

Three Circles of Crickhowell / Tri Cylch o Crughywel - East Circle: 17 miles

This route description is designed to be used in conjunction with a map & compass

KEY: T JCN – T Junction, TR – Turn Right, TL – Turn Left, BR – Bear Right, BL – Bear Left,
SO – Straight On, Road – RD, Track – TK, X – Cross, FB – Footbridge, ST – Stile,
LMG – Large Metal Gate, LWG – Large Wooden Gate SWG – Small Wooden Gate,
KGT – Kissing Gate, CB – Compass Bearing, GR – Grid Reference
FLD – Field, YDS – Yards, LHS – Left hand Side, RHS – Right Hand Side, FPS – Footpath Sign,
WMS – Waymarker Sign, BWS – Bridleway sign

1. Leave Clarence Hall through main entrance. TL & follow pavement past PO & Fire Station to RD JCN, TL onto Greenhill Way, proceed uphill and at mini-roundabout TR. Continue uphill. After passing Great Oak RD on your left SO for 550yds to BR through silver LMG with FPS. SO across FLD on (CB120°) to X ST. SO keeping hedge and dog kennel on LHS, thru LMG at top left of FLD. Pass barn on right and X ST to right of LMG. SO with hedge on left and through gateway at top left corner of FLD. SO with wall and fence on left to X ST in top left corner. BL (CB085°) and up FLD to X ST in top left corner. (GR SO 233181)
2. SO hedge on right, thru next LMG on right adjacent to water trough and WMS. SO hedge on right, after 150yds TR thru LWG at WMS. Down through wood and exit through SWG. Descend FLD, roughly following line of old trees, (CB175°) to TL at WMS by water trough. Down FLD to X ST next to gate. Down enclosed path passing thru 4 LMG to RD. (GR SO 237177)
3. TL down RD ignoring turning to Pen Rhiw on right. In Llangenny TR over bridge then TL. In 25yds TL over wall with FPS down stone steps. SO on path with river on left. In 40yds X stream, later X ST continue SO on path keeping close to river. Exit wood and SO across next FLD with river close on left. Exit FLD via LMG and ST and BL on stony track. In 50yds at next gateway BL, X ST with FPS. SO with fence on right and river on left. At path end X ST in FLD, SO keeping river close on left. 5yds after passing stone bridge on left TR. (GR SO 238189)
4. Uphill, past 2 large trees, one holly tree and a third large tree on your left. 10 yds after the third large tree, TL onto path. (Slight deviation from OS map here) Follow path generally uphill. X low ST, fence on left for short distance. Just after passing below fallen tree ignore faint path to left and BR. SO and X ST to exit scrub, path widens. At skew X tracks SO (CB060°) climbing slightly, fence soon appears on right. X ST to left of LMG, SO with buildings above on right. At FPS BR uphill to X ST, TR & proceed SO through LMG to RD. TL follow RD for 350yds to start of private RD. (GR SO 246196)
5. TL down track which soon bends right. After 130yds track X's stream. 170yds later TL X ST to left of LMG with FPS. SO downhill through trees. At bottom TR, X FB and X ST. SO (CB320°) across FLD to exit via SMG. X RD and X ST opposite. SO (CB330°) across FLD to bottom of bank, then follow well-worn track up bank. X ST to right of LMG and SO for 10yds to stony track. TR and follow track to RD. (GR SO 244202)
6. At RD, TR. In 15yds TL onto enclosed bridleway BWS (often wet underfoot). Follow bridleway for 1.3 miles crossing several streams to RD. (GR SO 265204)

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CHECKPOINT ONE (Car with Cold drinks and snacks)

Opens 8.45am - Closes 11am

7. From CP TL, in 20yds BR downhill signed 'Forest'. Follow RD for 0.6 miles and 10yds before telegraph pole number 12 on your left TR, X stile, SO uphill, fences on both sides initially. Reach open FLD, SO fence on left, X ST in top left corner, up next FLD, fence on left and X broken ST in top left corner. (GR SO 275203)
8. TL, SO with fence on left to first large tree, then BR (CB80°), X open FLD passing telegraph pole 077 to X ST in FLD corner. Ahead on overgrown path, aiming for next telegraph pole. X ST into FLD. BR (CB110°) up FLD and X ST into bottom of wood. TL, then downhill and in 40yds at FPS BR with wall then fence on left. SO with fence on left. 30yds after passing ST in fence, fence starts to descend, BR on narrow path slightly uphill. Pass over fallen branch, path steepens and wall re-joins from left. SO fence on left passing SWG in fence to National Trust Sugar Loaf sign. (GR SO 287203)
9. TR, SO uphill with fence and wall on left. 130yds after passing ST in fence on left and at fence corner continue uphill with path curving right. SO on well-defined path with bracken both sides to reach wall coming up from left. SO on path passing around wall corner then ahead, wall still on left to reach silver LMG over broken section of wall on left. 25yds later at Y JCN BR (CB240°) uphill. (GR SO 285196)
10. In 50yds pass manhole in the ground on your right, SO through a few small trees. SO uphill on well-defined path between bracken and gorse. Pass WMS on left just before path joins from left. SO, path passes to the left of four small ponds (maybe dry) before reaching 3 wooden posts on left at grass area. (GR SO 277189)
11. Path now steepens. At X track continue SO (CB245°) on narrow path. Path steepens even more and meanders up rock staircase to summit plateau. Bear right to trig point. (GR SO 272187)
12. Leave trig point on (CB130°) for 45yds then BR off edge of plateau to join eroded descending path. Descend on path generally (CB140°), when gully appears on left path curves right slightly and becomes grassier. Follow grass path down with bracken both sides. Path X's stream in the gully and becomes much more level. (GR SO 275182)
13. SO and in 80yds path joins from left. Continue descent on grass path on (CB160°). 25yds after passing to left of very small tree reach stream/path JCN. SO on grass path on (CB180°), in 70yds at Y JCN BR on grass path (CB180°). Path is initially level but will descend as it curves left. Path descends with valley on right. Path comes in from right, continue descending. Path soon turns away but continue on path in same direction. 30yds after passing steel bench on left BR at Y JCN. Continue descending to pass through LMG to track U bend. Do not go onto track but turn sharp right thru SMG. (GR SO 283163)

SELF CLIP 1 (on gate post)

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14. SO with fence on left. At fence end BL slightly to descend to track below. TR on track and ahead with stream on L. X stream via stone slabs, do not X ST but continue up valley keeping main water flow on your right. SO under fallen tree to ford with old fallen log and where two paths meet at other side of stream. (GR SO 278168)
15. Sharp TL and ascend on path. Exit wood and pass between buildings, path becomes track. SO with wooden railing on left. SO and BR at Y JCN in RD signposted 'Car Park'. SO on RD passing below 'Glen View'. 100yds after fence on right ends and just before National Trust sign turn sharp right up path (CB060°). **DO NOT GO UP RD.** (GR SO 276162)
16. 30yds before reaching large tree BL at Y JCN uphill on grassy path (CB330°). At skewed X paths go SO (CB325°). At next multi-way path JCN go initially SO (CB290°), then in 35yds BR (CB325°) with bracken higher on right. In 15yds at X paths JCN continue SO uphill. Path meanders and as it starts to level out ignore turn to right. SO for 140yds to reach path junction on left, TL (CB190°). (GR SO 272167)

SELF CLIP 2 (on stake post)

17. In 60yds pass small tree on left. In further 70yds at X paths TR (CB290°). Follow minor path to eventually BL to drop down to RD. TR and SO to car park. (GR SO 268167)

CHECKPOINT TWO (Car with Cold drinks and snacks)

Opens 9.45 am - Closes 2 pm

18. Leave car park (Hill on R) SO downhill on tarmac track and thru 'Keep Closed' LMG. SO downhill between buildings and thru gateway. Follow meandering tarmac track thru numerous gateways, pass between white gas line markers and thru farm yard. At X tracks TR thru gateway and SO with fences both sides, pass further gas line markers then yellow grit bin on right. Follow track downhill and at X tracks with second yellow grit bin SO. Through LMG (barking dogs normally) and SO between buildings.
(GR SO 255175)
19. SO down track, X stream and SO thru gateway. Stoney track X's two FLDs then pass electric vehicle charging station on the left. SO X third FLD, through LMG to RD. TL downhill, TR at green grit bin and follow RD to bottom and T JCN. (GR SO 241170)
20. TR onto RD. Take first turn to the left 'No through road'. Follow RD between buildings, X river bridge with very large tree on far side. SO up enclosed track. Follow meandering track passing stone barn 30yds off to right and LWG at far end of stone wall also on right. 70 yds after LWG as track turns right SO over ST. (GR SO 235174)
21. SO, fence on left and X second ST. SO downhill on path through woods. In 15yds ignore path off to right and continue downhill (CB260°). Pass beneath fallen tree then BR with path (CB300°) to reach blue MOD sign. Ignore path on left and SO to follow path left around 180 degree bend downhill to arrive below the MOD sign and FPS on tree on right. TR downhill, pass to right of second FPS, SO and

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path becomes enclosed by fences. Follow fence on left to MOD RD, TR to reach pavement before the main RD. (GR SO 229172)

22. TL, SO on pavement, 40yds after start of grass verge on right TR, X RD to FPS, through gap in hedge and TR, SO then X ST to left of green LMG. X FLD on (CB310°) to join river bank path and pass through gap in hedge into next FLD. SO with river on left to X FLD, passing sewage farm on right and two more FLDs to ST. (GR SO 221176)
23. Do not X ST but TR, SO hedge on left. X stile in far corner by warning sign, TR, up two steps and turn 180 degrees left. SO along top of grass bank. At far end of bank with yellow topped WMP TR. SO on grass with hedge on left. Pass second WMP to pass through SWG to RD. Cross road to pavement opposite and TL. SO on pavement, X RD (Greenhill Way), past Fire Station & PO to reach Clarence Hall main entrance steps. (GR SO 218 183)