

Offa's Twisted Wye Kanter

Sunday 16th April 2023

16 mile (25 km) route description

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

Key:

T JCN – T Junction, TR – Turn Right, TL – Turn Left, BR – Bear Right, BL – Bear Left, SO – Straight On, RD – Road, TK – Track, X – Cross, FB – Footbridge, ST – Stile, LMG – Large Metal Gate, LWG – Large Wooden Gate SWG – Small Wooden Gate, KGT – Kissing Gate, MCB – Magnetic Compass Bearing, FLD – Field, YDS – Yards, LHS – Left hand Side, RHS – Right Hand Side, FPS – Footpath Sign, WMS – Waymarker Sign, ODP (Offa's Dyke Path) WVW (Wye Valley Walk) GW (Gloucestershire Way)

1. Leave hall & TR to reach RD. X to pavement opposite & TR. BL up steps to War Memorial & TR. Down cobbled narrow RD to reach 'The Five Alls' pub. SO downhill & remain on LH pavement. Pavement bends to L. X river on Wye Bridge. At end of bridge, X RD **CAREFULLY** & up enclosed path (**join ODP halfway up hill**) to reach RD. X RD **CAREFULLY** towards bin opposite & SO to reach lane. Follow lane to reach RD T JCN. X RD **CAREFULLY** to pavement opposite & TL. At Elm RD JCN, TR & pass low brick wall. After 30 YDS (27m) TL into enclosed footpath (GW FPS). Follow path to reach stone ST. X ST & SO following fence. When fence ends, SO passing thru wide gap between hedges. Follow RH FLD edge to reach KGT. Thru & SO (40°) to reach LMG (GW FPS). Thru to reach RD. X RD **CAREFULLY** to reach LMG (GW FPS). Thru & BR (50°) to reach LMG. Thru & SO (50°) & X FLD to reach ST (WMS). X ST & BR to reach LWG. Thru & SO to reach 2 x LMGs (WMS). Thru & TL & uphill to reach multi path JCN. Thru LMG ahead to reach KGT next to 2 x LMGs. Thru to reach RD & TL. After 240 YDS (219m) reach SMG & Wye Valley Greenway signs on the RHS:
CLUE A (ST 55135 95898)
 2. DO NOT pass thru SMG. SO along RD, passing over railway bridge & at end of fence on the RHS, TR (FPS) leaving RD. Follow enclosed path to reach path JCN (fence & wooden arched door on the LHS) & TR. As path bends sharply to the R, ignore SWG directly in front. Path will descend to reach iron fence. Pass thru gap & TL to reach stone ST (FPS). X ST to RD & BL to reach lych gate of church. Thru & just before south door of church, reach wooden bench on the LHS:
CLUE B (ST 55588 95843)
 3. Continue thru churchyard keeping church on the LHS to reach 3 x SWGs. Thru & along enclosed path, passing underneath 2 x bridges to reach RD. TR & as RD bends to the R & immed after Chasecroft, (FPS), leave RD following path underneath pine trees. Path enters garden of house. Follow RH hedge to reach ST. X ST & TL. After 5 YDS TR & follow RH FLD edge to reach gap in hedge. Thru gap & descend into FLD. Follow LH FLD edge to reach KGT in corner of FLD. Thru & after 5 YDS, TL. Just before arriving at FLD, reach SWG on the RHS. Thru & follow enclosed path to reach KGT. Thru & follow LH FLD edge to reach KGT. Follow LH FLD edge to reach KGT (WMS). Thru & follow LH FLD edge to reach KGT (FPS). Thru to reach RD. X RD **CAREFULLY** to LMG opposite. Thru & SO (020°) to reach LMG in top corner of FLD. Thru to reach 2nd LMG. Thru & follow RH FLD edge (**DO NOT SHORTCUT THIS FLD PLEASE**) to reach ST. **DO NOT CROSS ST.** TL uphill (260°) remaining in FLD to reach ST next to LMG (WMS) in top LH corner of FLD. X ST into woods & reach RD with telegraph pole on the LHS:
CLUE C (ST 55728 97287)
- A temporary fence (may or may not be electric) often exists and is attached to stiles between clues C and D. This has purposely been omitted from the description. Please make an allowance for this.
4. SO & after 100 YDS (91m) TR (GW FPS) & uphill to reach ST. X ST & follow LH FLD edge to reach ST. X ST & follow RH FLD edge to reach ST at end of hedge. SO to reach KGT next to LMG. Thru & SO initially following LH FLD edge. When hedge ends, SO passing to the RHS of 3 trees to reach metal water trough & gorse bushes. SO between gorse bushes to reach ST (GW WMS). X ST into woods & after 10 YDS (9m) BL (GW WMS). Follow path to reach broad stony forestry TK. SO leaving stony TK onto path thru woods.

After 350 yds (320m) reach path Y JCN. BL to pass thru metal railings to reach RD (B4228) (FPS). TR & **FACE ONCOMING TRAFFIC** to reach Rosemary Lane. X B4228 **CAREFULLY** to reach stone ST next to LMG (FPS) & RD sign:

CLUE D (ST 55669 98837)

5. X ST & path will emerge into FLD. Follow RH FLD edge to reach FLD corner. Leave FLD to reach gap in wall & fence corner (WMS). TL & follow path to reach wooden barrier. Pass barrier to reach TK. TR & after 1 ml (1.6 km) reach Beeches Farm Camp Site. SO thru 2 x LMGs (probably open) passing the office on the LHS to reach SMG next to LMG (WMS). Thru & at end of toilet block, SO aiming to the LHS of the large tree ahead & downhill to reach hedge line. TL & immed before Bristol gate, reach KGT on the RHS:

CLUE E (SO 54699 00744)

6. Thru KGT & follow LH FLD edge to reach ST. X ST & TR (now on ODP). After 10 YDS (9m) reach path JCN (WMS). TL downhill to reach SMG (WMS). Thru & SO downhill (310°) to reach area of gorse & brambles. Pass to the RHS of the gorse & brambles & downhill to reach ST next to LMG (WMS). X ST & SO downhill to reach LMG. Thru to TK. TL & downhill passing farm buildings to reach tarmac T JCN (FPS). TR to reach RD JCN with white house on the RHS:

CLUE T (SO 53970 01143)

7. TL (**FACE ONCOMING TRAFFIC**) & follow RD over bridge to reach RD JCN (A466) (WVW FPS) (**Now on WVW**). TR to reach bus stop. X RD **CAREFULLY** to path opposite (WVW FPS). Follow path to reach Y JCN (WVW WMS). BL uphill to reach X TKS (WVW WMS). TL (**leaving WVW**) to reach path T JCN. BL (**rejoining WVW**) & after 25 YDS (23m) at WVW WMS, TR up steps. Immed after stone building (WVW WMS) TL to reach ST next to LMG (WMS) (**leaving WVW**). X ST & after 30 YDS (27m) reach gap between 2 x dry stone walls. DO NOT go thru gap but BR to reach ST (WMS). X ST & follow enclosed path to reach ST. X ST & follow LH FLD edge & path will eventually become sunken to reach ST. X ST & follow enclosed path downhill to reach ST (WMS). X ST & SO down sunken path (WMS) & descend to reach ST (WMS). X ST & SO downhill (ignore SMG on the LHS) to reach tarmac driveway (WMS). SO downhill to reach RD JCN (A466) (FPS). X RD **CAREFULLY** to pavement opposite & TR. When pavement ends, X RD **CAREFULLY** to pavement opposite & cont in same direction to reach Wild Hare Coffee House. TR (Forge Rd) & when pavement ends, SO (**FACE ONCOMING TRAFFIC**) passing house with EF1699 on the LHS & Wireworks Car Park / construction site on the RHS to reach RD JCN. BL into Glynwood lane & uphill to reach RD Y JCN. SO uphill & after 215 YDS (196m) reach FPS on the LHS. TL uphill leaving RD to reach forestry TK. TR & after 70 YDS (64m) BL (FPS "Banton & Fair oak") leaving forestry TK to reach path T JCN. TL uphill. Path will start to level out (buildings on the LHS) & then descend & BL to reach TK (WMS & Private Lane Sign). TR & follow TK to reach TK T JCN (WMS). TR & downhill to reach RD (Road Sign & FPS):

CLUE O (ST 51358 99558)

8. TL uphill & after 0.3 ml (482m) reach ST on the RHS (FPS). X ST to reach ST. X ST into FLD & BL to eventually join RH FLD edge to reach ST next to LMG (WMS). X ST & SO to reach gap in hedge (WMS). Thru hedge & follow RH FLD edge to reach ST (WMS). X ST & TL (130°) to reach LMG next to barn (FPS). Thru to TK & BL to reach RD & 'The Tout' house name plaque:

CLUE P (ST 51846 98517)

9. Retrace steps up TK. TK will descend as TK BR towards house, SO leaving TK along enclosed path to reach SWG (FPS). Thru & SO thru woods to reach forestry TK JCN. TL uphill & after 200 YDS (182m) & as TK BR & starts to descend, TL leaving TK. Uphill to reach ST (WMS). X ST & follow LH FLD edge to reach wooden swivel ST next to LMG ahead (WMS) (Ignore 1st swivel ST on the LHS). Thru & follow LH FLD edge & on approaching corner of FLD BR to reach swivel ST next to LMG (WMS) (green barn ahead). Thru & SO to reach SMG next to barn. Thru & SO to reach 2nd SMG at end of barn. Thru & SO along TK to reach LMG (probably open). Thru & remain on TK (fence on the RHS) & as TK becomes tarmac & BR, BL to reach swivel ST next to LMG (WMS). Thru & SO along broken tarmac TK to reach sign on LMG directly in front of masts:

CLUE Y (ST 51657 98056)

10. TR keeping woodland on the LHS & reach ST next to LMG (WMS). X ST & downhill & aim for bottom RH corner of FLD to reach ST. X ST & down steps to reach RD. SO (Penterry Farm) & after 0.2 ml (322m) reach RD JCN (yellow grit bin on the RHS). TR & after 0.2 ml (322m) reach low stone building & immed before dilapidated barn TR (bungalow on the RHS). Follow TK as it bends to the R&L to reach 2 x LMGs. Thru & SO to reach LMG. Thru to reach LMG (WMS). Thru & SO to reach ST next to LMG (FPS). X ST & after 20 YDS TL into car park & notice board at far end:

CLUE X (ST 52414 97278)

11. Leave car park & pass notice board (WMS) & follow path as it bends to R & descends to reach path JCN (WVW FPS). TL & follow path to reach path JCN (WVW FPS) TR & after 30 YDS (27m) reach green & white metal barrier. Pass barrier & follow path to reach RD (A466). X RD **CAREFULLY** to reach car park. TR & at end of car park follow path into woods. The path will descend, steeply at times to reach stream. X Stream & uphill to reach cave. Thru cave to reach notice board:

CLUE W (ST 52460 96273)

12. SO uphill & after 0.5 ml reach path JCN (WMS). Turn sharp R uphill (**leaving WVW**) to reach ST. X ST & follow RH fence line to reach the ruined Piercefield House. SO (200°) & across grass to reach wide TK. TL & follow TK for 560 YDS to reach 2 LWGs & KGT. Thru & uphill & after 460 YDS arrive at path JCN & sign on tree. BL & after 120 YDS pass thru gap in wall to reach RD. TL & remain on LH pavement for 0.6 ml to arrive at T JCN. TL thru arch & immediately X RD & SO to return to Palmer Community Centre & Finish.

(Total Distance 16 miles / 25 km)