

Points of Interest on this route (see map overlay for locations)

(A) The village of **Cranborne** dates from Saxon times. In the Domesday Book, of 1086, it was recorded as **Creneborne**, meaning stream or bourne of cranes. In the 10th century a knight named Hayward Snew, or Aethelweard Maew, founded a Benedictine Abbey known as Cranborne Abbey, which he made the parent abbey of the religious foundation at **Tewkesbury**.

(B) **The Manor**, which is the home of Viscount Cranborne, dates from around 1207-08 and was originally a hunting lodge for king John who made hunting trips on the Cranborne Chase. The village at that time was a garrison for troops protecting the king. The Chase was a royal hunting ground from at least the time of William the Conqueror until the 17th Century. The Manor Gardens which were laid out in the 17th century are open to the public on Wednesdays from March to September.



Cranborne Manor

The River Crane was formed in the Ice Age by meltwater flowing from snowfields on **Penbury Knoll** and **Oakley Down**



Buzzard

(C) Cranborne is home to **The Ancient Technology Centre**, an outdoor education centre operated by Dorset County Council. The site features reconstructions of Viking and stone-age buildings and teaches history and crafts linked to key stages of the National Curriculum. The centre is open to the public three times a year, in March, July and September. For more information visit: www.ancienttechnologycentre.com.

(D) Information about the **Cranborne Estate**, its history and the part it plays in the life of the village, farming and conservation, can be found at: www.cranborne.co.uk.

A pretty walk exploring the fields, lanes, droveways and woods to the north of the village of Cranborne.

Start Point: Cranborne Stores, Salisbury Street, in the centre of Cranborne

OS Grid Reference: SU055133.


W3W: twists.circus.worms

Parking: There is a small car park in the centre of Cranborne and plenty of roadside parking available. There is also a large car park at the garden centre just to the south of the village on the B3078 road, which visitors may use.

Terrain: Quiet lanes, bridleways and footpaths in undulating countryside. Some gates. Some of the bridleways and footpaths can be muddy in parts.

Length: Approximately 4.0 miles / 6.25km.

Approximate time: 1.5 hours.

 **Dogs:** Please keep dogs on a lead wherever livestock are present.

Good to know: The length of this walk can be shortened to approximately 3.1 miles / 5.00km, by returning directly from the mid-point of this walk along the bridleway from Jack's Hedge to Cranborne village. There is a shop and post office, a bookshop and a garden centre with a cafe in Cranborne.

Refreshments: Cranborne Garden Centre: cranbornegardencentre.co.uk

Inns: The Fleur de Lys and the Sheaf of Arrows

Restaurant: La Fosse www.la-fosse.com

The information is only intended as a general guide. Please check local arrangements.



Respect everyone
Protect the environment
Enjoy the outdoors
Follow advice and local signs

Share your pictures with us at [#cranbornechase](https://twitter.com/cranbornechase)



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cranbornechase.org.uk

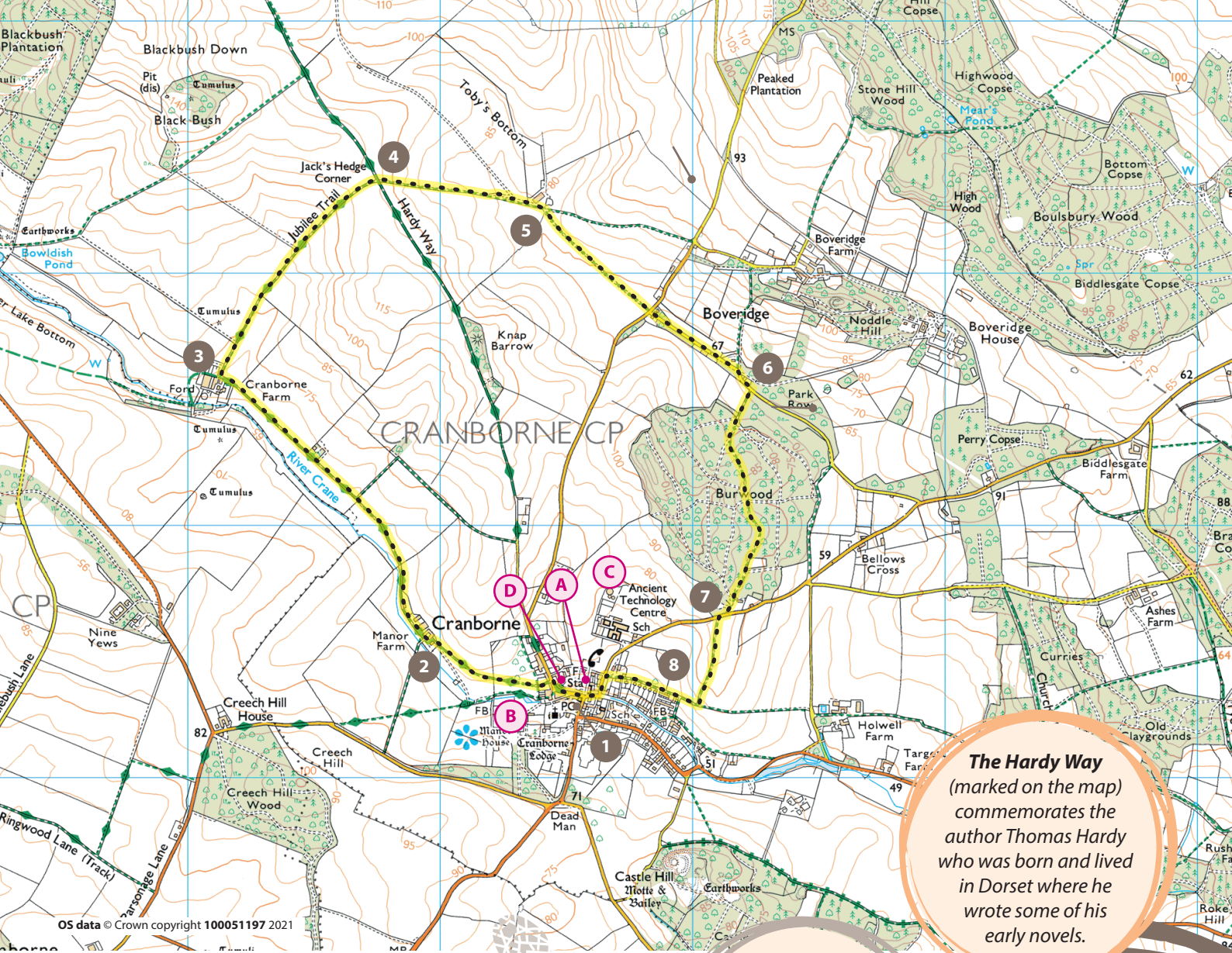
Illustrations by Sal Meedings



Cranborne and Boveridge Circular In the Hart of the Chase

WALK #
W28





The Hardy Way
(marked on the map)
commemorates the
author Thomas Hardy
who was born and lived
in Dorset where he
wrote some of his
early novels.

Directions

- 1 From the centre of Cranborne walk along Salisbury Street as it bends to the right. Take the signposted bridleway on the left, between houses, to go through a gate which gives access to the Cranborne Estate walk.
- 2 Continue straight ahead along the footpath, passing the Manor House on your left, and go through the next gate at Manor Farm. Stay on the path through the farm buildings, then keep straight ahead along the farm road until you reach Cranborne Farm.
- 3 Turn right at the farm, to go uphill on the broad hedged track until you reach a crossing of tracks at Jack's Hedge, at the top of the hill. If you wish to return directly to Cranborne village from here, turn right and follow the track between the hedges until it leads downhill to take you back to Salisbury Street and the centre of the village.
- 4 To continue the longer walk, go through the gap next to the gate directly ahead of you and go downhill along the track at the edge of the field to the barn at Toby's Bottom.
- 5 Keep right, to pass the barn and then keep right again along the track until you reach the road at Boveridge. Take the road straight ahead, past the white thatched-roof cottage, until you reach a gate on your right onto a signposted bridleway which leads uphill into the woods.

Did you know?

In May 2014
Cranborne was ranked
by *The Telegraph* as
one of the thirty best
villages in Britain.

- 6 Stay on the track through **Burwood** until you reach the road

- 7 Turn right and then almost immediately left onto a signposted footpath which leads along the edge of the field, with views to your right of Cranborne village. At the end of the field, turn right along the path which leads you back into the village.

- 8 At the end of the path, keep straight ahead to the end of the road, then turn left and go downhill along the road into the centre of the village.

