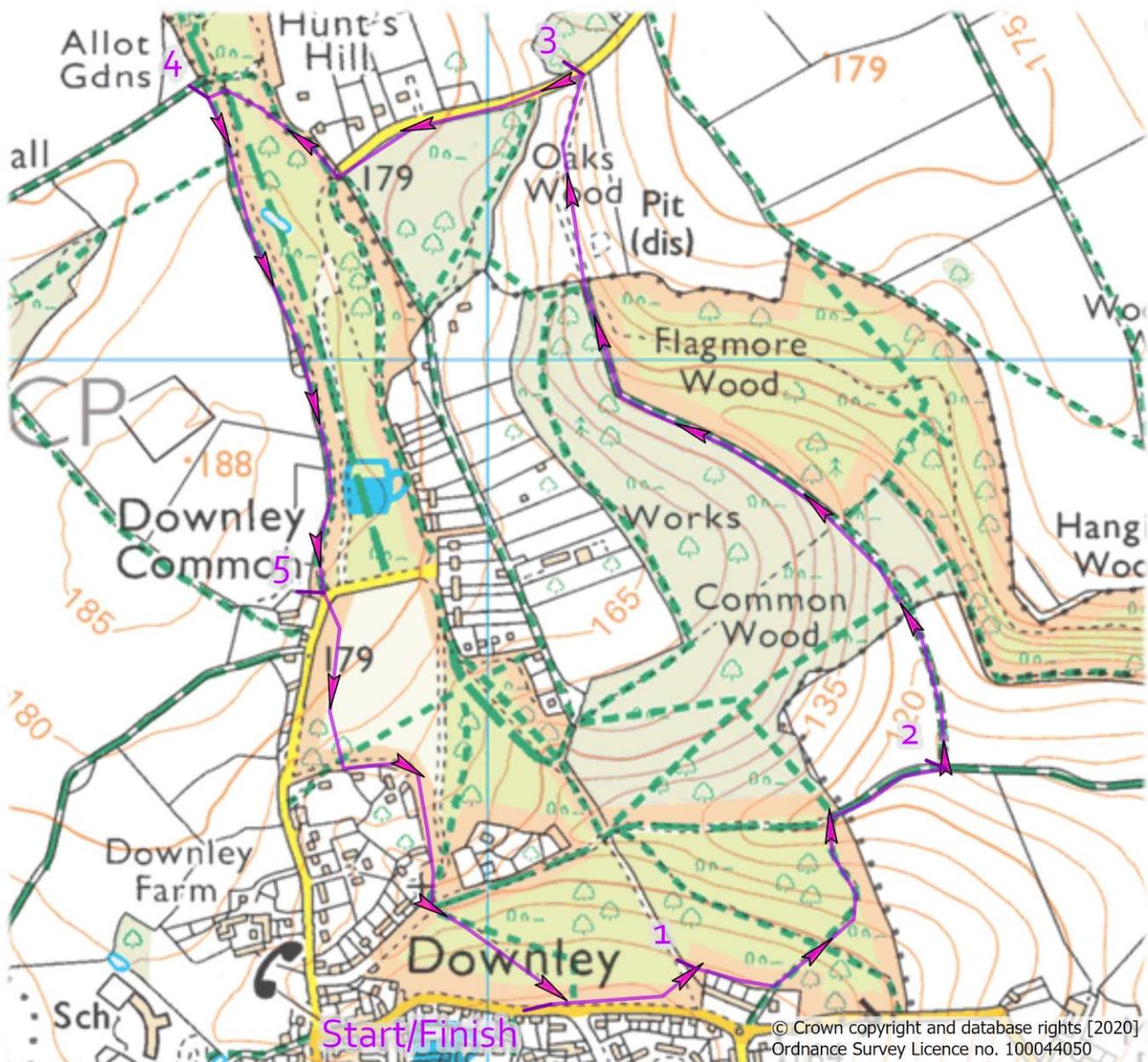


Downley Common and Hunt's Hill Walk – Patricia Boxell

Summary

This scenic gently undulating stile-free walk takes you through a variety of habitats.

- Length:** 2.8 miles
Terrain: Mostly easy walking on good wide paths, some of which can be muddy after rain. One moderate climb at the end. Stile free and four gates.
Start & finish: Commonsides, Downley HP13 5YA Grid ref: SU 850 951
Food & drink: Le De Spencers Arms just off route on Downley Common
Maps: OS Explorer 172, Chiltern Society 12
Parking: Roadside along Commonsides – see above
Local transport: Bus 30 starts and finishes at High Wycombe Bus Station and stops on Commonsides. It runs all week.



Route

Go along the top of the common with the road on your right. Go past the bus stop and, just before a large tree, bear left across the grass into the wood.

Waypoint 1 - Fork right and follow the path down through the wood to the bottom of the hill. Turn right onto a bridleway out of the wood for 150m to a path on the left signed to Naphill.

Waypoint 2 – Turn left through a gate, cross a field to a second gate and continue straight ahead towards Naphill. Go through the woodland and a third gate, continue up the valley on a grass path and through a fourth gate to a lane (Hunts Hill Lane).

Waypoint 3 – Turn left along the lane, continue to the end of the surfaced section and bear right onto a track. Follow the main track, ignoring turnings off, until you come to the overhead power lines and a field gate.

Waypoint 4 - Turn left before the gate onto a track, go under the power lines, and continue straight on passing a small pond on the left (Mannings Pond). Fork right past the cottages and continue along the track with the allotments on the right to a lane (Plomer Green Lane).

Waypoint 5 – Cross the road onto the common, go diagonally across to the right of the cricket pitch walking towards the radio mast on the horizon to a gap in the trees. Continue through the gap and down the common past the Methodist Church on the right. Proceed uphill across the grass and past the beacon to return to the start.

Points of Interest

Waypoint 2 - Hughenden Manor can be seen in the distance. This is Echo Valley. If you shout then listen you can hear an echo.

Waypoint 4 - There are Bluebells in the spring. Manning's pond is home to yellow iris and crested newts.

Waypoint 5 to Finish - The beacon is lit for special occasions.