



# 03 WILTSHIRE STONEHENGE

▶ Distance: 6 miles/9.6km ▶ Time: 3 hours ▶ Grade: Easy

SEE  
FEATURE  
ON PAGE 72

Stonehenge from  
The Avenue.



PHOTO: NIGEL VILE



CHOSEN BY...

**NIGEL VILE**

This walk enables  
Britain's best-known

ancient monument to be viewed from a distance, within its natural setting, far away from the hustle and bustle of the tourist traffic. Salisbury Plain is, after all, a landscape of open vistas and expansive views, something that cannot be appreciated from within the narrow confines of the stones themselves. Along the way lie a number of important archaeological sites, including Durrington Walls, Woodhenge, the Cuckoo Stone, the Old King Barrows, the Avenue and the Cursus – a linear enclosure that early antiquarians believed was a venue for

Roman chariot races. It's truly a walk through the pages of ancient history.

## 1 Start

Walk along the road, passing the entrance to Woodhenge on the L, before passing a gate into the Cuckoo Stone enclosure. Walk across this field to a gate in its far R corner. Bear L and drop down to a track, the course of an old army railway line, and follow this track to the L. In 0.75km, and 100m before an electricity pylon, pass through a gap on the R to join a track. Follow this track – signposted to the 'Old King Barrows and Stonehenge' – for 1.2km, before keeping on the track as it bears R.

## PLAN YOUR WALK



## ROUTE

**Start/parking** Woodhenge car park, grid ref SU151433, nearest postcode SP4 7AR

**Is it for me?** An easy, gently undulating walk on bridle tracks and over the open access ground of Salisbury Plain  
**Stiles** None

## PLANNING

**Nearest town** Amesbury

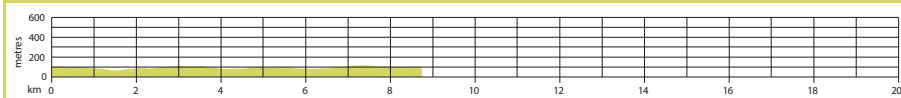
**Refreshments** A few minutes' drive from the start is Durrington's Stonehenge Inn, with an exact replica of the ancient stones in its garden (01722 433186). More choice in Durrington and Amesbury

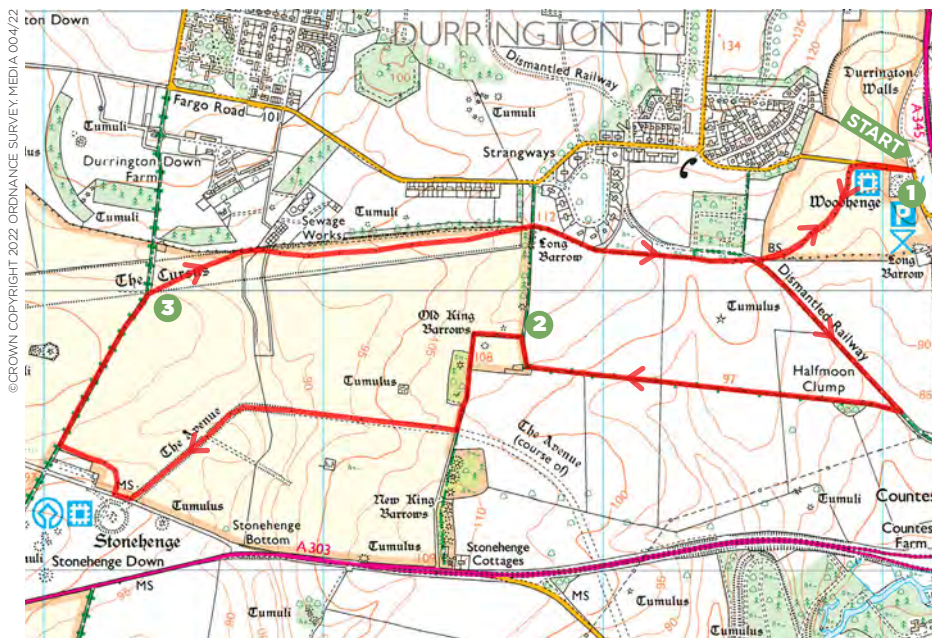
**Public toilets** None

**Public transport** Bus X5 Salisbury-Swindon stops close to the start on the A345 Mon-Sat (salisburyreds.co.uk)

**Maps** OS Explorer 130; Landranger 184

## GRADIENT PROFILE



03 WILTSHIRE  
STONEHENGE▶ OS Explorer map 130 ▶ Buy maps at: [ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop](http://ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop)

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DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING

**2** <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> miles/2.8km  
In 75m, turn L at a junction with another 'King Barrows' sign. Follow this track, it bears L along the way, to reach an information board about 'The Avenue' and a handgate on the R in 320m. Pass through this gateway and walk across the field ahead, dropping downhill to reach a handgate in a fence in 0.5km. Beyond this gate, walk ahead to another information board before bearing L to walk uphill towards Stonehenge. On reaching a fence in front of this monument, turn R and follow the line of fences that wind their way to a gate and track in

250m. Follow this track to the R for 0.6km to a point where the track has started to drop downhill and there are handgates either side of the track and a Cursus information board. Continue down this track for 75 m to another pair of gates.

**3** <sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles/5.6km  
Pass through the handgate on R and walk across to the far L corner of field ahead - this is the course of the Cursus. Pass through a gate, cross a small paddock to another gate and follow the left edge of the next field for 0.8km to a gate and track that leads to a crossroads.

Follow the enclosed path opposite for 0.8km to a gap on the L by an MoD sign. Turn L up to a handgate and enter an enclosure that was passed earlier in the walk. Walk diagonally across the middle of this field to a gate and the road by the Woodhenge monument, before turning R back to the parking area. **CW**

**VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:**

[walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes](http://walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes)

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