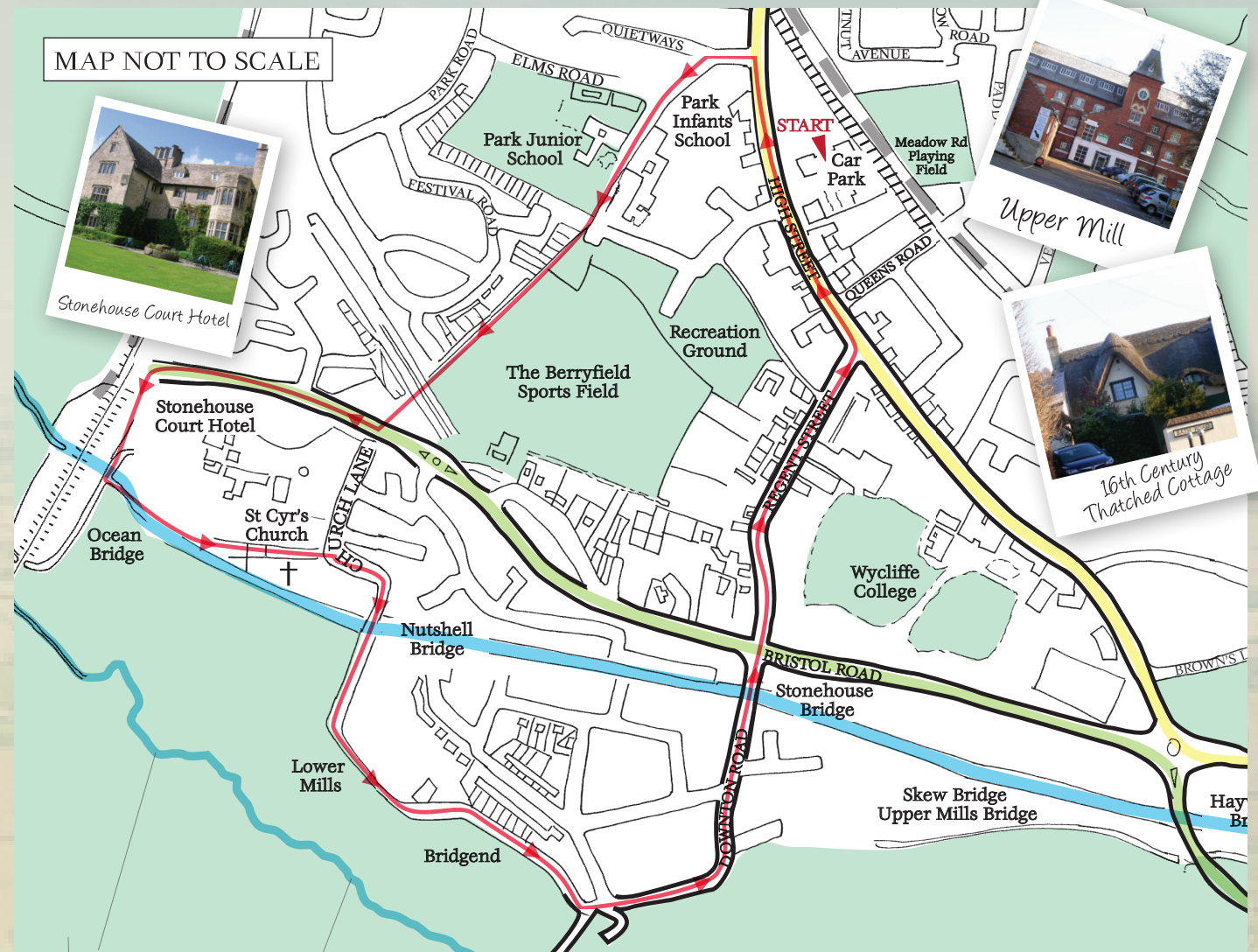


This route has been researched and designed by the Stonehouse History Society.

WHERE TO GO...

- Leave the car park and turn right onto High Street passing in front of the 18th c. Assembly Room and Coach House (now Stonehouse Pharmacy) to your right. High Street is part of an ancient route from the Severn crossing at Framilode, eastwards along high, dry ground above the Frome Valley and up the Cotswold escarpment to Minchinhampton and beyond.
- Cross the High Street at the pedestrian crossing and continue past The Green and the War Memorial into Elm Road. The fishing shop on the left before you pass the Green is 16th c., with Orchard House added in stone in 1606.
- Bear left at Park Infants School onto the ancient Church Way footpath towards Bristol Road, passing the Berryfield (playing field for Wycliffe College, founded 1882 by G.W. Sibly) on your left, and crossing over the water-filled railway cutting that carried the branch line to Nailsworth before the "Beeching cuts".
- Cross Bristol Road at the pedestrian crossing then turn right along the main road. Stonehouse Court Hotel is a former Elizabethan manor house. Altered by Sir Edwin Lutyens in 1906, the present building was seriously damaged by fire in 1908. At the first opening turn left. This takes you past Court Farm Mews – part of the Court's farm until the 1980s. Pause at Ocean Bridge which crosses the Stroudwater Navigation Canal to view the stretch of open water to your right, known as "The Ocean" which was formed where the main village stream joined the River Frome, and may once have been one of three fishponds serving the old manor house. Between 1789 and 1927, this Canal together with the Thames & Severn Canal, linked the Thames and Severn rivers.
- Go back about 10 metres then follow the footpath to St. Cyr's Church, which was probably founded by a lord of the manor in the 12th c. The tower in front of you was built in the 14th c. and the rest was rebuilt in the 1850s. The chancel and the round arched north doorway are copies of the original. The churchyard contains 50 listed, 17th and early 18th c. monuments.
- Leaving the churchyard at the far end, continue straight onto the lane which takes you to Nutshell Bridge (1779). The adjoining Nutshell Cottage was added in 1803, followed by Nutshell House in about 1825. You can enjoy terrific views from the Bridge to the Cotswold Escarpment.
- Watching out for heavy goods vehicles, continue down the lane past Lower Mills, where paper bags have been produced since 1922. These buildings date from the early 19th c., but there has been a mill on this site since Anglo-Saxon times. At the end of the lane (on the right) stands Bridgend House, built in 1691.
- Turn left onto Downton Road. As you walk along the road, you will hear flowing water to your right; this is the ancient millstream from Upper Mills – the large red brick 19th c. building on the industrial estate to your right.



This is another Anglo Saxon site, where a mill was granted by William de Eu to Gloucester Abbey in 1085. Follow Downton Road to the junction with Bristol Road and cross at the pedestrian crossing.

- Continue up Regent Street which has an eclectic mix of architectural styles, including some interesting Georgian houses. Wayfarer's Cottage (on left) was formerly the Nag's Head Inn. At the top of the street note the late 16th c. thatched cottage straight ahead, before turning left onto High Street. To your left is the 18th c. Woolpack Inn, which served the turnpike road from 1726 and was developed from an earlier barn. To the right is the Post Office (1933) built of bricks supplied by the Stonehouse Brick and Tile Company, which was a big employer in the town from the 1890s to the 1960s.

- Cross the road at the pedestrian crossing. Number 19, on your right is Apsley House, which is late 16th c. with additions including a former malthouse and was a dairy between 1908 and 1975. The next building on the right is the Police Station (1890), another Stonehouse brick building.
- Continue along the High Street noting the Tudor Tandoori – an early 17th c. timber-framed building to your left before returning to the car park on the right.

Thanks to Stonehouse History Group who created this walk and supplied the photographs.

For more information see: www.stonehousehistorygroup.org.uk

The canal is a beautiful place to walk, but can be dangerous. Please keep away from the water's edge and keep dogs and children under close supervision at all times.

This route is designed for walkers – it is not suitable for cyclists.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs.
- Even when going out locally, it's best to get the latest information about where and when you can go; for example, your rights to go onto some areas of open land may be restricted while work is carried out, for safety reasons or during breeding seasons.
- Follow advice and local signs, and be prepared for the unexpected.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Please respect the working life of the countryside, as our actions can affect people's livelihoods, our heritage, and the safety and welfare of animals and ourselves.
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home. We have a responsibility to protect our countryside now and for future generations, so make sure you don't harm animals, birds, plants, or trees.
- Keep dogs under close control. The countryside is a great place to exercise dogs, but it's every owner's duty to make sure their dog is not a danger or nuisance to farm animals, wildlife or other people.
- Consider other people. Showing consideration and respect for other people makes the countryside a pleasant environment for everyone – at home, at work and at leisure.

The details contained in this leaflet are correct at the time of printing. If you find anything that has changed please let us know.

GETTING HERE:

MAPS: SATNAVs or online maps use post code GL10 2NA for the High Street car park.

BY BUS: Service 20 from Stroud or Dursley or Service 14 from Stroud or Gloucester.

BY TRAIN: Stonehouse station on the Gloucester/Cheltenham to Swindon/London line.

BY CAR: Stonehouse is off the A419 one mile east of M5 J18 and 3 miles west of Stroud.

See www.transportdirect.info or www.travelinesw.com for public transport information.

DISTANCE	3 km (2 miles)
TIME	One hour
DIFFICULTY	Easy



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