Stonehenge

The famous Stone Circle is just one part of a complex ceremonial landscape on Salisbury Plain. This developed over the course of 2,000 years, during the Neolithic and the Bronze Age - starting more than 5,000 years ago. Within the Stonehenge World Heritage Site, the National Trust manages 827 hectares of downland surrounding the famous stone circle.

Grassland Restoration

We have restored the chalk grassland around Stonehenge after many years of intensive farming. As you walk along this route keep an eye out for colourful wildflower displays in summer, that attract butterflies such as the Marbled White (pictured above). Sheep and cattle grazing helps to keep the grasslands rich in wildlife.

Things to see

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Bronze Age Barrows

Many of the oldest barrows in the Stonehenge World Heritage Site stand along King Barrow Ridge. Keep an eye out for Great Spotted, and Green, woodpeckers. Please note that in order to protect the archaeology for future generations we ask that you do not walk on top of the burial mounds as this can cause erosion.

Contact Us

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If you would like this information in alternative formats, please call us on 01980 664780 or email stonehenge@nationaltrust.org.uk.

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A walk that explores some of the lesser known areas of the Stonehenge landscape with great views of the famous stone circle, some amazing archaeology and exciting wildlife to be seen. Within Fargo woodland there are Bronze Age burial mounds and lots of wildlife to discover as well as a useful information hub. It’s also a great place for a picnic.

Terrain
This circular walk follows a road, hard tracks and gently sloping downs. Surfaces can be uneven with potholes and long tussocky grass. Dogs welcome on a lead and under close control as sheep and cattle graze the fields and there are ground nesting birds present during the spring and summer months.

1. Approximately 500m east of the visitor centre is a pedestrian gate on the north side of the road at grid reference SU 1060 4285, go through this and head slightly left towards a gate on the west end of the Cursus monument.

2. At the west end of the Cursus go through the pedestrian gate and take time to read the information panel and take in the views. Then head along the woodland fence line to your right until you reach a pedestrian gate.

3. Enter Fargo woodland through the pedestrian gate and head along the wood chip path. Look out for a large Bronze Age burial mound (barrow) on your right known as the Monarch of the Plain. As this barrow comes into view look for a grassy path on your left.

4. Take the left turning and follow the track. The path opens up to a lovely open area within the woodland surrounding another Bronze Age barrow and offers great views across the Stonehenge landscape. Make your way around the barrow and rejoin the wood chip path heading right.

5. You have now reached the Fargo woodland information hub. This is a good place to get your bearings, admire the view and take in some of the features of the landscape. Exit via either of the gates and head for the group of barrows straight in front of you. Keep to the left of the barrow group and look for a pedestrian gate on the fence line.

6. Once at the barrows go through the pedestrian gate to explore the barrows and read the information board. Leave through the pedestrian gate opposite the one you came through and head in the direction of Stonehenge.

7. You have now reached Stonehenge. If you have a ticket from the visitor centre then head along to the monument, your ticket also allows you transport on the visitor shuttle back to the visitor centre from this point. If you would like to continue this walking trail then head south along the byway and look for a kissing gate on your right.

8. Head into the field from the kissing gate and walk in a westerly direction away from the stone circle. Look out for a pedestrian gate on your right at the entrance to an area of woodland. This is a chalk grassland restoration field and a good place to spot hares.

9. Go through the pedestrian gate into the wood and through the next gate opposite you. Look for the pedestrian gate back into Fargo wood slightly to your right.

10. Once in Fargo woodland turn left and head along the wood chip path with the fence line on your left. You will eventually see the Monarch of the Plain burial mound again. Keep to the left of this monument and head straight on until you reach a pedestrian gate.

11. Go through the gate and retrace your steps to the gate at Step 1.