

Wonderful Cotswold countryside incorporating Upper Brailes and circling Brailes Hill make this a perfect gentle undulating walk with one steep climb through South Warwickshire.

Distance: 8km / 5 miles with an up and down of 166m / 545ft.

Time: 2.5 hours

Start: Park carefully on the road near to The Gate Inn in Upper Brailes, OX15 5AX SP302398

Refreshments: The Gate pub in Upper Brailes or The George in Lower Brailes

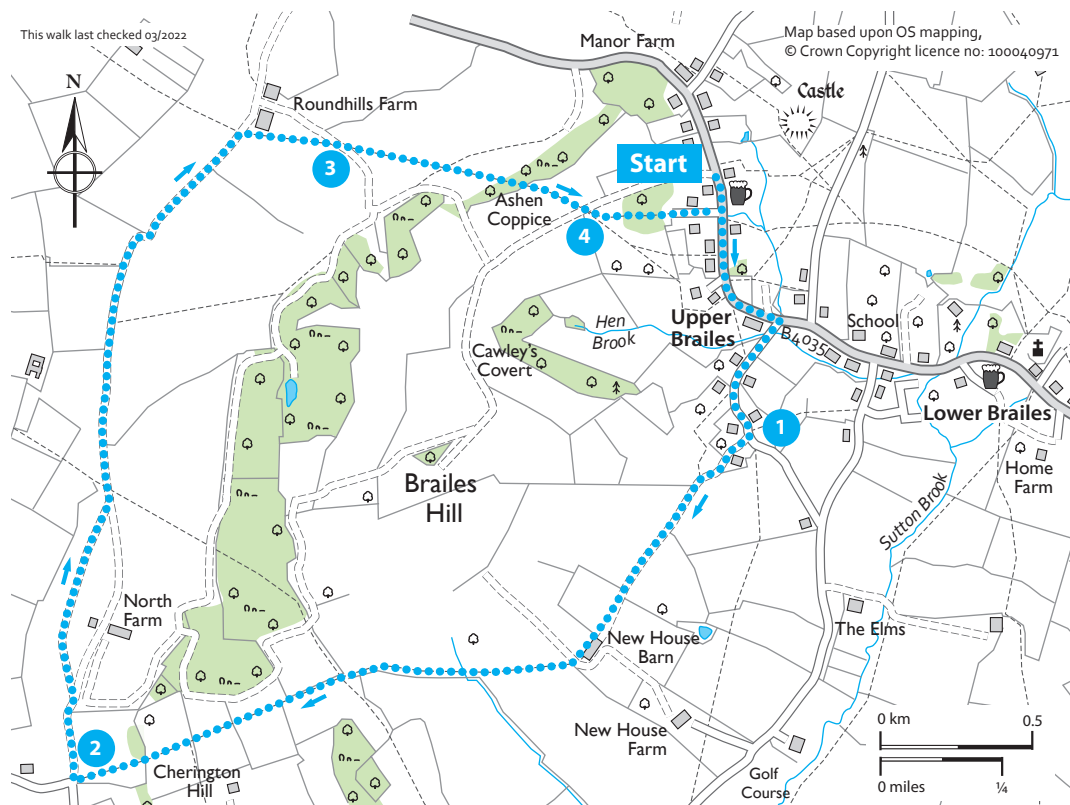
Route:

With your back to The Gate turn left to walk down the B4035. Where it bends to the left opposite small grassy area cross over the road and go through the metal kissing gate to your left.

Walk with the hedge on your left to reach the little bridge over the Hen Brook. Cross the bridge and bear half right across a paddock and through two gates on to Henbrook Lane.

Continue along Henbrook Lane until you reach a converted barn on your left and a white cottage on your right **1**. Turn right up the bridleway signed Cherington Butts. Continue uphill until you reach a gate into an open grass field with some fine views across the Warwickshire countryside.

Continue straight ahead across two fields to reach New House Barn on your left. At the end of the buildings turn half right and walk with the field hedge on your left.



Through occasional gaps in the hedge you can see the villages of Sutton-under-Brailes, Stourton and Cherington.

After about 800m you reach a bridge gate. Go through the gate and continue straight on through a further five gates going gradually downhill.

When you meet the road **2** turn right and enjoy walking along this good track towards Roundhills Farm.

As you approach the farm buildings look out for a gate and footpath sign on your right striking diagonally left towards a stile in the

far hedge **3**. Go into the next field and continue in the same direction and uphill across the field towards a track. Cross the track and continue uphill through some woodland and up some steps to reach an open field. Make for the stile at the far side **4**.

Go over or by the stile to enter another woodland with paths in several directions. Turn 45° left and wind through the trees.

Look out for a marker post indicating a route downhill towards a metal gate. Take this and continue straight ahead through the garden of Honeysuckle House, to Gillet's Lane, the main road

through the village and your start point is in sight.

Points of Interest

Brailes comprises the two villages of Lower and Upper Brailes but is often referred to as one village as the two adjoin each other.

Brailes stands among three hills: Castle Hill, Mine Hill and Brailes Hill. At 760ft Brailes Hill is the second highest hill in Warwickshire.

The church houses the 3rd biggest and the oldest set of six bells in the country.

Upper and Lower Brailes derive their names from "wood".