

Offa's Twisted Wye Kanter
Sunday 16th April 2023
24 mile (39 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 2 x SWG on the RHS. Thru 2nd SWG & 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. 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). SO & eventually descend wooden steps to reach SMG. Thru & SO (020°) downhill to reach ST next to LMG. X ST & SO to reach LWG (WMS). Thru & SO downhill to reach 3-way FPS. TR downhill (leaving TK) to reach KGT. Thru, X FB & uphill to reach RD (FPS). TR (now leaving ODP) (**FACE ONCOMING TRAFFIC**) & follow RD for 0.4 ml (644m) (passing Village Shop & Pinewood Studios) to reach narrow lane with poor quality tarmac on the LHS. BL up lane & tarmac will further degrade in quality & become a stony TK. Ignore all paths to the L&R to reach a RD:

CLUE F (SO 54717 02372)

7. TR & follow RD to reach RD JCN. SO & at end of substantial wall, TL (leaving RD). Up enclosed path to reach tarmac driveway (FPS). TL & after 10 YDS (9m) TR (FPS), & up steep enclosed path to reach path T JCN. TR & after 5 YDS (4m) TL. Uphill to reach Y JCN. BL & after 120 YDS (109m) (immed before garden to house) reach ST on the LHS (WMS). X ST & SO to reach ST (FPS). X ST to reach RD. X RD to TK opposite & house sign:

CLUE G (SO 55167 02964)

8. SO along TK & as TK bends L towards garage, SO & leave TK to reach KGT (WMS). Thru & BR (290°) across FLD to reach KGT (WMS). Thru & SO (270°) to reach Bristol Gate (WMS). Thru & SO (270°) to reach ST next to LMG (FPS). X ST to reach RD. TR & immed before gates of Phipps Cottage TL (FPS) & along enclosed path to reach path T JCN (stone building on the LHS) (FPS). TR & follow path to reach RD (FPS). TL & after 240 YDS (219m) TR (The Hollies) (FPS). Immed before gates to the house (WMS), BL along enclosed path & descend to driveway (FPS). SO to reach RD & house on the LHS:

CLUE H (SO 54055 03481)

9. SO downhill to reach RD JCN (ODP FPS). BR (now joining ODP) to reach RD JCN (Sitting Green House on the LHS) (FPS). TR to reach FPS on the LHS (opposite gates of Birchfield House). TL down path to reach path T JCN (railings opposite) (WMS). TR & after 25 YDS (23m) (WMS) TL & descend steps & boardwalk. Descend meandering path thru woods to eventually reach LMG (WMS). Thru & SO (010°) to reach ST (WMS) & gap in collapsed dry stone wall. X ST & BL (350°) downhill to reach LMG (WMS). Thru & follow path past wooden electricity pole to reach TK (WMS). TR & pass thru white LMG (probably open) to reach RD. TL & follow LH pavement across River Wye to reach Black Box just beyond traffic lights:

CLUE I (SO 53802 05115)

10. Remain on LH pavement & after 0.4 ml reach ST on the LHS (FPS). X ST & follow LH FLD edge & leave FLD in lower LH corner. Descend steps to reach ST (WMS). X ST & after 20 YDS (18m) reach TK (WMS). TR & follow TK as it bends to the L & becomes grassy. Follow River Wye riverbank & after 0.6 ml (965m) reach SMG (WMS). Thru & BR away from riverbank to reach hedge corner close to house. BR at corner & follow RH FLD edge to reach SWG (WMS):

CLUE J (SO 52696 04010)

11. SO to reach SWG (WMS). Thru & follow LHS FLD edge to reach KGT. Thru & SO on enclosed path to reach RD (FPS). TR & after 20 YDS (18m) TL to reach RD (A466) (Sloop Inn on the LHS). X RD **CAREFULLY** (FPS) & SO uphill (Sloop Inn Car Park on the LHS) to reach RD. TL uphill (Ignore No Through RD on the LHS) & after 10 YDS (9m) BR (Copper Beech House sign) (WMS) up enclosed path to reach RD. SO & after 10 YDS (9m) TL (private driveway – No Through Road) steeply uphill to reach wooden telegraph pole (FPS). TR

steeply uphill along enclosed path to reach path JCN (WMS). TL & after 70 YDS (64m) reach path Y JCN (low wall on the RHS). SO on lower path & after 40 YDS (36m) reach path JCN. TR (very acutely) & after 40 YDS (36m) path will TL very acutely. Follow path as it zigs & zags & climbs hill gently, passing a bench to reach RD:

CLUE K (SO 51998 03969)

12. SO along RD & after 0.2 ml (322m) reach gates of Cleddon Hall (used to be the home of Bertrand Russell). Immed after gates, reach KGT (FPS). Thru & SO (340°) to reach KGT (FPS):

CLUE L (SO 51573 04199)

13. Thru & TL & follow TK to reach RD. SO along RD to reach RD JCN. X RD **CAREFULLY** & TL & after 40 YDS (36m) reach entrance to 'Coed Ninewells'. TR & follow main TK (passing green & white metal barrier) & follow as it climbs gently & bends to R. After 0.2 ml (322m) in total reach path on the LHS (faint path opposite on the RHS). TL to reach path T JCN (WMS). TL & in 90 YDS (82m) reach path JCN (WMS). SO thru trees to reach stone ST in wall. X ST & follow LH FLD edge. When wall ends, SO for 10 YDS (9m) to stone ST next to LMG. X ST & follow LH FLD edge to reach stone ST next to LMG. X ST & BR (220°) to reach stone ST in wall. X ST & BL (210°) to reach stone ST in wall. X ST & enter woodland. Follow TK thru woods initially (200°) for 110 YDS (100m) to reach wall & small stone ST. X ST into enclosed path. SO to stone ST. X ST to reach RD. TR & after 50 YDS (46m) reach RD JCN. X RD **CAREFULLY** to reach standing stone & information board:

CLUE M (SO 51345 02712)

14. SO downhill to reach ST (WMS) in bottom RH corner. X ST & SO uphill & follow RH FLD edge to reach gap in dry stone wall (LMG across gap). X wall & BL (160°) to reach wall corner. Remain on same bearing across FLD to reach ST. X ST to reach RD. SO to reach RD fork. BL to reach RD T JCN. TR & after 40 YDS (36m) (immed after telephone kiosk) (FPS) TL. Thru 2 x SWGs & SO to reach RD (FPS). TL & after 170 YDS (155m) (FPS) TR into Coed Barbadoes. SO & follow main TK downhill ignoring paths to L&R & after 0.7 ml (1126m) reach large TK JCN. SO downhill & after 0.4 ml (644m) reach TK JCN. BR downhill to reach RD (WMS). TR & after 240 YDS (219m) & immed after Primrose Cottage TL leaving RD (FPS). Path will BR & then become enclosed to reach RD (FPS):

CLUE N (SO 52111 00260)

15. TL uphill & after 150 YDS (137m) & when opposite red sandstone building, TR leaving RD (FPS). Up enclosed path to reach RD (FPS). TR & after 20 YDS reach FPS on the LHS. TL uphill leaving RD to reach forestry TK. TR & after 70 YDS (64m) BL (FPS "Banton & Fairoak") 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)

16. 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)

17. 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 & SO into FLD. On entering FLD, BR (200°) to pass a pond & reach a pile of rocks. SO to reach LMG to the RHS of a wooden electricity pole (WMS). Thru & follow LH FLD edge to reach wooden swivel ST next to LMG (FPS). Thru to RD. X RD **CAREFULLY** & TL (**FACE ONCOMING TRAFFIC**) & after 90 YDS (82m) reach concrete TK on the RHS. TR & uphill to reach wide area with Beguildy Barn & ST on the LHS (FPS). X ST & SO (170°) & X FLD aiming juto the RHS of double telegraph poles to reach loose ST (WMS). X ST & BL (180°) to reach LH FLD edge. Follow LH FLD edge downhill to reach ST next to LMG (WMS). X ST & follow LH FLD edge to reach ST next to LMG (WMS). X ST & SO to reach ST just beyond LMG. X ST & BR (180°) down FLD & X stream to reach ST next to stunted tree. X ST & TL & after 70 YDS reach 3 x LMGs (probably open or on the floor). SO &

follow fence line as it contours (ignore fence going downhill) to reach fence corner (WMS). BL downhill (160°) passing area of brambles (keep brambles on the LHS) to reach LMG next to RD (WMS). Thru & down RD to reach RD T JCN (FPS). TR & after 20 YDS (18m) (FPS) BL thru LMG (probably open). TK will bend sharply to R & L to reach 2 x houses on the RHS:

CLUE Q (ST 50717 96360)

18. SO to reach LMG. Thru & SO to reach TK fork. SO (passing between hedges) slightly downhill & as TK bends to the L & with woodland on the RHS, BR to reach KGT (WMS). Thru & BL (120°) to reach KGT (WMS). Thru & SO to reach ST (WMS). X ST & SO (170°) to reach end of hedge line. SO keeping the hedge on the LHS to reach ST next to LWG (WMS). X ST & follow LH FLD edge passing house to reach ST in far LH corner of FLD (FPS). X ST to reach RD. TL & remain on verge. After 40 YDS (36m) X RD (B4293) **CAREFULLY** to Coed Cockshoot. Pass green & white metal barrier & after 0.3 ml (483m) reach lime kilns immed before green & white metal barrier:

CLUE R (ST 51737 94452)

19. SO passing green & white metal barrier to reach RD. X RD (B4235) **CAREFULLY** to small gap in verge vegetation & downhill to reach path T JCN. TR & after 0.25 ml (402m) reach forestry TK with green & white metal barrier. TL & after 0.2 ml (322m) reach forestry TK JCN. SO & after 80 YDS (73m) BR leaving forestry TK to reach KGT (WMS). Thru & follow enclosed path to reach ST (WMS). X ST & remain on enclosed path to reach ST (WMS). X ST & remain on enclosed path to reach ST next to LMG & FPS:

CLUE S (ST 51813 93448)

20. X ST & SO to reach RD. TL & follow RD ignoring all JCNS & after 0.5 ml (804m) reach X RDs (A466). X RD **CAREFULLY** & SO along Mounon RD. Occasionally there will be no pavement so face oncoming traffic where possible. After 0.4 ml (644m) reach RD JCN. TR to reach Moor St. TL & when safe to do so, X RD **CAREFULLY** to pavement opposite & continue in same direction. Thru arch & TR to return to Palmer Community Centre.

(Total Distance 24 miles / 39 km)