ringwood) [sign hidden behind Crow fingerpost]	6.0
1.2	SO (L/R) at stg X (no sp) into Crow Lane	7.2
0.5	1st L (no sp) into Crow Arch Lane	7.7
0.9	R at T (no sp)	8.6
0.1	L at mini-O (no sp)	8.6
0.6	SO at X (no sp) into Coxstone Lane	9.2
0.1	R at T (no sp)	9.4
0.4	R (no sp) into Kings Arms Lane	9.8
0.2	at No Entry sign walk short distance to R at T (no sp) into High Street	9.9
0.1	L at T (no sp) at end of block paving	10.0
0.1	Cross Rd at pedestrian / cycle TLs and continue	10.2
0.1	R at T (no sp) and over flyover	10.3
0.8	L at mini O (no sp) into Broadshard Lane	11.0
0.5	R at T (no sp)	11.5
1.0	L at T (no sp) into Gorley Rd	12.5
0.7	Follow road L after ford (probably dry)	13.1
1.1	CG	14.2
0.5	Cross ford at Moyles Court (sp Mockbeggar)	14.7
1.0	2 nd L into Mockbeggar Lane (sp Ibsley) and over CG	15.7
1.2	R at T onto A338 (sp Salisbury)	16.9
0.4	1 st L (sp Harbridge) over Ibsley bridge	17.3
0.8	1 st R on LH bend (sp Cranborne)	18.1
2.3	R at T (sp Fordingbridge)	20.3
1.8	SO at X over B3078 (no sp) into Ashford Rd	22.1
1.0	R at O (sp Fordingbridge) [cafes in Fordingbridge High Street in 1.2km]	23.2
1.3	R at mini-O (sp Ringwood) into Bridge St and over bridge	24.5
0.3	under flyover and 1st R (sp Ringwood) and	24.8
0.1	1st L (sp Stuckton)	24.8
1.6	CG	26.4
0.4	R (no sp) into Pentons Hill [6' 6" sign]	26.8
0.4	SO at X (sp Ogdens) [to café in garden centre on Left]	27.1
0.3	Continue L from café and follow road L	27.4
1.1	Sharp R (sp South Gorley)	28.5
2.3	L at T (no sp)	30.8
2.1	Cross ford at Moyles Court and keep R (sp Rockford)	32.9
0.6	CG	33.5
1.1	Follow road R through ford (probably dry)	34.6
1.2	L at mini-O (no sp) beside White Hart Inn	35.8
0.5	R at mini-O (sp Hightown)	36.2
0.2	1st L (no sp) into Eastfield Lane	36.4
0.7	R beside Elm Tree PH (sp Burley) into Crow Lane	37.1
1.0	SO (L/R) at stg X (sp Bransgore)	38.1
1.2	L at T (sp North Ripley)	39.3
4.3	L (sp Avon Tyrrell House) into Braggers Lane	43.6
1.7	L into UK Youth FINISH	45.3

Miles	Instruction	total
0.0	R at T from centre	0.0
1.1	R at X (sp Ringwood)	1.1
2.7	R (sp Ringwood) [sign hidden behind Crow fingerpost]	3.7
0.8	SO (L/R) at stg X (no sp) into Crow Lane	4.5
0.3	1st L (no sp) into Crow Arch Lane	4.8
0.5	R at T (no sp)	5.3
0.0	L at mini-O (no sp)	5.3
0.4	SO at X (no sp) into Coxstone Lane	5.7
0.1	R at T (no sp)	5.8
0.2	R (no sp) into Kings Arms Lane	6.1
0.1	at No Entry sign walk short distance to R at T (no sp) into High Street	6.2
0.1	L at T (no sp) at end of block paving	6.2
0.1	Cross Rd at pedestrian / cycle TLs and continue	6.3
0.1	R at T (no sp) and over flyover	6.4
0.5	L at mini O (no sp) into Broadshard Lane	6.8
0.3	R at T (no sp)	7.2
0.6	L at T (no sp) into Gorley Rd	7.7
0.4	Follow road L after ford (probably dry)	8.1
0.7	CG	8.8
0.3	Cross ford at Moyles Court (sp Mockbeggar)	9.1
0.6	2nd L into Mockbeggar Lane (sp Ibsley) and over CG	9.8
0.7	R at T onto A338 (sp Salisbury)	10.5
0.2	1st L (sp Harbridge) over Ibsley bridge	10.7
0.5	1st R on LH bend (sp Cranborne)	11.2
1.4	R at T (sp Fordingbridge)	12.6
1.1	SO at X over B3078 (no sp) into Ashford Rd	13.8
0.6	R at O (sp Fordingbridge) [cafes in Fordingbridge High Street in 1.2km]	14.4
0.8	R at mini-O (sp Ringwood) into Bridge St and over bridge	15.2
0.2	under flyover and 1st R (sp Ringwood) and	15.4
0.0	1st L (sp Stuckton)	15.4
1.0	CG	16.4
0.2	R (no sp) into Pentons Hill [6' 6" sign]	16.6
0.2	SO at X (sp Ogdens) [to café in garden centre on Left]	16.9
0.2	Continue L from café and follow road L	17.0
0.7	Sharp R (sp South Gorley)	17.7
1.4	L at T (no sp)	19.1
1.3	Cross ford at Moyles Court and keep R (sp Rockford)	20.4
0.4	CG	20.8
0.7	Follow road R through ford (probably dry)	21.5
0.7	L at mini-O (no sp) beside White Hart Inn	22.2
0.3	R at mini-O (sp Hightown)	22.5
0.1	1st L (no sp) into Eastfield Lane	22.6
0.4	R beside Elm Tree PH (sp Burley) into Crow Lane	23.1
0.6	SO (L/R) at stg X (sp Bransgore)	23.7
0.8	L at T (sp North Ripley)	24.4
2.7	L (sp Avon Tyrrell House) into Braggers Lane	27.1
1.1	L into UK Youth FINISH	28.2