



Uley and the Iron Age Hill Fort

A moderate walk deep into history, over an Iron Age hill fort and through a pretty hamlet, mainly on good paths

Essential Facts

- Route distance: 9.2 km (5.8 miles)
- Approximate time: 2 hours 30 mins
- Approx. total ascent: 190 metres
- Start point Grid Ref: SO 794 012
- GPS Ref: SO 79447 01215
- Recommended O.S. Map: Explorer 168
- Toughness Rating: Cotswolds 2

Please see the notes on Toughness Ratings at the end of this report

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CHALLENGE ?

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Full Info from the Great Walks web site

THE ROUTE

This walk starts at a car park at Coaley Peak, off the B4066 between Dursley and Stroud. From the car park, **S**, make for the escarpment, with fantastic views over the Vale of Berkeley. Turn left, south, along the signed Cotswold Way. Pass through woodland to the road, where you go left, then turn right at the junction. The Cotswold Way is then signed to the right, back into the woodland on a bridleway. The track drops steeply. Bear left at a fork and again at the next fork, still on the Cotswold Way.

The path again climbs to a viewpoint, which marks the point at which you leave the Cotswold Way. Go through the gate behind the viewpoint to a layby and then through another gate on the right, onto a bridleway. This gives access to the plateau of Uley Bury Iron Age Camp.

Bear right, around the perimeter of the camp, the views initially shrouded by trees. The views open out at the next corner, continuing to the next corner, with views over the village of Uley. This is the point at which to descend to the right, taking a bridleway signed into the woods. At a fork take the footpath to the left. Then turn left along the road.

Go right at a junction to crossroads at **A**. Cross over, taking the road signed to Stoutshill. Turn left onto a footpath at Dauncey's Mill. Follow this streamside footpath all the way through to the road at Owlpen, **B**. There are good views of the manor and church from the path ahead, but the route goes along the road to the left. Follow this around the bend for about 200 metres, then, at a footpath sign, take a tarmac track on the right.

Follow this track up into a small valley, climbing through the woodland on the left. On emerging from the woods go through a gate on the right and then bear left to a gate onto a road. Cross the road onto a track and then go over the stile ahead. The path descends to a road. Go left and then take a road off to the left, leading to the church at **C**.

Carry on along the road to the village green and continue along, taking the road on the left and then a track on the right after the last house. Initially the hedge is on your right, then on your left after a gateway. Cross the road, and take the path opposite, which leads back to Coaley Peak, **S**.



Manor House & Church



St Bartholomew's Church



View To Cam Long Down

Refreshment

Old Crown	Rose & Crown
Public House	Public House
The Green, Uley	The Cross, Nympsfield
Tel: 01453 860502	Tel: 01453 860240
Traditional village green	Village pub with
pub serving food	restaurant

LOCAL INFO

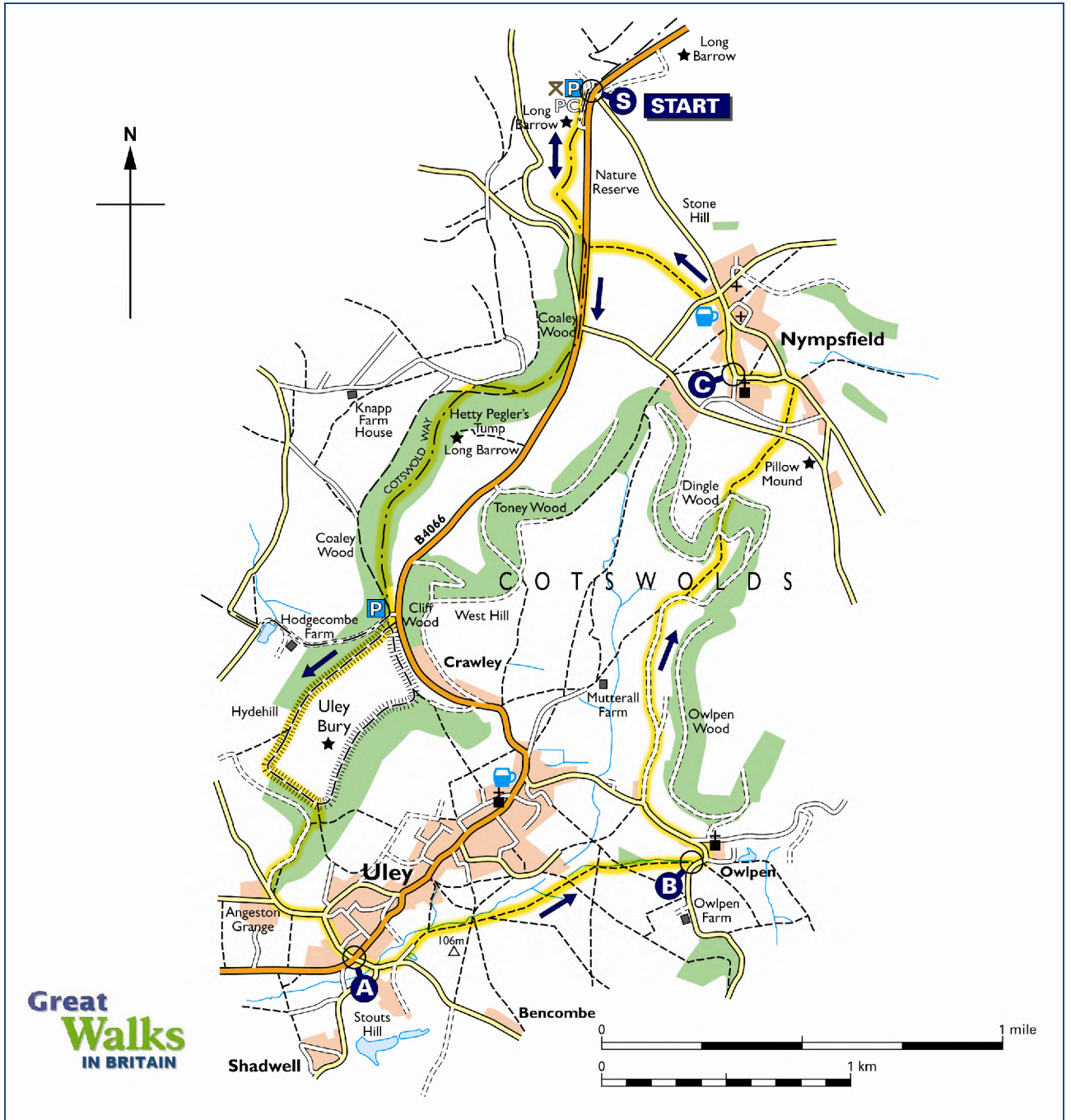
Coaley Peak picnic site overlooks the Berkeley Vale, with superb views. On the northern side is the Nympsfield Long Barrow. This Neolithic tomb dates back to around 2900BC. When it was excavated the remains of no less than 16 people were found, the barrow has since been heavily restored. To the south is the National Trust's Frocester Hill reserve, where a strategically placed topograph can be found.

Uley Bury is an Iron Age hill fort covering about 32 acres. It was occupied between about 300BC and 100AD. The double ramparts are still clearly visible, and there are again excellent views from the south and eastern sides.

Owlpen Manor stands substantially as it was built between 1464 and 1616, with some 18th century work. It then lay derelict until sold to Norman Jewson, a well-known Arts and Crafts movement architect who sensitively restored it. It stands in a picturesque setting with the church of the Holy Cross. The church contains a number of interesting Victorian features, including mosaics, floor tiles and stained glass.

ULEY & THE IRON AGE HILL FORT G.P.S. WAYPOINTS

WAYPOINT NAME	MAP REF	CO-ORDINATES		ELEVATION: Metres
ULY S	S	SO	79447 01215	207
ULY A	A	ST	78548 97944	78
ULY B	B	ST	79917 98327	96
ULY C	C	SO	80072 00308	213



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MAP LEGEND					
	Great Walks route		Church with tower		Spot height - metres
	M6 Motorway		Church with spire		Information centre
	A23 Main road		Other place of worship		Parking
	B2116 Secondary road		Cathedral / Abbey		Public convenience
	Minor road		Building		Public house
	Other road		Built up area		Picnic site
	Track		Woodland		Camp site
	Footpath		Sand, shingle or mud		Major tourist feature
	Bridleway		Water feature		Other tourist feature
	National trail				
	Railway				

Safety First

Safety should always be your first priority in planning and undertaking a walk, whether on your own or leading a group. Please read these Safety First and Walking Our Routes notes.

Lead a group of other walkers only if you have leadership and navigational experience adequate for the 'worst case' conditions which may be encountered on the particular walk, bearing in mind the terrain, possible weather and navigational demands.

Weigh up the capabilities of your party, in terms of fitness and walking speed. Adjust your time expectations accordingly.

Ensure all your party are adequately clothed for the weather and conditions. Footwear is particularly important. Clothing must protect against cold, wet or strong sun according to the time of year.

Emergencies are quite rare, but it is essential to think ahead about what to do if someone in your party sustains an injury. Will you have a First Aid kit? Is there a qualified First Aider in the party? How could help be summoned in a serious eventuality?

Refreshment, particularly water, can be vital. Dehydration in hot summer conditions can be rapid, and frequent intake of fluids is essential.

On tougher walks it is a good idea to tell someone where you are planning to go – and when you expect to be back. Remember - mobile phones often lose reception in mountainous or isolated areas.

All our walks use legitimate routes: Public Rights of Way, Public Footpaths, Bridleways, Permissive Paths, Access Land, Byways and Roads.

Road walking calls for particular care. When there is no defined footpath or verge wide enough for safe walking it is usually best to walk on the right – facing oncoming traffic. An exception may be a tight bend, where walkers would be more visible on the left.

Occasionally you may find a public footpath blocked or unuseable. It is perfectly in order to take the shortest available diversion without damaging crops, perhaps around a field margin.

It is courteous to close gates after passing through, sometimes even if the gate was open when you arrived – particularly if it is obvious livestock may escape.

Mutual respect for farm animals is to be encouraged! Don't frighten or annoy them, but equally don't put your party members in danger or discomfort. You certainly wouldn't be the first walkers to go round the outside of a field of frisky bullocks.

Dogs should always be kept on a lead anywhere near farm animals, and under close supervision elsewhere in the countryside.

Walking Our Routes

Our walks are designed to be negotiated using the route directions in conjunction with the map section provided. We suggest walkers also take the Ordnance Survey Explorer or Outdoor Leisure map recommended for each walk.

On mountain, moorland and open heathland walks it is **ESSENTIAL** to have navigational expertise and tools, including the recommended Ordnance Survey map(s).

Take care to observe any cautions in the route description; exposed paths, areas liable to flooding etc.

Consider conditions before setting off. Will heavy rain have made a water meadow impassable? Will frost or snow make a path slippery?

When navigating the route look for clues to confirm you are in the right place. Are map features where you would expect on the ground? Are features mentioned in the text where expected? If you suspect you may have taken a wrong turn, take action sooner rather than later. It is better to re-trace to a known point rather than carry on regardless with the possibility of becoming increasingly confused.

All our routes are carefully checked before publication, but features can change on the ground – sometimes surprisingly quickly. Footpaths may be re-routed, buildings can appear or change significantly and these days pub names seem to change frequently.

The approximate time given for each walk is based on an average walking speed of 2.5 miles per hour (4 km/hour), plus an allowance for ascent, descent and any difficult terrain.

Total ascent is the approximate total ascent over the whole walk.

GPS users can enter in the waypoints provided in each of our walk reports. It is important to read our guide **Introducing GPS for Walkers**, available as a PDF file from the Great Walks in Britain web site.

Remember that GPS is a great navigational tool, but only one of those available to the navigator. Never dispense with conventional map and compass – and the training and skills to use them, especially on mountain, moorland or open heathland walks.

TOUGHNESS RATINGS

All our **Cotswolds** routes can be undertaken by reasonably fit walkers able to utilise our map segments, together with the route guidance notes. Always consider recent and forecast weather.

Each walk has been allocated a **Toughness Rating**:

1. Easier walks with modest ascent and generally on well defined paths. There may be stiles or narrow gateways to negotiate.
2. Routes which are more demanding. They may include more ascent and possibly paths which are looser or more difficult underfoot.
3. More strenuous walks with some steep sections, higher paths or places which may be wet and boggy.
4. The most demanding walks in this edition. There may be prolonged steep ascents. Conditions may be challenging underfoot.

Toughness Ratings are allocated in the context of the terrain in the edition area. For example a walk rated as demanding in Cambridgeshire may be equivalent to an easier or moderate route on Dartmoor,