

Orchardleigh

7 Miles | 11.3 km

Moderate

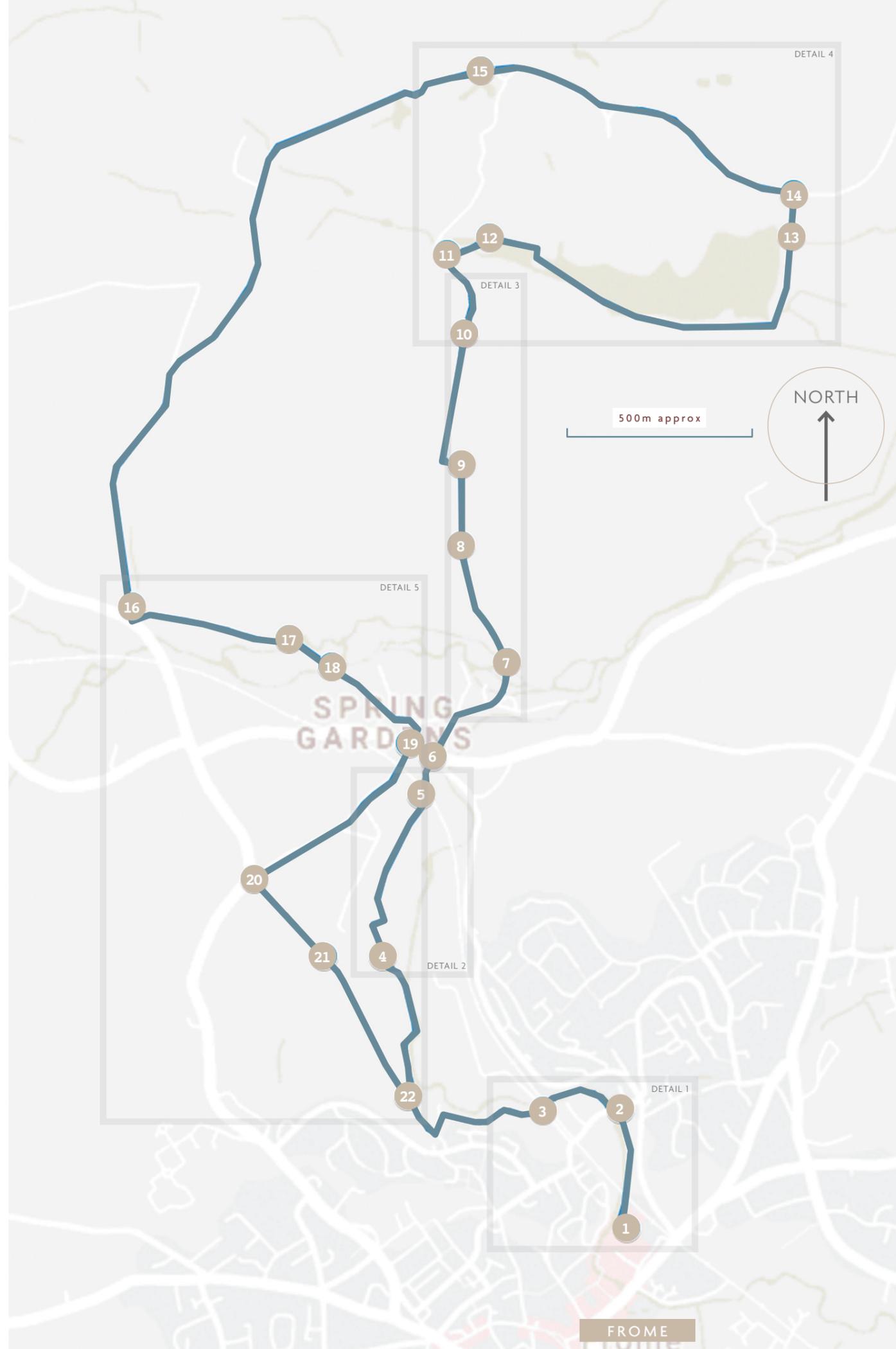
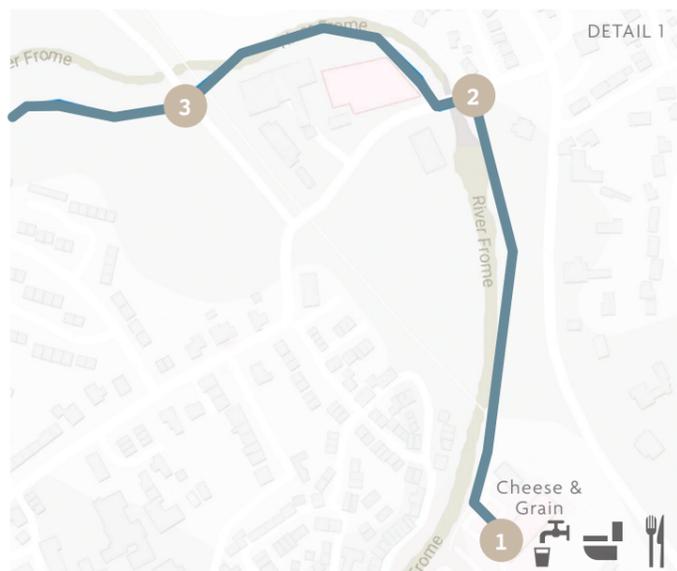
A circular walk following riverside and field paths into the Orchardleigh Estate, where it follows a muddy lakeside path and then tarmac driveway, returning to Frome via Spring Gardens and Cooper Hall.

START

1 At the Cheese & Grain, head north-west past the canoe club, under the railway bridge, passing the pump track and the children's play park.

2 When you reach Welshmill Lane, turn left over the bridge and immediately right following the footpath sign directing you along "Riverside path to Low Water". The River Frome is now on your right.

3 The tarmac path takes you through a meadow and houses. The path turns left and then right signposted to Spring Gardens. Go through the gate, and through Whatcombe Fields. When entering the third field, the footpath leaves the tarmac path, it goes straight on over the field. Head for the telegraph pole and kissing gate straight ahead. Go through the kissing gate. There is a view of Selwood Manor in the distance. Cross the field and go through the stone stile.



4 Follow the path straight ahead with trees and then a wall to your left. Whatcombe Farm is on your left. Go through the kissing gate, passing the Whatcombe Wall canal embankment on your left (part of the Dorset and Somerset Canal that was never completed). There are poplar trees on your right.

5 Go through a kissing gate. Stop look and listen and beware of trains before crossing the railway track. Go through another kissing gate. Cross the pasture, through another kissing gate onto Coalash Lane.

More over >>>



Key

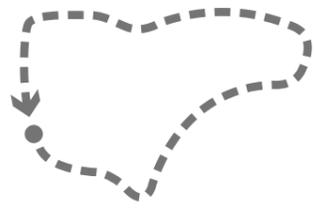
- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Church | Take Care |
| Public Toilet | Route Marker |
| Water Refill | Walking Route |
| Refreshments | Pub |



Map design by Fancy Studio
www.fancystudio.co.uk



FROME WALKS



Route written by Tricia Golinski on behalf of Walkers are Welcome, Frome.

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Respect

Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors.

Leave gates and property as you find them.

Follow paths where crops are growing. Use gates or stiles if possible.

Avoid climbing walls or fences. Don't disturb ruins or historic sites. Don't interfere with machinery or livestock.

Protect

Protect plants and animals and take your litter home. Be careful not to drop matches or smouldering cigarettes.

Keep your dog under effective control so that it does not disturb or scare farm animals or wildlife.

Always clean up after your dog and get rid of the mess responsibly.

Enjoy

Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs.

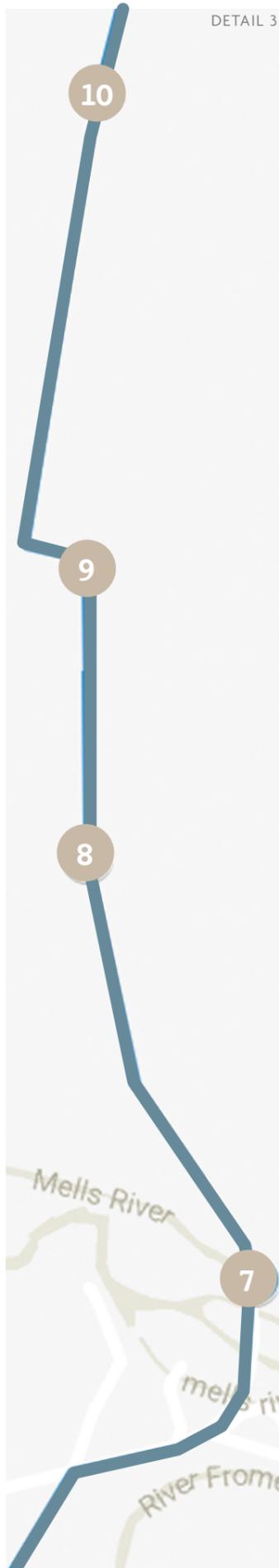
6 Cross the road and take the footpath straight ahead having crossed the stile. Then go over the next stile into Jeffries Lane. Turn right, passing Jeffries Mill on your left. Continue over the river to the end of the lane.

7 At the end of the lane go over the stile and straight ahead up the path keeping the woods on your left. Go over the next stile and continue up the right-hand edge of the field.

8 Go over another stile and up the right-hand edge of another field, and then another stile and continue up the field towards trees. Go over the stile at the edge of the trees and up the steep path through trees.

9 At the top the path turns to the right and continues between wire fences. You are now in the Orchardleigh Estate. Go through two gates where the path crosses a runway for light aircraft, where sheep also graze.

10 The path joins a wider track and continues downhill to the church by the lake.



DETAIL 3

11 At the junction of tracks with a large stable block in front of you, turn right towards the church (worth a visit if you have time). Take the path to the left of the church gate, through two sets of old metal kissing gates, and follow the path between wire fences.

12 The path follows the edge of the lake, always between wire fences, and can be extremely muddy in places.

13 At the eastern end of the lake, the path turns to the left and soon a view of the lake opens up on your left. Carry straight on, over an old bridge with iron railings and through a gate.

14 At the tarmac drive, turn left. Follow the drive past the golf club house on your right and Orchardleigh House on your left. Ignore turnings on the left marked 'Village' and 'Church'. Look out for traffic on the drive and also look out for golf balls.

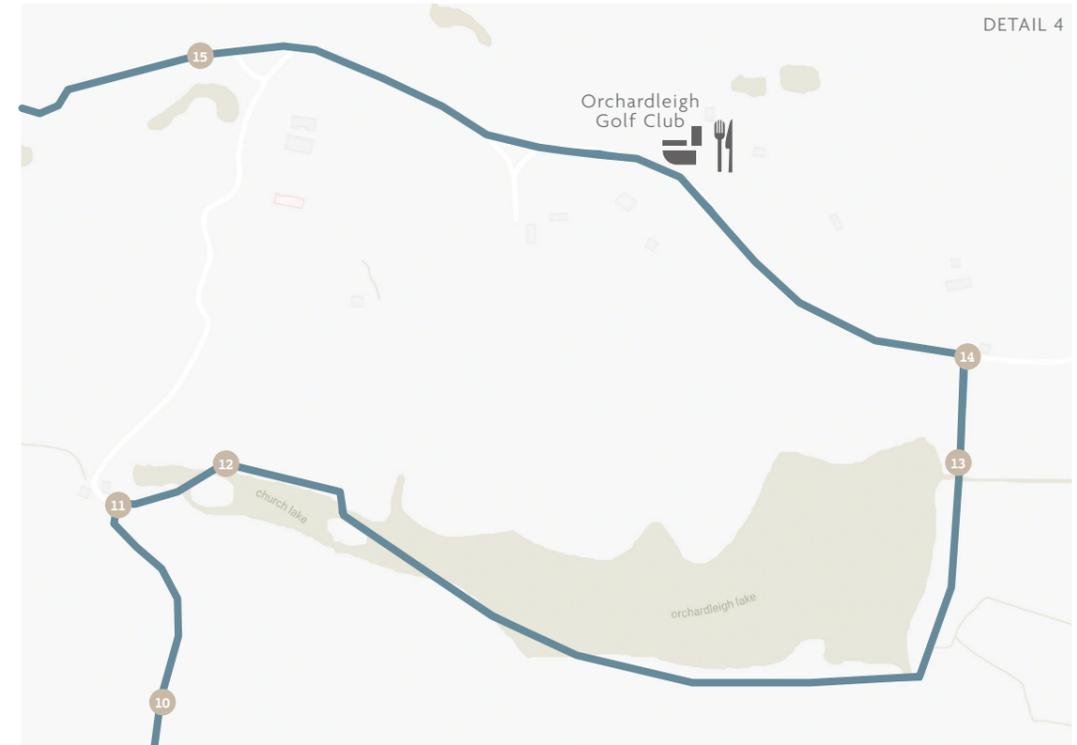
15 Go through a gate next to a cattle grid and keep following the tarmac drive until you reach the entrance lodges at the A road.

16 Just before the end of the drive, turn left behind the Castle Lodge. Pass behind the buildings and take a sharp right turn. This will bring you out to the driveway signposted to Brookover Farm. Turn left along the driveway towards the farm.

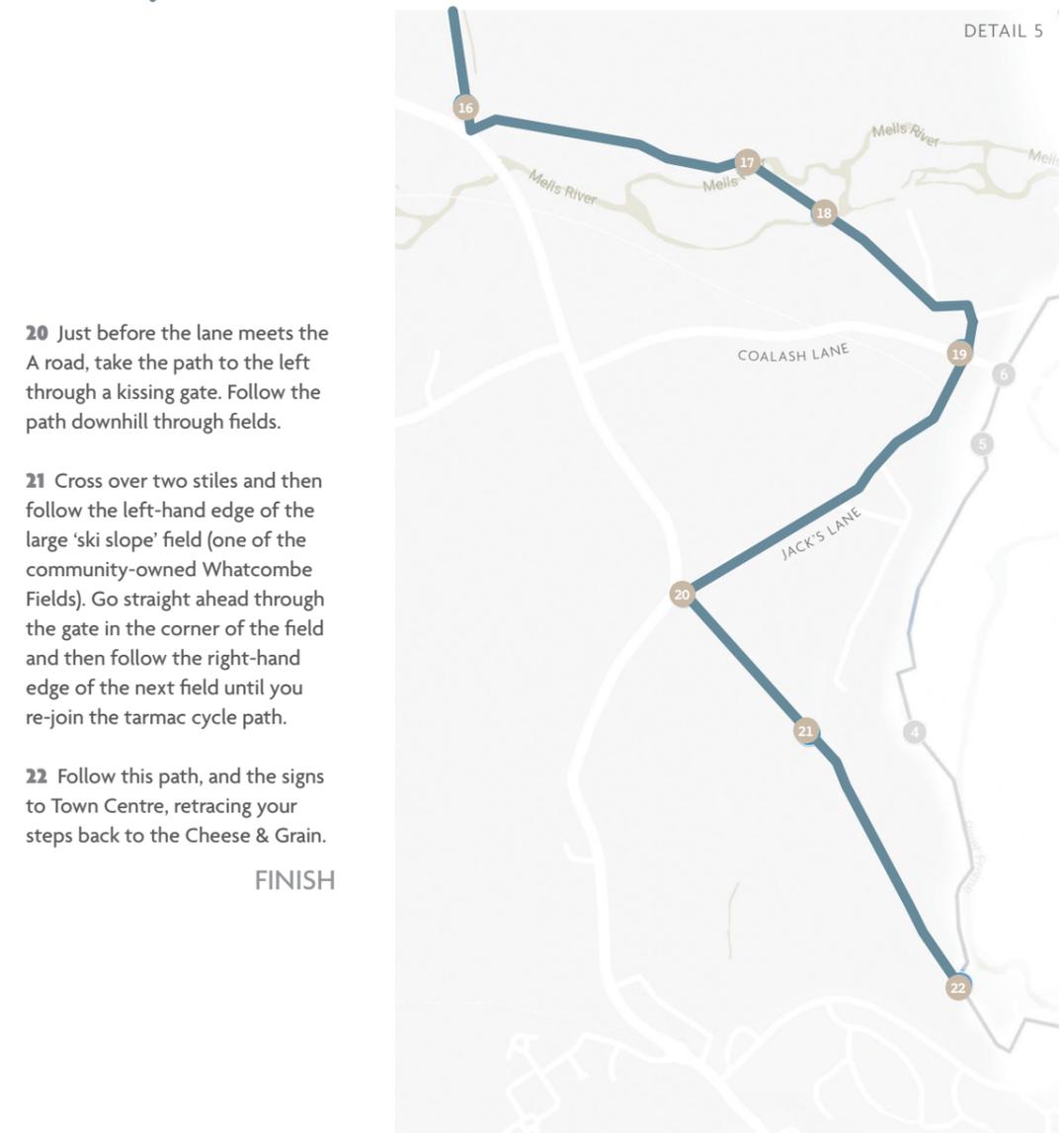
17 Just before Brookover Farm turn right and cross a narrow footbridge across a brook. Go between electric fences across the field which usually contains horses.

18 Go over two stiles at either end of another bridge over a brook. Take the right-hand fork in the path across the field to join a driveway over a cattle grid. Turn right at Jeffries Lane.

19 At the crossroads, cross over with care and go straight ahead up the lane opposite (Jack's Lane). Pass Selwood Manor and Cooper Hall on your left.



DETAIL 4



DETAIL 5

20 Just before the lane meets the A road, take the path to the left through a kissing gate. Follow the path downhill through fields.

21 Cross over two stiles and then follow the left-hand edge of the large 'ski slope' field (one of the community-owned Whatcombe Fields). Go straight ahead through the gate in the corner of the field and then follow the right-hand edge of the next field until you re-join the tarmac cycle path.

22 Follow this path, and the signs to Town Centre, retracing your steps back to the Cheese & Grain.

FINISH