

FLORE WALK 3 – TEXT DESCRIPTION AND DIRECTIONS

The text below is in twelve numbered paragraphs. On the accompanying map there are twelve points marked.

The twelve points on the map show in each case the starting point in relation to the twelve text paragraphs, below.

- 1) From Flore Post Office walk along Flore High Street towards Northampton. Just before Bliss Lane and on the opposite side of the road (northern side) there is a footpath sign and stile. Cross the stile and follow the hedgerow up the side of the small paddock to a kissing gate to right. Cross the field diagonally to left and next kissing gate and then turn right in next field following hedgerow to next Kissing gate. Continue walking down next field to gate between Balancing Pond and new Bypass. Skirt round Pond and after going through next Gate turn left and go under both new Bypass and M1.
- 2) Within a few metres you come to an opening in hedge into copse. Follow footpath through copse leading towards the right and a footbridge, after which continue to the kissing gate at edge of copse. In the field turn right to follow the hedgerow.
- 3) At the end of the field go through field gate into area of farm buildings. Apart from first building, follow the fence on the left of the yard, leaving rest of buildings to your right. At far end of farm buildings go through gate and then cross two stiles onto junction with Midshires Way (Old Roman route).
- 4) Having crossed Midshires Way continue up steep Glassthorpe Hill, keeping close to the hedgerow on your right. After reaching the summit walk on down towards farm house and buildings, just before which you should bear off left to skirt round farmstead and to find a gate onto the farm entrance track. Turn left onto the track.
- 5) Follow track which gradually turns to the right and take the gate to pass through the hedgerow. Continue walking down track past Frosts Farm to a right bend in the track. At this bend go left through the gate and then closely follow the hedgerow on your left to the end of the field. At this point gradually climb

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following same hedgerow on your left in the next field. This ends at the corner of Dundas Covert and there is a short narrow path which opens onto wide track through the covert.

- 6) At the junction of track continue on Glassthorpe Lane to Harpole Village. Take the first turn on the left into Chester Avenue in the village of Harpole, and then turn right into School Lane.
- 7) Turn left off School lane onto Footpath CF10 signed for the “Northamptonshire Round”. Climb the hill and pass Harpole Covert on the left as the path continues to the hamlet of Nobottle.
- 8) On reaching Nobottle hamlet turn left on the “main road” (take care here – traffic travels rather fast through the settlement despite a 30 MPH limit being in force) and then turn left again onto the track past Townsend Farm to join bridleway CF9 that links up to footpath EU16.
- 9) On reaching the junction with a field track running south turn half right and follow the path which skirts the northern end of the old shooting range and which runs towards the Midshires Way.
- 10) Looking across Midshires Way and slightly to the right there is a stile through hedgerow. This is a continuation of the Macmillan Way and it takes you towards Vicarage Farm. After the first field continue heading left alongside a ditch which leads to a small wood, where the footpath goes through slightly to the right.
- 11) Walk across the next field and through gap between two fish ponds. Using approximately the same compass bearing cross several fields, looking out for Way Markers as you go, until reaching the final corner of last field which intersects with Brington Road adjacent to the M1 Bridge.
- 12) After crossing M1 and the new Bypass bridges find Footpath Sign on right hand side of road. Take footpath through new housing development to reach Flore High Street. Turn right and after passing White Hart Pub you arrive back at Flore Post Office.