



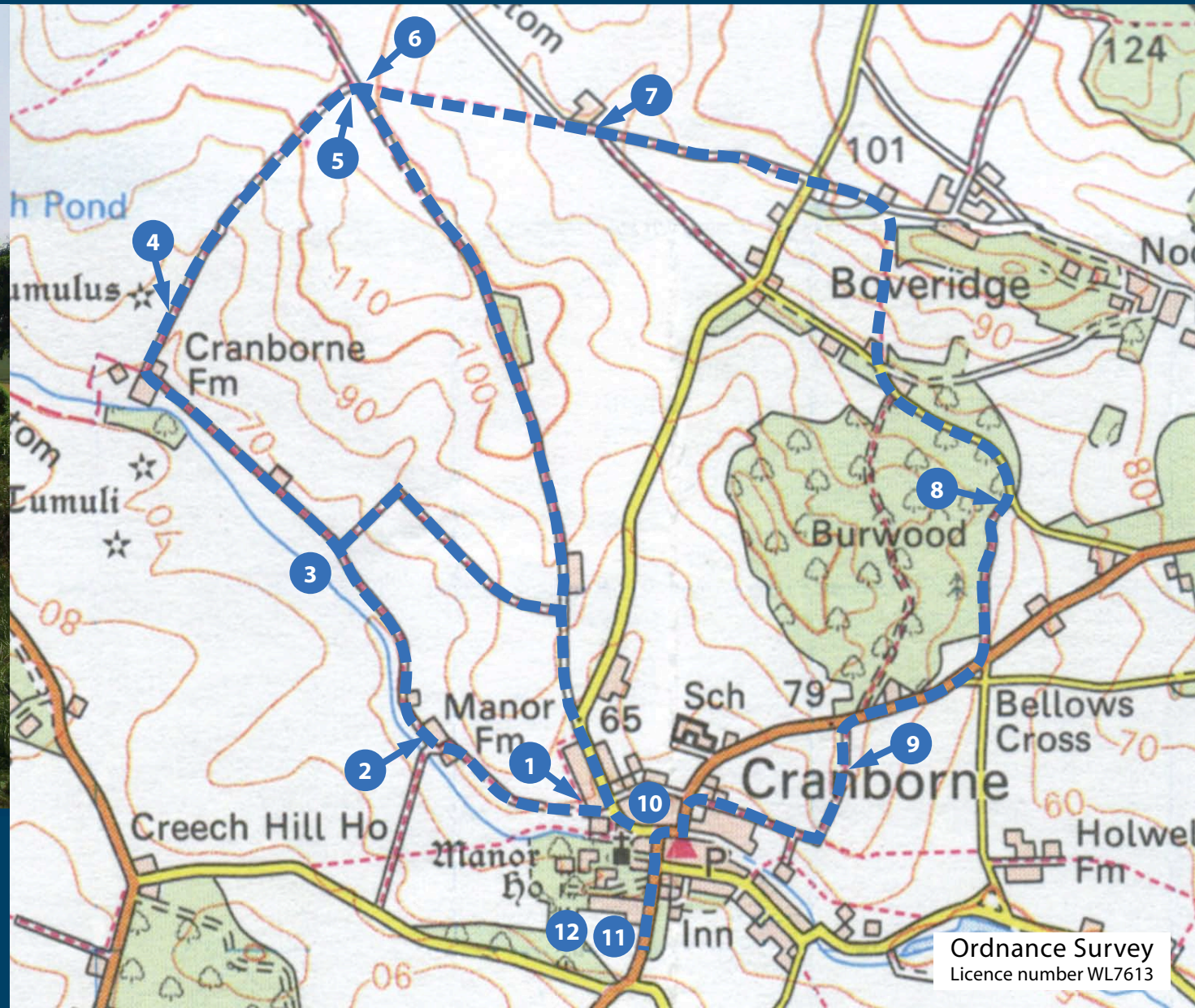
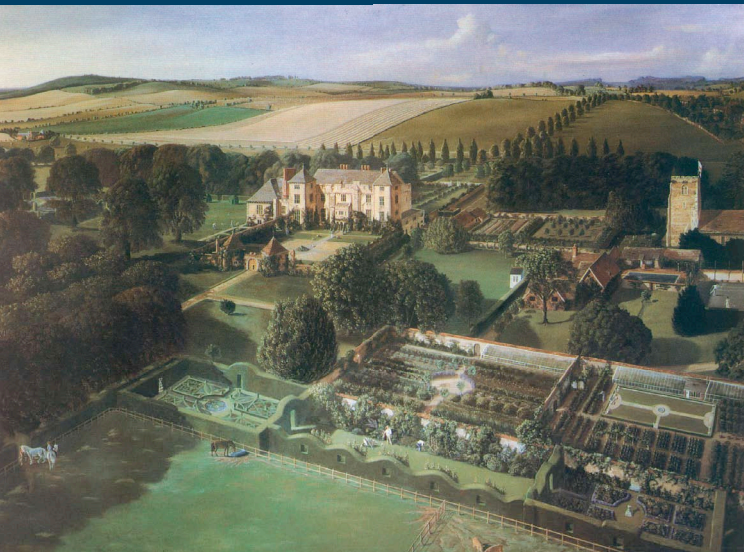
CRANBORNE  
FURTHER INFORMATION



CRANBORNE  
ESTATE WALKS



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ESTATE WALKS



Cranborne Estate Office  
Cranborne, Dorset BH21 5PS Tel: 01725 517289

Cranborne Farms Tel: 01725 517310

Cranborne Manor Garden Centre  
Open all year Monday to Saturday 9.00am – 5.00pm  
Sundays & Bank Holidays 10.00am – 5.00pm  
Tel: 01725 517248

Cranborne Stores  
1 The Square, Cranborne, Dorset, BH21 5PR  
Open Monday to Friday 6.00am – 6.00pm  
Saturday 6.00am – 5.00pm, Sundays 8.30am – 1.00pm  
Tel: 01725 517210

[www.cranborne.co.uk](http://www.cranborne.co.uk)

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Ordnance Survey  
Licence number WL7613

## Welcome to the Cranborne Estate

To follow three circular walks across the Estate, please follow the highlighted footpaths shown on the map.

A number of marked posts on the route relate to this leaflet which gives you additional information about the farming, woods and wildlife. The main walk is approximately three and half miles long and takes the average walker about 2 hours to complete. Two shorter routes are also marked. We hope that you enjoy the walk and ask that you please keep to the clearly marked rights of way and keep your dogs under control.

**1. THE CLOSE.** Not all land is suitable for arable cultivation. These water meadows are grazed mainly by cattle in the summer. The Winterborne flows from late autumn to late spring and runs through a culvert under the village. Below the village it flows throughout the year and eventually joins the Moors river.

**2. THE VALLEY.** The small valley from the village up to Cranborne Farm is nearly all permanent pasture and provides grazing for Estate cattle. We rear White Park cattle which are a traditional breed that, until very recently, was facing extinction. They are reared exclusively outdoors with minimum additional feed. Our beef can be found for sale in Cranborne Stores in the village. During the summer, grass fields are used for grazing and sometimes for cutting hay and silage to supplement feed over winter. Horses, ponies and sheep may also be kept on grassland.

**3. SHORT ROUTE.** For a short circuit, you can turn right at this track and follow the route clockwise back to the village.



**4. JACK'S HEDGE.** As you leave the dairy and follow Jack's Hedge the landscape changes to larger arable fields. Arable crops are grown in rotations of different crops in sequence. This reduces the impact of weeds, insect pests and diseases. A diversity of cropping allows a mosaic of habitats to thrive across the farm.

A combination of autumn and spring grown crops allows stubble to be left on some fields over winter providing both cover and feed for many birds.

You will see a broad range of birds across the farm including ground-nesting birds such as Skylarks, Corn Buntings and Lapwings. These feed on seeds, young shoots and insects such as sawfly larvae, beetles, ants, aphids and grasshoppers. Lapwings also eat leather jackets, wireworms, snails, slugs and spiders and can be found in the conservation headlands which the Estate maintains around the boundaries of most of the cereal-producing fields. Field edges and headlands are managed to encourage a diversity of species.

**5. MEDIUM ROUTE.** The path here crosses a bridleway that runs from Pentridge to Cranborne. Walkers can take a short cut back to Cranborne by turning right here. Hedges form an integral part of the Dorset landscape. Our farm staff take care not to spray the bottom of hedges in order to maintain food and cover for wildlife. We preserve old hedges by laying and by planting up gaps. The Estate has planted ten miles of new hedges in the last 15 years. Farm staff will only cut hedges every other year or twice in five years. This allows berries and fruit to remain over winter and thus provide feed for over-wintering birds.

**6. JACK'S HEDGE CORNER.** Continuing towards Boveridge, the rolling arable landscape is typical of the area. These fields grow good varieties of barley, most of which are used for malting for making beer. This part of the Estate supports populations of hares and you will see skylarks and other downland birds at certain times of the year. You may also see roe deer in the distance.

**7. KENNEL POND.** Keep to the left-hand footpath until you reach the road. Cross it towards Boveridge Farm. 50 yards after the set of cottages on the corner, turn right and follow the footpath towards Park Row. Turn left when you emerge by the converted St. Aldhelm's Chapel and follow the road for 100 yards or so to post no. 8. Turn right here along Waddleys Drive.

**8. BURWOOD.** This wooded valley was badly affected by the gales in 1990 when we lost a number of mature beech trees. The areas have now been re-planted with a mixture of beech, ash and oak. Tree varieties take different lengths of time to mature. Broadleaf species such as oak, ash and beech take around 120 years but many survive for far longer. Conifer species such as Scots and Corsican pine, spruce and larch mature at 50 to 70 years old. The Estate is converting its woods to a more uneven-aged structure. This is known as 'continuous cover' forestry.

**9. THE MANOR HOUSE.** The final leg of this walk takes you from opposite Burwood Pit back towards the village via Potterne Hill. Here you can see views down to the Church and Manor House, both of which date from the 13th Century. The ancient Manor House was acquired by Robert Cecil who was First Minister to Elizabeth I and James I and is still lived in by his descendant, Viscount Cranborne. The gardens were laid out by Mounten Jennings and John Tradescant and were enlarged in the 20th Century to incorporate a white garden, herb and mount garden, a water garden, wild garden and a crab-apple orchard. There is a magnificent display of spring bulbs and flowering cherries together with fine avenues of beech, lime and yew.



**10. CRANBORNE STORES.** Serving as the outlet for the Estate's own range of traditional breed meat including pork, beef and lamb, bred here on the Cranborne Estate. We make our own range of sausages and own-cured bacon. Tender Estate game including pheasant and venison is available when in season. We stock baked pies, terrines, cold meats, cheeses and antipasti. You will find much of what we sell is produced here in Dorset and the South West. Cranborne Stores is also the village shop and we stock a comprehensive array of everyday goods, from newspapers to Brillo pads!

### 11. CRANBORNE MANOR GARDEN CENTRE

Open throughout the year seven days a week, the Garden Centre supplies a wide range of products and specialises in old fashioned climbing, shrub and rambling roses. Plants seen in the Manor Garden are sold wherever possible. There is also a gift shop. To set you on your way, Mary's Tea-Room will provide you with soft drinks, freshly prepared home made food and cakes. It makes an ideal post-walk rendezvous for light lunches and teas, closing at 4.30pm.

### 12. THE MANOR GARDEN

The Manor Garden, reached via the Garden Centre, is open from 1st March to 30th September on Wednesdays only.

