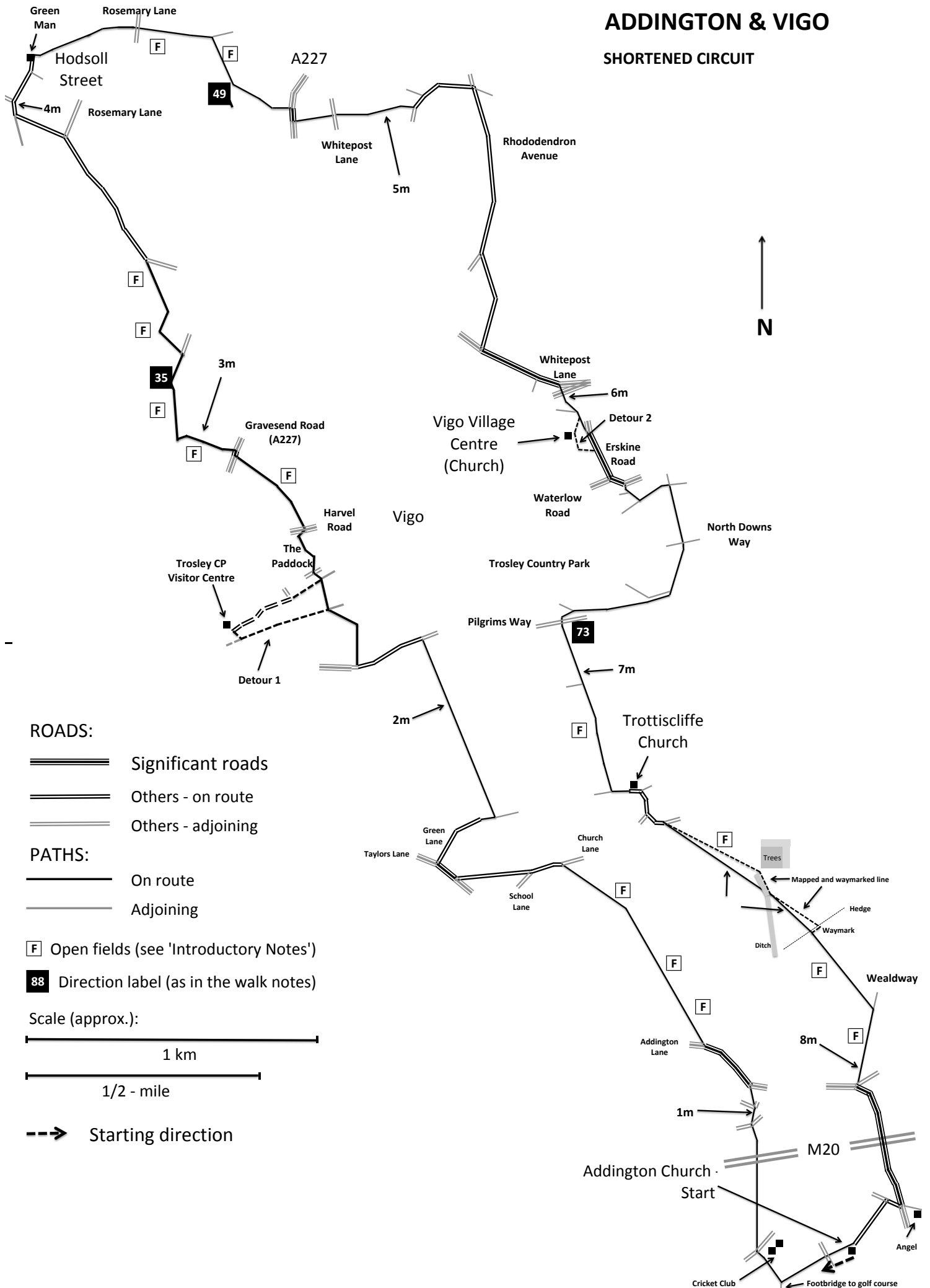


ADDINGTON & VIGO

SHORTENED CIRCUIT



ADDINGTON & VIGO CIRCUIT

Churches in the shortened circuit:

Addington (start and finish)

Vigo (62A: Detour 2 - see Appendix)

Trottiscliffe (76)

Associated local circuits

- FA4: Stansted – Fairseat – Vigo - Stansted
- AV1: Trottiscliffe – Birling - Trottiscliffe

Full circuit: This preserves most of the features of the full circuit: villages, farmland, climb and view. No golf, though, but cricket (if you are lucky) instead.

Roads and hindrances:

The road from, and back towards, Addington (11 and 83) feels as if it should be busy but is quite manageable. All the other roads are quiet, except for a few very short sections, and crossings where there are good sightlines.

The track away from Addington (5-6) is not well cared for, and currently (June 2015) has acquired a fallen tree which tests ingenuity. The climb into Trosley Country Park (24-27) is not as long as the one in the full circuit, but, like the descent in 68, it demands respect.

SHORTENED CIRCUIT

Addington – Vigo – Trottiscliffe - Addington

Notes taken: May and June 2015

The start and finish is at Addington Church (ME19 5BQ).

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		With your back to the gate of Addington Church , facing north, turn left immediately and go down the narrow track. When you reach a metalled driveway, continue straight across it.	653 588	
2	2	Reach the cricket field and turn left to walk, clockwise, around it.		
3	3	Ignore the footbridge on the left and continue around the cricket boundary.		
4	5	Go left away from the cricket boundary, keeping the Village Hall (and beyond it the cricket pavilion) to your right and a store building to your left, pass a green gate, and continue along the left-hand edge of the car park towards the road.		

* "Mins." is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
5	6	Cross the road and take the footpath immediately opposite. (There is a warning sign which implies that you should not, but it is presumably aimed not at you, but at people who might behave irresponsibly around the works ahead: the path, though sometimes overgrown and tricky, is clearly a signposted right of way.)		
6	7	Go straight on, towards the motorway, along a narrow path with a barbed-wire fence on your right.		
7	9	Continue ahead as the works access road comes in from the left.		
8	10	Go through the subway under the motorway, and immediately afterwards turn left up steep steps. Continue up ahead (now briefly following the Wealdway), between green posts and onwards with a fence on your left.		
9	11	Cross the works road at an angled crossing and continue in the same direction along a narrow path with fences on both sides.		
10	12	Approaching another works road at a similar angle, this time follow the path opposite almost at right-angles to the road, and do not get drawn into the works forecourt to the right of it.		
11	13	Reach the main road (Addington Lane) and turn left.		
12	16	After a left-hand curve in the road, and just before a second one, turn right, over a stile, on to footpath MR165 (the less sharp of two right-turns at this point). !!F!! Once over the stile turn half-left across the field, aiming slightly to the right of a floodlit tennis court in the middle distance.		
13	21	!!F!! Pass through a hedge and continue in roughly the same direction.		
14	24	!!F!! Make a tiny diversion to go past a few trees on your left, and continue towards the right-hand edge of the tennis court ahead.		
15	27	Go on across the grass next to the tennis court, and through a gap to turn left on to the road (Church Lane).		
16	29	At a fork in the road, opposite the school, keep right (to the right of Conifer House).		
17	32	Turn right on to the major road, and stay on its right-hand side.		
18	33	Turn right again, off the main road, along Green Lane.		
19	36	At the end of the lane continue straight ahead along a bridleway with a fence to your left.		
20	37	As soon as the path opens out at the corner of a large field, turn left and go along the field edge.		
21	43	Continue straight on as the path goes between a fence on the right and a hedge on the left.		
22	44	Go through a wooden kissing gate, and ahead as straight on as possible.		
23	46	At the end turn left along the quiet road (Pilgrim's Way). (It would be possible to turn along the parallel track a few yards earlier, but that would involve an additional loop of about 50 yds. at the end: there is little point unless you are seriously averse to tarmac.)		

* **"Mins."** is **very approximate!** See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

!!F!! : Field crossing might be unmarked. See 'Open Fields' in 'Introductory Notes' for some thoughts about dealing with this.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
24	49	About 30 yds. before a road junction, turn right, steeply uphill.		
25	50	As you climb, there are two parallel tracks, and it is simplest to move across to the right-hand one, where there are steps and it is clear where to go.		
26	53	Near the top, swing left with the path, then soon afterwards to the right, uphill.		
27	55	Go straight across the broad path of the North Downs Way, and continue upwards. <i>Or, to reach the Visitor Centre of Trosley Country Park, and the opportunity for refreshment and toilets, now follow Detour 1 instead. (See Appendix.)</i>	636 611	
28	57	At the top cross another broad path and continue ahead towards a road.		
29	58	Cross the road, and carry on along the left-hand side of The Paddock – now at the western end of Vigo - all the way into the small group of trees beyond number 4 on your left. Then follow the path as it swings to the right towards the road.		
30	60	Cross the road and go through the tight wooden kissing gate opposite. Start your progress through a succession of fields by following the rough left-hand edge of the first one.		
31	61	Go straight ahead through a second kissing gate, and then a small metal gate. [!!F!!] Then cross the next field diagonally to the right to a stile in its right-hand fence.		
32	63	[!!F!!] Go over the stile (if necessary – it seems to be permanently broken!) and go on to another stile (about 40 yds. to the right of a fenced enclosure), which leads on to the main A227 road.		
33	64	Cross this stile, and walk a few yards to the right along the walkway, then cross the road (quite busy, but good sightlines) and go over a slightly hidden stile, which leads into rough land beyond. <i>The next few minutes are simple enough in outline, going ahead (away from the A227), then a few minutes later turning right towards a small wood. But the detail is a little tricky. There are paths but they are feebly defined and disappear from time to time.</i> [!!F!!] Walk away from the road and look at the overhead power lines alongside to your right, which are gradually converging on your walking direction. Note the supporting poles: counting the one at the road as number '1', number '3' is next to a dilapidated white structure, and number '4' is the point at which you converge.		
34	68	[!!F!!] At that 'pole 4' turn right, heading towards trees, going more or less at right-angles to the cables you are leaving behind. The path, such as it is, winds left and right and left and right, but always in the general direction of the trees.	630 617	
35	70	[Map point] Go into the trees over a low stile.	63049 61858	

* *"Mins." is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.*

!!F!! : *Field crossing might be unmarked. See 'Open Fields' in 'Introductory Notes' for some thoughts about dealing with this.*

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
36	72	You soon emerge from them, and immediately turn left through a MKG, opposite the entrance drive to a house. [!!F!!] Go diagonally to the right across this parcel of land. (May 2015: This 'field' used to be impossibly overgrown, but a splendid job has been done to clear the ground, even to the extent of getting the path to follow the mapped diagonal – previously impermeable!)		
37	75	In that distant corner, cross the inadequate stile and go through a MKG immediately beyond; and then [!!F!!] diagonally right, gently down across an open field to a MKG in its far right-hand corner.		
38	78	Continue in roughly the same direction along the road.	629 623	
39	84	Continue ahead, passing Rosemary Lane on your right.		
40	86	Follow the road as it swings to the right, ignoring the byway signposted to the left.	625 628	
41	87	When the main road goes to the left, instead take the right fork, and pass the Hodsoll Street Village Hall on your left.		
42	88	Ignore the path joining from the right at a stile.		
43	89	START OF THE SPINE SECTION (from here to the end) After passing the Green Man turn right along the far side of the green, and go ahead through an ornate kissing gate and along the track beyond.		
44	90	After a few yards you reach a stepping-stone stile in the fence on the right. Cross it, turn left alongside the fence, and continue ahead along the left-hand side of the field with the fence on your left.		
45	92	Cross the stile in the far left-hand corner. Then turn a little to the right to pass to the right of an old and very static container ('Cadbury's Milk') before swinging back slightly leftwards to go along the left-hand edge of the field.		
46	94	[!!F!!] Go through the MKG, across the road, and through a gap into the field beyond. Walk gently down across the grassy field, on the right-hand side of, and parallel to, cables above.		
47	97	Continue ahead over a stile into trees, and up along a path between barbed-wire fences.		
48	98	[!!F!!] Go through the MKG at the top and take the path (NS301) which goes to the right, across the large field at an angle, to another MKG in the middle distance.		
49	101	[Map point] Go through that MKG and a few trees beyond, then turn left keeping quite close to the left-hand edge.		
50	102	Cross a rough old stile, about 20 yds. to the right of the left-hand corner of the field.	633 628	
51	104	Stay alongside the left-hand edge of the next field and go ahead to reach the A227 over a stile.		
52	105	Turn right alongside the road. (For the best sightlines, cross it sooner rather than later.)		

* *"Mins." is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.*

[!!F!!] : *Field crossing might be unmarked. See 'Open Fields' in 'Introductory Notes' for some thoughts about dealing with this.*

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
53	106	Look out for a narrow alleyway on the left. Turn into it, and pass some new buildings on the left before reaching a minor road.		
54	107	Cross the road and continue ahead along the track opposite.		
55	109	Go between railings and continue ahead downhill.		
56	111	At the bottom turn left along the road.		
57	114	After the road swings to the right, turn right at the crossroads.	640 629	
58	122	Keep left at the fork.		
59	126	Turn left at the T-junction.		
60	129	Pass Beechwood Drive on the left.		
61	130	Turn right at the post box (just after the 'Last Post'!), to go along the right-hand side of the little green triangle. Cross the road ahead, and continue directly over a little bank on to a track which goes down and up, left and right, through the trees.		
62	132	Emerge from the trees and go along the concrete path which joins from the right and continues past the enclosed basketball court. <i>[To visit the Village Hall, which serves as Vigo Church, now divert instead to Detour 2 in the Appendix.]</i>		
	133	Main route: Go slightly to the left across the car park towards the bus stop.		
63	134	At the bus stop keep ahead alongside the right-hand side of the road, crossing minor roads and Waterlow Road and swinging round to the left.		
64	136	Opposite Admers Wood turn right along an unsignposted track into the trees of Trosley Country Park. Continue straight ahead along the track as a path merges from the right.		
65	137	Turn left along a major path.		
66	139	Turn right on to the first significant path you meet, next to a dog-waste bin. Follow this path straight ahead, quite steeply downhill at the end (with steps) until you go across the wide track of the North Downs Way.		
67	141	Cross the NDW and continue ahead, still quite steeply downhill (with more steps).	647 613	
68	142	Admire the view at the MKG. Then carry on (carefully – it is not as smooth underfoot as it seems!) down the steep, grassy hill, aiming towards the gates at the bottom right-hand corner.		
69	147	At the bottom turn right through the further of the two kissing gates (the one immediately next to the notice-board) to keep correctly to the left of the fence dividing the two parallel tracks. Go gently uphill.		
70	148	The paths then diverge. Yours goes a little to the left and levels off.		
71	149	Pass a pylon on the left.		
72	151	In spite of a waymark with a blue arrow ahead, instead, just before it, turn down to the left (unsignposted) into the trees.		

* *"Mins." is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.*

!!F!! : Field crossing might be unmarked. See 'Open Fields' in 'Introductory Notes' for some thoughts about dealing with this.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
73	152	[Map point] Go through a gap next to a redundant gate, down some steps and across the road, and carry on a few yards in the same direction to start ahead along a narrow track.	643 611	
74	155	[!!F!!] Carry on ahead, through a wooden gate, ignoring the path coming in from the right.		
75	160	At the end of the path turn left in front of the farm buildings, and go through the farmyard.		
76	161	Pass <u>Trottiscliffe Church</u> on the left and follow the road as it swings to the right.		
77	162	Keep left at the road junction.		
78	163	[!!F!!] As the road swings to the left, take the footpath which forks off, gently uphill, to the right.		
79	168	The mapped path reaches the right-hand end of trees, and a bridge over a well-disguised ditch. (But the cleared path – currently, in June 2015 – goes to another bridge a little further to the right. Either way ...) Cross the ditch and turn right.	650 602	
80	169	[!!F!!] Diverge a little from the line of the ditch and head for a gap in the hedge up ahead. (The line is, at times, unclear and covered by crops. The field-edge is of course an alternative, though you should not be put in the position of having to do this.)		
81	173	[!!F!!] There are in fact two ways through the hedge at the top (the one on the left with a MKG, the other simply a gap) and it is not always clear which one is correct. They are about 25 yds. apart. The path beyond goes ahead from the latter, and you may find it necessary to adjust to find this point. Once you have found it, walk its whole length.		
82	177	[!!F!!] Reach a MKG at the far corner and go through it along a track across a big field.	654 597	
83	180	At the end go down steps to a road junction. Ignore the minor road on the left, and turn left along the major road. There is a case for, exceptionally, walking on the left-hand side briefly, ahead of the road's swing to the right. Make your own decision!		
84		After crossing the motorway, opposite The Angel on the left, turn right along Park Road.		
85		Turn left along the quiet roadway to the church, keeping alongside the brick wall on the right.		
86		Arrive back at the starting point at <u>Addington Church</u>	653 588	

* "*Mins.*" is *very approximate*! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

!!F!! : *Field crossing might be unmarked.* See 'Open Fields' in 'Introductory Notes' for some thoughts about dealing with this.

APPENDIX to Shortened Circuit

Detour to Trosley Country Park Visitor Centre (Detour 1)

27A	0	In Direction 27, instead of going straight across the broad path of the North Downs Way, turn left along it.	636 611	0.00
27B	4	Opposite the information table, turn right, up towards the nearby Visitor Centre.		
27C		At the Visitor Centre turn right to go along the roadway (at the sign for 'Trosley Trail (EA)' and 'Woodland Walk'), and pass, on the left, the ladder walk at the start of the 'Trim Trail'.		
27D	7	When the road swings left, go straight on instead, past the chin-ups exercise.		
27E	8	About 100 yds. later turn left off the main track along a narrow path. (This is about 100 yds. before a vehicle barrier. There is a 'Public Footpath' stone marker on the ground.) By turning left here you are rejoining the main route: continue from Direction 28. Add 6 minutes to subsequent total times and 0.34 miles to cumulative distances.	635 612	0.41

Detour to Vigo Church (Detour 2)

62A	<p>After the enclosed basketball court in Direction 62, keep to the right alongside the school and go ahead until Vigo's central square opens up, in front and to the left. The Village Hall, the location for Vigo Church, is on the right.</p> <p>Leave the square by the narrow passageway which goes up from the far left-hand corner, alongside The Villager. At the top turn left along the access road, and then rejoin the main route (Direction 63) by turning right at the main road at the end. Cross Waterlow Road and follow subsequent directions.</p> <p>There is no significant addition to total times or cumulative distances.</p>
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FOR THOSE WHO WALK WITH THEIR DOGS

See footnote on next page.

FOR THOSE WHO WALK WITH THEIR DOGS

I do not venture to give advice about walking with your dog. As well as the joys, you will be well aware of the issues involved, and particularly that relationships between dogs and other countryside animals potentially involve mutual suspicion, or worse.

But what this footnote does try to do, in response to requests, is to give some indication of the nature of the walk from a dog's point of view, to enable you to decide whether it is suitable.

The percentage distances on the right should be self-explanatory.

The information in the middle column may look a bit cluttered, but I think it should enable you (if the detail is of interest) to mark up within a few minutes a print-out of the walk notes, so that you have some idea what might be round the next corner.

The risk in all this is that **things change so quickly** in the agricultural working world; and what I describe might become misleading after subsequent changes. I have done my best, but there is no guarantee that you will find the information up to date!

ADDINGTON & VIGO - SHORTENED CIRCUIT	Direction numbers	% of walk
Busy road	11, 17, 52, 59-61a, 63, 83	9
Quiet road \$\$	15b-16, 18, 23-24, 38-42, 56-58, 76-77, 84-85	25
Open field with livestock	31-34, 37	6
Edge of field with livestock	30, 44, 50-51	2
Field (or edge) without livestock **	12-15a, 20, 45-46, 48-49, 68-71, 74, 78-82	29
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	1-10, 19, 21-22, 28-29, 36, 43, 53-55, 62, 72-73, 75	20
Woods	25-27, 35, 47, 61b, 64-67	8

** This is not a promise, just a statement of fact - that, having walked these sections perhaps two or three times, I have found no animals or any sign of them.

\$\$ Again, not a promise that there will be no traffic to worry about. Just a personal judgement of conditions as I have found them.

STILES (11) – Details noted in May and June 2015, but **subject to frequent change**:

All the stiles in Directions 12, 31, 33 (both), 35, 37, 45, 47, 50 and 51 have easy gaps; and the stepping-stone stile in 44 is also easy.