AN INTRODUCTION TO BUS WALKS IN THE SALISBURY AREA

The aim of this leaflet is to encourage you to explore the countryside around Salisbury by bus and on foot using public rights of way. There are five rivers, a wealth of wild flowers (bluebells in spring, wild orchids in summer), birds and butterflie The landscape has archaeological sites including barrows and earthworks and the downs and ridges give lovely panoramic views.

This leaflet suggests four types of walk within a 10 mile radius of Salisbury. All walks require you to catch a bus to the start point and then you either:

- Walk from the country bus stop back into Salisbury via footpaths and lanes;
- Walk a circular route (where the walk starts) and ends at the same point) and then take the bus back to Salisbury:
- Walk to another bus route to catch the return bus to Salisbury; or
- Walk to a different point on the same bus route and then take a bus back to Salisbury.

You can find the bus walks listed below described in detail in this leaflet:



Once you are familiar with the bus walks described in this leaflet there are many other routes that you can explore.

and uneven ground. Details of any steep gradients are included within the route description. The estimated times shown are based on a walking pace of approximately 2 miles per hour.

Information about bus routes, timetables and pub opening times must be checked when you plan your walk as changes can occur at very short notice. It is

Shown below is additional information that will help you to successfully plan and safely undertake any of the walks described in this leaflet

Maps

 The map overleaf is based on the Ordnance Survey Landranger Maps 184 (1:50,000 scale) and provides a general idea of the walks in the landscape. It is strongly recommended that you also take the relevant Ordnance Survey Explorer Map (1:25,000 -21/2 inches to the mile). The relevant map number is shown at the top of each

What to wear on walks

- Walking boots with ankle support. Chalk can be slippery and paths can be muddy and uneven.
- Long trousers to help protect against ticks. Take waterproofs and an extra laver.

What to take with you on walks

- Relevant bus timetables you may need two routes.
- Wilts and Dorset Bus Company (01983) 827005, TraveLine South-West - 0871 200 22 33 and local taxi services.
- Water, snacks, bag for litter.

Roads and respect for the countryside

- Cross all roads with great care.
- On roads and lanes, walk facing oncoming traffic (except at blind bends).
- Keep to public tracks, footpaths, bridleways or byways. Shut all gates you open, leave no litter and disturb no
- farm animals or wildlife. Control dogs at all times.

A Coombe Bissett - Salisbury

Length: 43/4 miles Est. Time: 21/2 hrs OS Explorer Map No: 130

Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. 29 or 184, Mon-Sat approx. hourly Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Coombe Bissett - Fox & Goose Pub

onto Homington Down with views over the Ebble valley.

Facing the pub walk L towards Salisbury (no pavement). Turn R into Marsh Lane then L up a narrow path through trees. Go through gates

Follow grass path ahead for about ¾ mile. The path passes below a large house and lake to reach a minor road. Turn L for 200 yards. then R onto a bridleway. After about 3/4 mile turn L up a track to Dogdean Farm (you have now joined the Avon Valley Path). Turn L past the farm buildings; then R onto a path, which follows the field boundaries north.

At the second kissing gate, which opens onto the Old Shaftesbury Drove, turn L to reach the Blandford Road. Cross with care to track opposite, turn R at the next corner; then L onto a footpath going uphill behind houses. At the top the path drops down to the woods of Harnham Slope.

Turn R onto the footpath known as 'Bishop's Walk', go down steps then turn R to reach the road. Turn L, go downhill and cross the main road; turn R then L down Old Harnham Road. Cross St Nicholas Bridge and turn L to enter the Cathedral Close along De Vaux Place.

B Bishopstone - Salisbury

OS Explorer Map No: 130 Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. 29.

- River Ebble. Immediately after the bridge turn L at footpath sign into a garden. Keep to the edge of the river, cross the stile into a field and walk along the river and then uphill to a gate onto a minor road.
- bridleway in the far corner. At the end of the path turn L downhill, past church to the hamlet of Stratford Tony. Cross bridge over river and continue to road junction.
- track; walk past metal gate, uphill to a narrow footpath. This joins a track from the right, continue uphill for another 3/4 mile. Do not follow the track where it turns left but keep straight on along the edge of a field, with hedge on right, to reach a minor road.
- Turn L for 200 yards and cross Salisbury racecourse. Follow the marked path across the golf course to reach a track going downhill between trees. This is an old Roman road.
- Cross the main road, follow the track straight ahead for 100 yards then take the diagonal path R across the field. Cross a small bridge into the next field and turn L keeping the hedge on your left.

At the corner of the field turn R and walk along the field boundary. At the next corner go through the gap and bear R onto a footpath, continue in the same direction to Middle Street. Harnham.

Go straight on along road until you reach the Town Path. Turn L, pass the Old Mill Hotel to return to Salisbury on the path over the



Broad Chalke - Wilton Length: 5½ miles Est. Time: 2½ hrs

OS Explorer Map No: 130 Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. 29,

Mon-Sat approx. every 1½ hours

- R. This becomes a footpath across the hillside with views over the Ebble Valley.
- climbing uphill to a grassy track with hedge on right. Keep on between hedges to a field; go straight across keeping close to two trees. Follow the track ahead, this bears R onto a concrete road. Turn L to reach the Old Shaftesbury Drove and turn R.
- After ¾ mile turn L onto a path through woods. Go straight on at path crossing and after an avenue of trees, turn L onto a track between hedges leading down to Burcombe Road, turn R.
- road and turn L to walk into Wilton.

Bus Stop: Bulbridge or Wilton Market Square

D Fovant - Chiselbury -Broadchalke

Mon-Sat approx. every 15 mins

Bus Stop: Amesbury Bus Station

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Fovant - Pembroke Arms Pub

PLEASE NOTE: This walk contains some steep gradients

Cross main road (A30) with care and take lane opposite (Brook Street). Continue to corner where it becomes a hard track and follow it L (ignoring bridleway ahead). Continue 1/3 mile to East Farm.

Take footpath R to foot of Downs and skirt chalk pit L. Go up steep footpath diagonally L between World War I Regimental Badges cut in chalk to reach Chiselbury Hillfort.

- Follow earthworks clockwise half way round to a gate and stile on L. Turn R onto broad drove, ignore first turning left and continue for about ½ mile, then turn L onto bridleway track leading down into the
- After about a mile, the track becomes concreted and you come to a fork. Bear L onto a grassy bridleway. After 1/2 mile it is joined from the left by a farm track. Continue straight on down a narrow footpath to
- Walk through the farm to Broad Chalke village and the Queen's Head pub (the church is down the road opposite and can be visited)

Return Bus to Salisbury: No. 29, approx. every 1½ hours Bus Stop: Just past Queen's Head Pub or outside church



Martin Down

Length: 2-3 miles Est. Time: 2 hrs OS Explorer Map No: 118

Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. 184, Mon-Sat approx. every 2 hours

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Martin Down

Note: No buses back between 1-4 pm, some Sunday services - please check carefully

Go through the kissing gate into the reserve car park. Martin Down is a National Nature Reserve, it has a variety of plants and animals associated with chalk downland and scrub habitats. June to August are the best months to visit.

- Use the map at the entrance to plan your route. Follow the main track south, past a disused riffle range, after which you have a choice of paths to follow. A prehistoric earthwork, the Bokerley Dyke, runs the length of the reserve along the south-western boundry.
- The northern part of the reserve is relatively flat but as you head south the ground rises more steeply to reach Tidpit Common Down. Allow time to enjoy the many wildflowers, birds and butterflies before returning to the start point. Cross the main road with great care.

Return Bus to Salisbury: No. 184 (Please see note above for

Bus Stop: Bus stop on opposite side of road.

F Stoford - Wilton

Length: 4 miles Est. Time: 2 hrs OS Explorer Map No: 130

Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. 2 or 24, Mon-Sat approx. approx. 2 buses per hour

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Stoford Bridge

- Walk south across bridge over River Wylye to Great Wishford. Turn L. into South Street. At end of road take track opposite, slightly L, which goes under the railway bridge. Follow this uphill to Grovely Woods with views over the surrounding countryside
- Continue uphill through the woods to reach the Broad Drive, a surfaced track lined with beech trees; turn L onto the drive. On leaving the wood the track bears right between hedges.
- Bear L at the track junction down an avenue of trees, keeping farm buildings on your right. In about ½ mile the track becomes a road, bends sharp L and goes downhill to road junction. Turn R under the
- At the main road turn L and round the corner turn L again to reach a footbridge across the River Wylye into Flouse Hole Nature Reserve. Follow the path to the R and cross another bridge into playing fields. Cross field to a road. Turn R into North Street to reach Wilton Market

Return Buses to Salisbury: No. r3, Mon-Sat approx. every 20 mins. Sundays approx. hourly **Bus Stop: Wilton Market Place**

Length: 2-3 miles Est. Time: 1-2 hrs OS Explorer Map No: 130

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Dinton Post Office / Shop

- church. Follow footpath through churchyard, which leads to a gate into Dinton Park. This is National Trust property with open access. There are a number of paths to explore by the lake, across the meadows and into the woods above Philipps House
- Turn R and just before reaching the church take the signed footpath L beside a house. At the end of the first field go through gate on left and continue in the same direction. On reaching a road with bungalows turn R and walk down to main road and bus stops. The pub is further along the road on the left.

Monday afternoons. Little Clarendon is also occasionally open).

Bus Stop: Shelter after junction of Snow Hill with main road, or beyond pub (on main road towards Salisbury).

H Berwick St. James -Steeple Langford

Length: 4½ miles Est. Time: 2 hrs





OS Explorer Map No: 130 Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. 2,

Mon-Sat approx. hourly Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Berwick St. James - Boot Inn Cross road and take small road opposite, Duck Street. After crossing

the River Till the road bends left with Druids Lodge Farm on the right. Turn sharp R immediately after the farm buildings and take grass path straight ahead. Go through gate and follow path across fields.

The track narrows to a bridleway and climbs gently to cross fields. After about a mile it comes to a concrete track at a T-junction, beside

left, the track meets another track at a T-junction. Turn R.

To avoid crossing the busy main road continue along the track to join a tarmac byway. Walk up slope to underpass and follow the road downhill to the village. Turn L to reach the bus stop.

Return Bus to Salisbury: No. 24, approx. hourly

Lane (the pub is further along down a short road on the right).

If you have another hour or so to spare, you can visit Wiltshire Wildlife Trust's Langford Lakes Nature Reserve.

Walk along Duck Street, cross bridge over River Wylye, the



Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. 78 Mon-Sat approx. every 2 hours

After exploring the earthworks, with views of the Cathedral and Old Sarum, leave by the gate opposite from the entrance. This is Monarch's Way. Go downhill for about 1 mile, under the railway and past Winterbourne church to main road (A338). Cross road, go R, then L down Morgan's Lane. This crosses the River Bourne, then becomes a footpath leading into a field. Turn L, with hedge on left, go

At ford turn R. Ignore left turn and continue, bearing R. After about 50 yards, turn L into a field. Walk along edge of field to gate onto bridleway, turn L past sewage works onto a track.

Cross the river to reach the village of Hurdcott. Turn R and R again to reach Black Horse pub or go straight ahead to main road (A338).

Bus Stop: Shelter on main road opposite junction with village road

Length: 5 miles Est. Time: 21/2 hrs **OS Explorer Map No: 131**

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: East Grimstead - Gothic Cottage or, on Farley bus: East Grimstead – The Green for Bugmore Lane

- Walk on to junction and turn L (signed to Farley), ignore footpath signs and after ¼ mile turn R into Bugmore Lane. Keep straight on for ½ mile until it becomes a footpath and enters Bentley Wood.
- this to T-junction. Turn R to Woodside farm, then L onto footpath through woods. Continue on this path until it meets a wide track with gate on left. Turn R.
- At the first path junction bear L onto gravel path. The path bears right and comes to a memorial stone and seat. At the cross-paths continue ahead on a wide track for about 1 mile. After an S-bend this track eventually bears right. At this point take the path ahead through a wooden barrier. Follow this path downhill to leave the wood and join Witt Road; this leads into Winterslow.
- the left. Or continue a little further on to reach the pub and catch the bus at the next stop opposite Saxon Leas.

 Cross the road, walk up Castle Lane and take the left fork (Pack Path). Before the farm gates, go through gate in hedge on R and then immediately L. Follow the path around farm buildings and

The path then bears right between open fields. Turn R at hedge. Go through a gap in next hedge, over bridge and turn L. Go straight ahead following the route of the old railway line on your left, cross a farm track and go up slope to a minor road; turn R

Follow this path through Trafalgar Woods; cross field to gate opposite and continue through woods.

fields to join hard track, continue in same direction

Where track bends R before farm, turn L over bridge into water meadows. Follow path across field to gate and tarmac path beside river leading into Downton Village. Turn R to main road and return

ry: X3 or 44, Mon-Sat approx. every ½ hour.



Length: 41/2 miles Est. Time: 2-3 hrs

Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. X3 Mon-Sat approx. ½ hourly, Sundays approx. hourly

grass path to visit the Mizmaze. Return to path and continue in the same direction. Take footpath L, signed Whitsbury. Go through trees, then keep straight on between

mile, turn L onto marked footpath beside field and then between trees. At road junction turn R then almost immediately L to return to

Evenings and Sundays approx. hourly



On reaching a track turn R to road, go straight ahead along the road to bridge over the river. Immediately after the bridge, cross the road with care onto a farm track opposite which follows the river

a farm. Turn R and climb a short steep hill. The track levels out with views over the Wylye Valley. After a bend

At next track crossroads, turn L and descend Berwick Lane track.

Bus Stop: The bus shelter is a few metres to left of Berwick



Photo supplied by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

OS Explorer Map No: 130

Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. X7, 34 or 36, Mon-Sat - hourly, Sunday - Limited service

across a field, bear L to cross bridge over the dismantled railway.

At the T-junction turn R again and walk downhill for about ¼ mile until you see a footpath into the woods on the left, opposite a large house.

When the path meets a hard track, turn R down to River Avon.

Sundays No. X3, approx. hourly.



OS Explorer Map No: 0L22

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Breamore - Village Hall

Return Bus to Salisbury: No. X3, Mon-Sat approx. 1/2 hourly

Bus Stop: Shelter beside shop opposite start.

Return Bus to Salisbury: No. 89, Mon-Sat approx. hourly fields before climbing to pastureland with views over the Avon butterflies in summer. On reaching a small hut turn R onto a grass Photo supplied by Nick Cowen path, walk down to main road, cross with care to Hackthorne Road. **Bus Stop: Witt Road**

View of Stoneher Photo supplied by Nick Cower

Amesbury - Stonehenge -Woodhenge

Length: 53/4 miles Est. Time: 3 hrs OS Explorer Map No: 130 **Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: X5 or Active 8,** Mon-Sat approx. 1/4 hourly, Sundays approx. hourly

Walk back to Ratfyn Road and go through gate into Lord's Walk. Take path R, down steps and follow riverside path to road. Turn R to roundabout and use underpass to reach Countess Road. Walk 1/4 mile, cross over to bridleway signed Kingbarrows. Follow gravel track, after sharp bend R, take grass path through gate

on L to information board with view of Stonehenge. Go L again then

go through gate on R. Walk diagonally downhill to gate in fence, then

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: 3rd stop on London Road, Amesbury.

L towards Stonehenge, this is the route of "The Avenue". After Visitor Centre turn R up gravel track, go through 2nd gate on R then diagonally L to a gate. You are now on "The Cursus". Follow the tree line on left to information board. Cross track ahead to path opposite, this widens onto the route of the old railway line. Approx. 300m further on, turn L up to a gate.

Go through gate and cross field diagonally to Woodhenge. At car park

turn L onto the old road to reach the main road. Cross over to footpath

Return Bus to Salisbury: No. X5. Mon-Sat 1/2 hourly. Sundays approx. hourly. Bus Stop: Opposite Stonehenge Inn, Durrington

opposite, walk up to roundabout and turn R to bus stop.

Length: 4 miles Est. Time: 21/2 hrs **Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: X5 to Larkhill**

Mon-Sat approx. hourly, Sundays approx. hourly Bus Stop for Start of Walk: The Packway, Larkhill, 2nd stop

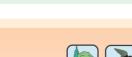
path over bridges to kissing gates. Keep straight ahead through field with wire fence on your left. Go through gate onto farm track, at road turn R past Milston church. Soon after the church take footpath R, to cross bridge over the river.

turn L to next bridge. It is worth spending some time on this beautiful

stretch of the River Avon. Go up a small road and turn R onto path

through woods. Cross fields, with a number of stiles then go straight on with hedge on your right to reach a farm road. At the main road Continue straight on then Water Street meets the road. At the main

Mon-Sat approx. ½ hourly, Sundays approx. hourly Bus Stop: X5 or 8 from stop on opposite side of Salisbury Road to



OS Explorer Map Nos: 130 & 131 Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. 89,

Length: 51/2 miles Est. Time: 23/4 hrs

Mon-Sat approx. every 2 hours

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Pitton Village Shop. Walk back to crossroads, cross over and go straight ahead following the Clarendon Way sign. After 200 yards turn R onto footpath beside

ignoring any cross tracks for 1½ miles. The track narrows to a path. Where it joins a hard track, keep on in the same direction, to reach T-junction and turn R. The entrance to the archaeological site of Clarendon Palace is a short distance further on; it is open to the public and well worth a detour. Return to track and continue downhill. (Some steps on right lead up

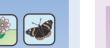
straight ahead across a field to rejoin the track further on.

Continue past farm buildings onto a road, walk uphill, then down into Milford. Cross road bridge and on reaching T-junction cross over and go up footpath opposite, called The Hollows. Walk down Milford Hill into the city centre.

to a viewpoint and picnic table). Where the track bends right, go

iew of Salisbury Cathedral

Photo supplied by Chris Knox



Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. 25, Mon-Sat approx. every 2 hours

Cross main road and take Snow Hill Road opposite, leading to Dinton

(Phillipps House is open in the summer on Saturday mornings and

Return Bus to Salisbury: No. 25 (Please see note above for timings).

Figsbury - Winterbournes - Hurdcott Length: 2 miles Est. Time: 1½ hrs OS Explorer Map No: 130

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Figsbury Rings Walk up concrete track. At gate at top go R and follow the hedge on

through gate to another field and continue straight ahead to reach a

• East Grimstead - Winterslow

your left to National Trust sign. Take footpath to the entrance to the hillfort, where there is information board.

Return Bus to Salisbury: No. 63 or 64, Mon-Sat approx. hourly



Follow path straight ahead for ¼ mile to join track. Turn L and follow

Turn L at the main village road, the bus stop is near the junction on





Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Whaddon Post Office



hedges. After stile at valley bottom, turn L.

PLANNING YOUR WALK All of the walks described in this leaflet are of easy to moderate difficulty and range between 3-6 miles in length. Most of the walks described have some stiles

particularly important to check last bus times. Always plan to arrive at least 5 minutes before the bus is due and signal clearly to the driver.

- The relevant OS Explorer Map. A mobile phone with useful numbers including
- then R onto a grass path. Where the path descends to the River Avon, turn R to cross three footbridges and pass an old water mill. At the road turn L through Great Durnford village. Keep to the road going uphill, then down to turn L onto a track beside a house. This climbs with woods on the left: after about ¼ mile turn R onto a narrow footpath.

- Length: 51/2 miles Est. Time: 23/4 hrs
- Mon-Sat approx. every 11/2 hours Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Bishopstone Church. Walk down Church Lane past the church and cross bridge over the
- Turn L, then L again past Manor House. Turn R across green to a Cross over and walk 200 yards up the road opposite. Turn R onto a
- **Woodford Valley Walks Travel Options** There is a very limited bus service in the Woodford Valley but walking in this lovely valley is still possible with careful planning. Travel options:

Lower Woodford - Salisbury

Rural Taxi Service - Call (01722) 505050.

OS Explorer Map No: 130

over the Woodford valley.

Length: 4½ miles Est. Time: 2½ hrs

No. 1 - Afternoon peak hour service suitable for summer evening

No. 201 - Shoppers service on Tuesdays and Fridays only, middle

Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: Please see 'Travel Options' Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Lower Woodford -Walk on in same direction as bus through the village, to footpath

on R. Go through gate beside cattle grid, cross the River Avon,

then take footpath sharp R in front of farm. Climb uphill with views

then up track to a road. Cross over, turn L for a short distance,

Take footpath on R through trees into a field. Follow grass path, then gravel track, keeping straight on for 1½ miles with views of Cross minor road onto bridleway opposite. On reaching the access road to Old Sarum, turn R uphill for 50 yards, then straight ahead through gate onto path. Just before reaching the main road turn R

into field, cross field and go through gap in hedge onto a track,

Riverside footpath and cycleway, which leads into the centre of

Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: Please see 'Travel Options'

After a short distance through trees the path follows the edge of

Walk down path between hedges to Stratford Road. Cross road, walk on in the same direction to next corner; turn L onto the

Upper Woodford - Amesbury Length: 4 miles Est. Time: 2 hrs **OS Explorer Map No: 130**

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Upper Woodford - Bridge Inn ► Larkhill - Durrington - Bulford Walk 200 yards in the same direction as the bus, turn R onto a gravel track signed to Great Durnford. Turn L at track junction, OS Explorer Map No: 130

> Cross road, walk back along road and turn L. Keep straight along gravel track or walk on the grass, where there are wildflowers and

Bus Stop for Start of Walk: Broad Chalke - Queen's Head Pub Cross road, take footpath beside telephone kiosk to a lane and turn After ¾ mile, turn L onto farm road, go downhill before gradually

In ¼ mile there is a bus stop on the left or continue to the end of the Return Bus to Salisbury: No. r3, Mon-Sat every 20 mins

Length: 4 miles Est. Time: 21/2 hrs OS Explorer Map No: 130 Bus from Salisbury Bus Station: No. 26, Mon-Sat approx. every 2 hours

Join the track ahead uphill, continue straight on at cross-tracks to After approx. ¼ mile turn L onto a footpath beside the river. Follow descend to the river. Turn L to cross over a footbridge; go past the recreation ground to a road. At junction with main road turn R, cross bridge over the river and turn R to reach bus station. Return Bus to Salisbury: Nos. X5 or Active 8,

> road turn R and walk towards the petrol station. Cross road to bus stop just beyond petrol station Return Bus to Salisbury: No. X5 or Active 8.

M Pitton − Salisbury

a field which bears left uphill to edge of wood. At farm road, cross over and follow path opposite with farm buildings on the right. The path becomes a track through the woods; keep straight on

G Around Dinton

Note: There is a reduced service in the afternoons

Leave the Park by walking along the tarmac drive to the main gate.

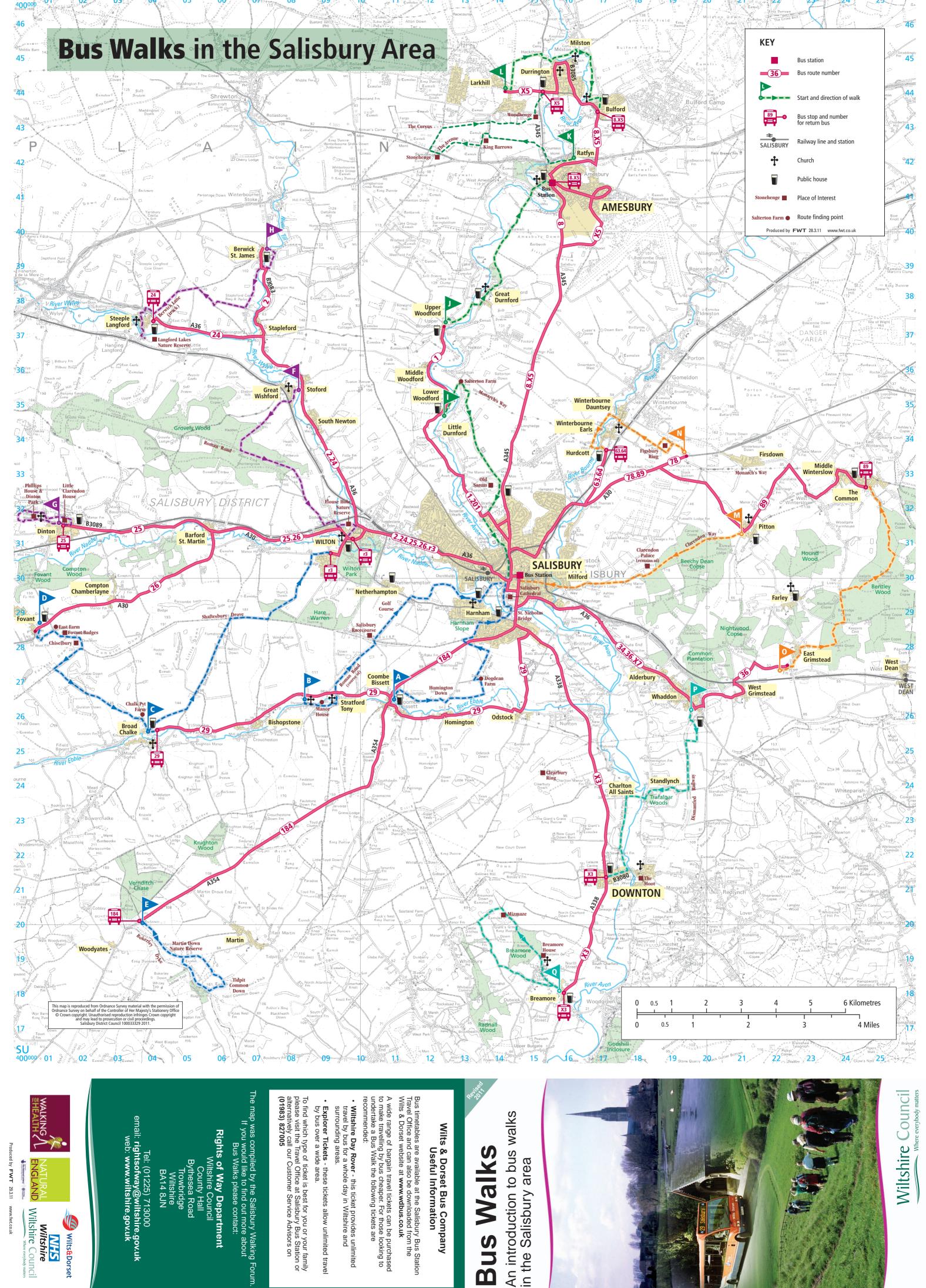
P Whaddon - Downton Length: 5 miles Est. Time: 21/2 hrs

Cross river and turn R to walk across weir. Follow footpath across water meadows. After bridge over stream bear left to gate and stile. Go through kissing gate opposite and walk straight ahead across

Bus Stop: Opposite the Bull Inn.

Cross main road to lane opposite. Take R fork to Breamore House, or make a detour to visit the church. Walk past Breamore House onto a bridleway which climbs through woods for about ½ mile, then follow

The path soon becomes a track, keep walking in same direction for 1







d by **FWT** 29.3.11









Explorer Tickets - these tickets allow unlimited travel by bus over a wide area.

Wiltshire Day Rover - this ticket provides unlimited travel by bus for a whole day in Wiltshire and surrounding areas.

A wide range of bargain travel tickets can be purchased to make travelling by bus cheaper. For those looking to undertake a Bus Walk the following tickets are recommended:

Bus timetables are available at the Salisbury Bus Station Travel Office and can also be downloaded from the Wilts & Dorset website at www.wdbus.co.uk Wilts & Dorset Bus Company Useful Information

