

**Maiden Bradley**  
**Local walks**

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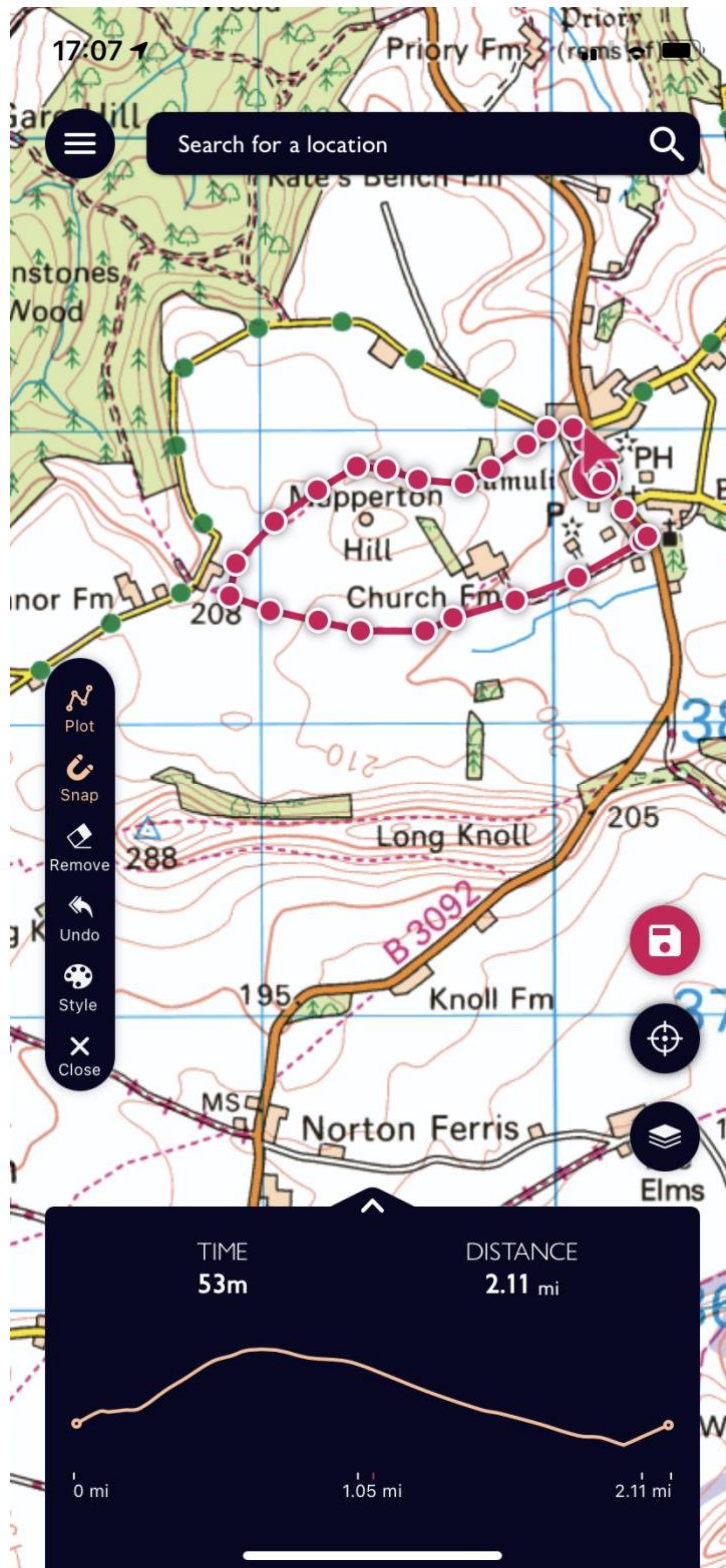
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Route 1. Mapperton Hill, Yarnfield, Church farm and the church – easy.

2.2 miles /1 hour

For OS App users: Route 1 xxxx

A short, circular walk across farmland with views on the return of Long Knoll and Little Knoll. The second half of the walk takes you past the dairy farm that supplies milk to the milk-station in the village, so there are often dairy cows in the adjoining fields.



### Route

Starting at the pub, cross the road and turn right up Church Street, towards Frome.

Follow the pavement through the grassed area called The Knapp (notice the old door on your left which was the jail).

When you exit The Knapp, you are on the Rank – a series of tall houses which were once a silk mill.

Turn left and you will see the Recreation Ground on your left. Just past this is the entrance to the footpath.

Follow the short, wooded track and cross the first stile into a field.

Follow the path along the side of this field, to second stile.

Cross the second stile into a field and follow the path along the right-hand edge of this field to a third stile.

Cross the third stile and you enter a very large field with a distinctive clump of trees on the top. This is Mapperton Hill.

Follow the path along the right-hand edge of this field to a fourth stile.

Cross the fourth stile into the field – you may come across cattle in this field.

Follow the path along the right-hand edge of the field to fifth stile.

Enter the field and you will see a house and barn on your right, which are part of the hamlet of Yarnfield. Look ahead and to the left. You'll see two gates – you want to take the most left-hand gate and stile number 6 – you'll see a distinctive farm track running through the center of the large field, which is

normally planted, heading back toward Maiden Bradley.

*At this point, you could take Route 2 into Great Bradley Wood (see below)*

Walk along the track. To your right you will see the long ridge of Long Knoll. This ridgeline reaches a height of 288 metres and given its position, windspeeds can be strong during storms. On the top, there is a cold war bunker from where you can see across to Dorset and Somerset.

Further ahead, the smaller hill, half-covered in trees, is Long Knoll, which sits just above the Bradley Estate.

Keep walking until you come to another gate and stile number 7, which you cross to enter a large field which may have cattle grazing. The path crosses through the middle of the field to a gate.

Enter a narrow farm track between fields. This can get very muddy in wet weather.

Exit via the gate at the end of the track.

Look straight ahead and you will see a metal swing gate in the electric fence while the farm track goes left and right.

Cross the farm track and go through the metal gate. Look ahead and you'll see a similar metal gate in the fence opposite. Cross the field heading towards that gate.

To your left is the working dairy farm that supplies milk to the milk station in the village.

*Note. If you are using an OS map, you'll see that the footpath goes up through the farm. The map hasn't been changed to reflect an approved change of route so stick to the field.*

Exit the metal swing gate and rejoin the farm track, turning right towards the village.

Cross the metal bars and follow the track to the main road. Although not visible, to your right is the source of the Wylve River and the house is the old vicarage.

Cross the road extremely carefully and turn left back up Church Street.

You'll see All Saints' Church in front of you – you can stop off here to visit the 12<sup>th</sup> century church and explore the graveyard.

If the church is closed, you can call the Church warden on xxxx

Walk back into the village from All Saints' Church up Church Street, crossing Kingston Lane and you will return to the pub.

[Route 2. Mapperton Hill, Yarnfield, Great Bradley wood – moderate.](#)

### **Summary**

A lovely walk combining farmland and ancient woodlands. Xxx add detail about history/trees etc.

Distance/time

For OS App users: Route 2 xxxx

*Use Route 1 from the village out to Yarnfield, until it directs you to Route 2.*

When you reach the field at Yarnfield, where you can see the house and barn to your right, walk straight ahead to the center of the field, ignoring the gates that you can see to your left. Keep walking ahead with the house and garden on your right, and you'll see another gate and stile, leading to a road. This is Bradley Lane – if you turn right and follow the road it takes you back to the village.

Turn right and almost immediately left down a footpath, before the road climbs the small hill.

Follow this footpath for a short section to a gate that leads into a pasture field that sometimes has cows or sheep grazing.

Follow the path straight down the field towards the woods. Ignore the three gates that you'll see on your left – keep going to the final gate and stile at the bottom of the field that enters the woods. Enter the woods and walk straight ahead up the distinctive track. There is some logging and pheasant farming in this area.

There are various footpaths in Great Bradley Wood if you want to extend your walk.

Keep following this track, ignoring any turnings to the left and where the track splits in two, keep right. It's about x miles until the track starts to climb back up the hill – a moderate climb.

Exit onto Bradley Lane.

Turn left and follow Bradley Lane back to Maiden Bradley.

You'll find yourself by the Recreation Ground and on The Rank.

Walk down the Rank until you see the footpath by The Knapp on your right (the grassed triangular area). Follow the footpath along Church street and you'll see the pub ahead.

### [Route 3. Great Bradley wood, Gare Hill, medieval village of Yarnfield – moderate](#)

This route combines some parts of routes 1 and 2.

Leave the pub and turn right up Church Street, following the pavement on the opposite side of the road through The Knapp.

Turn left up The Rank and onto Bradley Road. Walk up Bradley Road until you reach a significant bend in the road and a track entering the woods.

Enter the woods and walk down the hill ignoring a track to the right.

Follow the track as it bends right and walk along a flat section until you see a significant track to the left.

Turn left down the hill.

You will cross over a small stream at the bottom of the hill.

The track now climbs up towards Gare Hill, a moderate climb.

Ignore all turnings left and right – as you reach the top, you'll see a pasture open up on your left.

Keep going until you reach the metal barrier.

If you turn right here, you will reach the B3092 at the bridge, and the route will take you to Horningsham.

Turn left and you'll quickly find yourself in part of the pretty hamlet of Gare Hill.

Walk past the cottages and follow the lane up to the main road.

Look ahead and you'll see a gate and a track entering a field.

Turn left along the main road and then turn left again through this gate.

You will pass a left turn down a footpath – you can take this if you want to shorten your walk.

Walk along the track, past the forester's house on your left and through another metal bar/gate that leads into the woods.

You are now on a significant track in the woods and you follow this straight ahead for x miles ignoring all left and right turns.

At the end of the track there is a gate and stile into pasture fields.

Enter the field and look up to your right. You will see some mounds in the field at the top of the hill – these are the remains of the medieval village of Yarnfield.

Look ahead and you'll see two gates – one to the left and one straight ahead. You will take the gate straight ahead. There is a sign here about the medieval remains.

Go through the gate and follow a grassy track between two hedges up a slight rise and to the main road.

Turn left and walk along Bradley Road, following it as it bends to the left.

To your right you'll see a turning onto Dukes Lane which takes you towards the path for Long Knoll.

Keep left on Bradley Lane. You can walk all the way back to the village on this road, or shorten your return by taking the footpath back to Church farm.

Walk along Bradley Lane and just before the road climbs a small hill by a house, on the right hand side, there is a footpath sign by a gate and stile.

Enter the field and keeping the house on your left walk to the center of the field.

Then look right and you will see two gates – take the one with a stile, which leads to a large arable field, with a significant track.

*You are now on the same route as described in Route 2.*

Walk along this track. To your right you will see the long ridge of Long Knoll. This ridgeline reaches a height of 288 metres (check) and given its position, windspeeds can reach xx amount. Further ahead, the smaller hill, half-covered in trees, is Long Knoll, which sits just above the Bradley Estate.

Keep walking until you come to another gate and stile which you cross into a large field which may have cattle grazing. The path crosses the center of the field to another gate and stile.

Cross the stile into a narrow farm track between fields. This can get very muddy in wet weather. Exit via the gate at the end of the track.

Look ahead and you will see a metal swing gate in the fence while the farm track goes left and right. Cross the track and go through the metal gate. Look ahead and you'll see a similar metal gate in the fence opposite. Cross the center of the field towards that gate.

To your left is the working dairy farm that supplies milk to the milk station in the village.

Exit the metal swing gate and rejoin the farm track, turning right towards the village.

Cross the metal bars and follow the track to the main road. Although not visible, to your right is the source of the Wylde River and the house is the old vicarage.

Cross the road extremely carefully and turn left back up Church Street.

You'll see All Saints' Church in front of you – you can stop off here to visit the church and explore the graveyard.

Walk back into the village from All Saints' Church up Church Street, crossing Kingston Lane and you will return to the pub.

#### Route 4. Long Knoll

Start at the pub and turn left down Church Street.

Route 5. Penny's wood, Great Bradley wood

Route 6. Penny's wood, Horningsham, and back Horse farm

Route 7. Xxx Shearwater, Longleat and back

Route 8. Brimsdown, the beacon and Cold Kitchen Hill

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