

## Blue Route – 9.2 miles to Horsfall House

- A. From **Minch library** walk past the church towards the town centre. Cross the high street at the war memorial and keeping the Market House on your right, follow Friday Street to the allotments turn left and follow **Tobacconist Road** round to the junction with **Tetbury Street**.
- B. Turn left and just after the cattle grid take the public footpath on the right. When the footpath enters a sloping field, follow the signage down the hill and right into **Chapel Lane**. Turn left to **Gatcombe Wood** and **marshal**.
- C. Follow the signs through Gatcombe Wood until you reach the Pumping Station **marshal**. On exiting the wood, turn right down the bottom of the valley until you find a signposted gate on the left. Go through the gate and walk diagonally uphill through the field to another gate. Walk up to **marshals** at Steps Lane.
- D. Turn right on Steps Lane and walk downhill into Avening to Rectory Lane. Turn left onto Rectory Lane and at the end turn right down the hill to the main road. Carefully cross the road and walk left towards the **marshals** at the entrance to Avening Court.
- E. Follow the signs through the grounds of **Avening Court** until directed to walk across the field to Nag's Head Lane. Turn right to reach Nag's Head\*.
- F. Just before the phone box, turn right down a stoney bridlepath. Bear right up the hill, walking until you see a clump of trees (**The Roundabout**) in the middle of the field to your right.
- G. At the next stone stile turn right to Roundabout Lane and walk 50 metres to a stile on the left marked public footpath. Cross the field to another high stile. and bear right to Star Lane. Turn right on Star Lane back towards Avening.
- H. Walk past the Queen Matilda pub on your right, bear left taking the right fork into High Street. Follow the road past The Bell Inn on your left and continue to the marshals at **Avening Social Club** on **Woodstock Lane**.

**Grab a drink and a bite for a donation. There are toilets and a water station. The shuttle bus leaves here back to the library and Horsfall House.**

- I. Turn left out of the social club and bear right at the first fork.
- J. At the next fork, bear left up a stoney bridleway up the hill. Follow the bridleway, keeping a hedge/fence to the right.
- K. Take the first stile on the right and cross the field to a gate. Follow the path and walk downhill, keeping the farm buildings to your right. \*\*This route is

zigzagged and please remember to close all gates\*\* Keep walking downhill following a fence on your left until you reach the main road from Avening to Nailsworth (Avening Road B4014).

- L. On the main road turn left and walk about a kilometre past Longford's Mill (traffic lights) to the **Weighbridge Inn** on your left.
- M. At the Weighbridge Inn turn right into the bridge road. At the road's bend turn left and follow the footpath through **Holcomb Glen**. The footpath goes to the right of White Cottage and climbs through the wood on Pensile Road.
- N. Cross the road and follow the path up through **Box Wood**.
- O. Near the top of the wood the path becomes enclosed by two low walls. The path exits the wood via a metal gate. Carry on uphill bearing right to meet Box Lane. Turn left and after 50 metres, at the public footpath signpost, turn right taking the path between the houses on to the common.
- P. At the common, walk straight ahead, crossing one road. Keep the line of trees and the stone walls on your right all the way to Windmill Road. At Windmill House, turn right into Windmill Road. **Horsfall House is 300 metres on the right.**

**Congratulations - you made it! Now it's time to relax at Horsfall House and enjoy some well-earned refreshments before heading home.**

### Return to Bell Lane car park - 0.7 miles

Turn right out of Horsfall House, then first left into Ricardo Road. At the end junction turn right into Dr Brown's Road. Take the second left into Cambridge Way and follow the footpath onto Minchinhampton school driveway. Follow this round and it will take you back to the library. Turn left at the church.

### \* Shorter routes - minibus return

1. **5.5 miles** At the exit of Avening Court gardens, turn right onto Nag's Head Lane to continue the scenic loop across fields to join Hampton Hill at the Matilda Inn and on to Avening Social Club. Here you can pick up the bus.
2. **< 5 miles** At the exit of Avening Court gardens, turn left onto Nag's Head Lane, then left to join Hampton Hill and back down the hill towards Avening.
3. **< 5 miles** In Avening Court, before the final uphill field, double back through the gardens to the main entrance and walk via Mays Lane to Avening Social Club.
4. You may also pick up the bus at Avening Court – ask one of the marshals at the main gate.



**Thank you for supporting us today**

