

Tingewick & Water Stratford

A moderately easy 3.5 to 5.5 mile walk through the rolling countryside of north Buckinghamshire, passing through the water meadows of the River Great Ouse

Circular Walk

Directions

- The walk is waymarked at every gate or stile or major change in directions.
- From church lane, follow the path, known locally as the Gitty, to the south and west of Tingewick Hall. Follow the waymarked path across the fields. At the road, turn right towards Water Stratford for the short cut through the village to rejoin the main walk near Manor Farm.
- For the main walk, turn left and follow the road for approximately 200 metres then follow the bridleway on the right. After two fields, the route crosses into Oxfordshire where it is designated as a footpath. Follow the path to the dismantled railway. Cross this and then at Bacon's House turn left along the lane and after approximately 200 metres, take the footpath on the right. Re-cross the line of the railway and drop down to the river.
- Follow the waymarked route away from the river. At the junction at the top of the slope, turn right, heading east along the bridleway towards Water Stratford. At Manor farm, turn left along the lane and then left along the Roman road. Cross the road and take the footpath on the right across the field.
- Where the path forks, take the lower route and walk parallel to the river. At the next junction, turn sharply to the right and follow the line of the stream southwards. Cross the railway embankment via steep steps and at the next field boundary turn right and continue to Tingewick Mill. Follow the drive past the Mill House and continue up the lane to Tingewick.



Features of Interest

- 1 Tingewick Hall dates from 1854 and was formerly the rectory at Tingewick. The present Manor Farm stands on the site of the ancient manor of Tingewick. The nearby church of St. Mary Magdalene has a twelfth century north arcade, decorated with chevron mouldings.
- 2 The church of St. Giles in Water Stratford is Norman in origin. The south doorway is decorated with a carved tympanum showing Christ in Majesty supported by two feathered angels.
- 3 Bacons House farm buildings formed the Home Farm of a house reputedly owned by Sir Francis Bacon, the English statesman and philosopher.
- 4 The Buckingham and Brackley Junction railway was completed in 1850. In 1956 a Halt was added at Water Stratford as a result of the line being selected for a "railcar" experiment. The olive green railcars operated between Buckingham and Banbury. The line was eventually closed in the early 1960s.
- 5 The River Great Ouse rises just north of Brackley at Ousewell and empties into the 'Wash' at Kings Lyn in Norfolk. The willow trees and reeds just to



the north of the river mark the site of Hunts' Mill which was noted in the Domesday Book.

- 6 The main road through Water Stratford follows the line of a Roman Road, which ran from Alchester (near Bicester) to Towcester. The old English word Straet, which gives us our modern "street" was also applied to Roman main roads. Where the street crosses a river by means of a ford, the name Stratford resulted.
- 7 In the Domesday Book, Tingewick Mill was recorded as being worth 4 shillings! The Mill ceased working in 1966 but some of the machinery is still in place. During the 1930's, eels caught at the mill were sent to Billingsgate Market for sale.

Follow the Countryside Code:

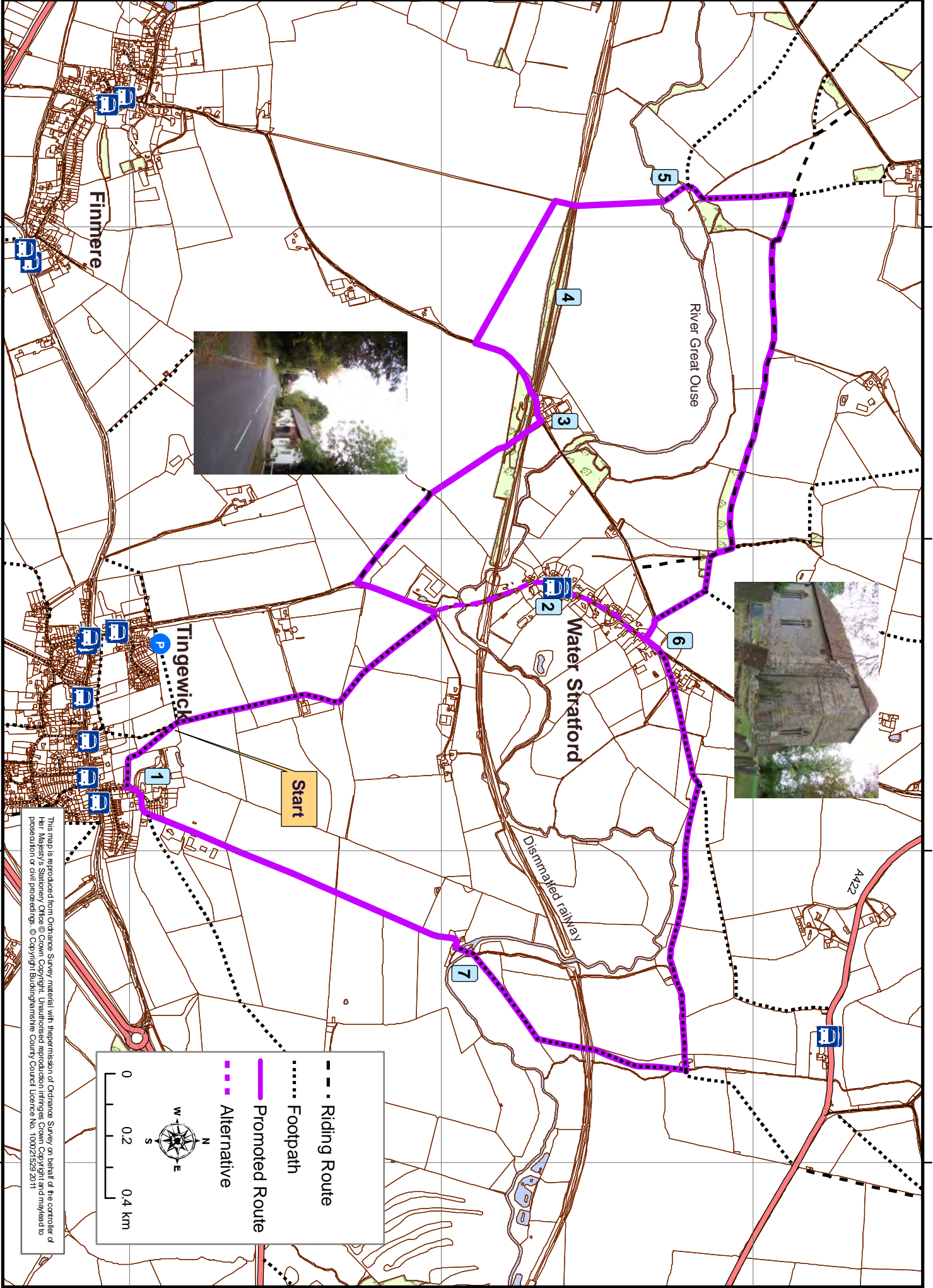
- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

Further Information:

Rights of Way & Access, County Hall, Aylesbury, HP20 1UY
Telephone: 01296 382171
Email: row@buckscc.gov.uk
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Tingewick & Water Stratford Circular Route



Riding Route
 Footpath
 Promoted Route
 Alternative

0 0.2 0.4 km

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