

MARLOW DONKEY 2025 Important Information.

We hope you enjoy this year's Marlow Donkey from Liston Hall, Marlow (Marlow Community Association)

Please note the CP opening times, entrants arriving early will not be allowed in. If you expect to complete the course at over 6mph please inform the Help desk at registration and please start at 09:30. **All entrants to finish by 18:00 pm (16:30 for 16 milers)**

Transport : Parking is available in Marlow town car parks at Liston RD (outside hall, see 'You are Here' on map) and 100m away at Dean Street, plus others on map below. Both are £1.20/day on a Sunday. Free parking is likely to be available just off the A404 exit in Parkway, 1km from the hall. The walk from the station is shown below: if the first train is late we will make allowances for you. There are buses from Wycombe and Reading, we will also wait for the latter.



Registration :

YOU MUST REGISTER AT THE HALL BEFORE STARTING AND ON FINISHING.

Ensure we have the correct course and details recorded. If you change from the 25 mile to the 16 mile route, all you need to do is inform the marshals at check-in at Lane End (CP 1) Register from 08:00 (hall is not open before this) and start at any time between 08:15 and 09:30. Any last minute information or changes to the route will be notified on a notice close to the door or at registration. For those who ordered them, we will notify you when these can be downloaded from the SI system or if this fails, we will send certificates.

For the event : Please ensure that you have printed out, and brought with you, a copy of the route description as there will not be any available on the day. Also you must have the required maps (ideally EXP 171 and 172) in paper or electronic format, **a mug**, suitable clothing/footwear, a basic first aid kit, a compass, a fully charged and switched on mobile phone and sufficient food and drink for the 8-9ml sections between checkpoints.

Food : We will provide drinks and snacks at the start, at the Lane End checkpoint after 8 miles (and after 17 miles on the 25 route) and basic food (including a veg curry) and drinks at the finish. There is no food, drink or shops between these checkpoints so please carry adequate for 9 mile sections. The food provided cannot be guaranteed free from contamination with allergens. This is not because of carelessness on the organiser's part but because of the practicality of temporarily taking over a small kitchen.

MARLOW DONKEY - 2025 Route Description

Italics = Place names or path number can be seen from route.

Abbreviations: **ahd**=ahead: **B**=bear: **bld**=building: **BW**=bridleway: **cont**=continue: **CB** = Compass bearing: **CW**=Chiltern Way: **encl**=enclosed: **FP**=footpath: **GT**=gate: **GR**=O.S. grid ref (**SU xxxxxx**): **junc**=junction: **KG**=Kissing Gate: **L**=left: **LHS/RHS**=L/R hand side: **opp**=opposite: **PH**=pub: **R**=right: **RD**=RD: **sli**=slight: **SP**=sign post: **ST**=stile: **TJ**=T-junction: **TK**=track: **thru**=thru: **T**=turn: **WM**=waymark(ed) (often white or yellow arrows): **X**=cross/across

LISTON HALL, MARLOW, OPENS 10:30

GR 851 867.

Section 1: 13.0 km, 8.1 miles, 812 feet ascent

1. Leave hall and TR to main RD. TR and follow pavement. X *Claremont Gardens*, *Cedar Court* and *Glade Road*. BR on path, joining *Foxes Piece*, and TR on road between recycling bins and flats. At end TL on path, with allotments on R. Path later turns and then TL on RD. At X-RDs TR into *Newfield Gardens*; when RD turns R next to *no. 22*, ahd on footpath. At end TL on RD and follow to T-junc. X RD (**CARE**) and ahd to R of *Quarrydale Drive*. X RD and cont between garden fences, eventually emerging on RD (with fence and bypass ahd). TL on pavement and X footbridge over RD and bypass. GR 862 871.

2. Ahd on encl path for 1.3km, Xing 3 RDs, to emerge at RD end (*Queen's Head* PH on L). Ahd to T-junc, where TL and follow RD thru village to RD. TL and X RD (**CARE: busy main RD**) using central reservation. TL for 300m on pavement and TR at FP sign thru gap in hedge. After 350m, where TK joins from R, BL and in 40m T sharp L on TK opp mobile homes and at No Cycling sign. After 70m BR on path Xing fld to reach RD. TR and immed TL on encl FP for 750m (Xing farm RD). Thru KG to RD and TL. Follow RD under bypass bridge and after RD swings L, TR passing houses on L and cont on narrowing path to reach gas depot. GR 859 890

3. Immed TL on encl FP (now *CW*) for 300m to reach RD. TR to RD junc and X main RD (**CARE**) to FP sign. X fld CB 250⁰ to gap in hedge and TR on encl BW. Ignore BW on L after 500m and RD on R after a further 200m. Join RD from L and ahd where RD turns R. GR 848 904

4. In 30m TL opp *Old House Farm* down TK. Pass woods on L then ahd downhill, after 330m, as main TK enters woods fork R on track. At bottom, TL thru gap, and then TR uphill with hedge on R. After hedge ends, continue ahd on TK across open fields. After electric pole then B1/2R into encl FP behind fences 250m to access road. TR past *Elizabeth House* and *Bethel* crossing road onto pavement, passing *Claymoor Park* and entrance to airfield. TL on RD to *Army Reserve Centre* and continue to fence by motorway. GR: 833 911

5. TL along fence. BL away from motorway to pass thru gap in high blue fence and BR on airfield perimeter RD. After 700m pass thru gap in further high blue fence and continue thru wood (*Longshaw Wood*) for 300m. TR at WM post and in 100m TR at next WM post on narrow FP which climbs gradually to corner of green metal fence. TL and at next corner of fence TR, still along fence, to emerge at RD end with gate on R. GR 817 918

6. TL on RD and immed BL on path across fld to corner of housing and ahd with housing on L. Keep on grass path, ignoring FPS on RD to L. After end of housing go thru gap on L to TR on rough tarmac path opp green *Slaytor Rd* sign; Follow path, with grassy area on L to reach RD at bus stop. X RD and TR on pavement for 100m, then T second L on tarmac path with FP sign. BL at path junc and continue with hedge on R and open area on L. Path becomes encl; follow to reach RD, with pond on R. X RD (**CARE**) and TR on pavement. X *Church Road* and ahd in direction of traffic lights, to reach checkpoint on L:

CP 1 : LANE END VILLAGE HALL, GR 807 917 OPEN 09:25, CLOSES 13:00,
25 milers must downgrade to 16 mile route if arriving after 12.30

16 milers proceed to Para 13

Section 2: 14.8 km, 9.2 miles, 1073 feet ascent

7. Leave hall and TL. X RD at pedestrian lights and ahd thru car park. At far left corner thru gap on to grassland and ahd, keeping L of cottages. Keep on verge Xing TKs and X to pavement of *Bullocks Farm Lane*. Ahd to X motorway bridge and continue 100m past *Chequers* PH. TL on "Access only" TK and follow, bearing R at junctions to keep cottages to L and grass to R. X RD **WITH CARE** onto narrow FP. Pass WM post on R. Ahd at next WM post (do not BL). Ignore next path to R and, 200m later, after passing XTK and pond on L (may be dry), BR up slope to reach grassy TK. BR to RD. GR 798 930.

8. TR on RD for 20m and TL thru hedge gap and GT. X fld and thru GT. At fence corner on L TL, following fence downhill. Thru GT and X TK, then ahd up fld CB340⁰. X TK at wood corner and ahd on narrow path into wood. Descend to Xing path where TL and immed TR (single white WM) up slope with hedge on L and fld on R. At top BR to descend steeply to WM post in dip. TL on TK to enter wood and cont thru wood for 600m. Shortly before RD ahd look for 3 arrow WM on tree to L. GR 785 945

9. TL uphill thru wood (occasional WMs on trees), thru GT and cont to GT into fld. X fld to gate and ahd on TK to R of blds. TL at fld edge, then TR at fld corner, keeping hedge on L. X TK to enter wood; descend to X TK and ahd uphill. X TK (WM on L) and ahd on TK for 300m. BR on narrow path at WM on tree to reach end of wood. X fld CB210⁰ to narrow gap between bushes and ahd to TK. TR on TK for 100m, then BL up FP to rejoin TK. TL and follow TK under motorway bridge and up to RD. GR 784 927

10. TR on pavement. At end of fence on LH side of RD, X RD (**CARE**) and ahd on narrow path to RD. TL and, after church on L, follow TK swinging to R, and round GT. After main TK swings L, TR on TK, initially encl, then descending to enter wood. Follow BW, later bearing R with fence on R, to reach RD. X and thru KG then ahd across fld to gate on to TK. TL to TK T-junc. TL and follow WMs on TK/path along valley bottom for 1km. Ignore first path junct from R leading to GT, then 40m later, TR on next FP from R. Follow narrow path uphill-for 150m, then BL between fences on to left hand FP. GR 772 916

11. Follow FP, contouring hillside, for 500m. At FP junc TL on enclosed path to reach RD. Ahd on RD, passing (another) *Chequers* PH on R and RD (*Chequers Lane*) on L. After 150m TR thru GT, to follow path up field edge with hedge and then wood on R. **Pause at top** for best view on route and X ST. Ahd thru wood and gap in hedge to X fld to gate. Ahd on TK, ignoring path into wood on R. Where TK turns R, TL thru GT into wood. Path soon bears R and continues thru wood for 900m. (Ignore two crossing paths.). As path descends and swings R (with fence corner on R) TL thru GT. GR 795 909

12. X fld to GT and descend to RD and FP opposite descending to GT into fld. X fld to wood corner and follow TK swinging L uphill with wood on L. Thru GT and ahd with fence on R. At fld corner TR thru GT and uphill with fence on L. At top TL thru GT and continue thru gate into wood and TL. After 60m TR and follow edge of wood for 400m crossing FB and emerge between houses. TL on TK. (DO NOT FOLLOW WALKERS ON THE R HERE, they are coming out of checkpoint). BL on TK to cross blacksmiths yard (*Meakes*) then BL thru GT into graveyard. Ahd with churchyard wall on R and thru GT to end of TK. At TK junc BL to pass thru village hall car park to RD. TR on pavement to reach checkpoint on R:

Section 3: 13.0 km, 8.1 miles, 344 feet ascent

13. Leave hall and TL on pavement. TL thru car park on *Church Path* and follow TK. BL across grass to corner of churchyard and BR with wall on R. X TK onto grassy path and BL at junc. Path descends thru trees; BR to cross grassy area, ahd to reach track at *house no 5*, TL and continue down to cross RD. TR on pavement for 200m. As RD veers R ahd on TK (ignore tarmac drive to L). At end of TK ahd with garden wall on L. TR at waymark then BL after 50m to cont on WM'd path thru woodland. X TK (house on L) and cont on main path with occasional WMs on trees. After small wooden plank bridge sharp RH turn, ahd to reach TK leading to RD. GR 802 901

14. X-RD and thru small GT to L of TK. Cont on path, eventually alongside TK on R. X TK and thru KG. BL, initially with fence on L and X fld ahd to next fence corner. Ahd with fence on R, ignoring path on R. Thru GT at top of field and TL on encl FP. Thru GT and BL, then aim for junc of TK and RD at *Parmoor Park Farm*. Cont on verge to L of RD with fld on L and trees on R. At end of verge ahd on RD, BL on RD at fork, (*SP: Hambleden*) ignoring BW to R and later RD on L. Shortly after passing under power lines TR on encl FP to R of *Pheasants* (not field gate). At GT BL X fld and thru GT to RD. TR and, after *Beeches Farm* on L, BL thru GT on to TK; ahd on to wide FP, do not enter farm. GR 791 888

15. After 500m BL at '*LOCAL WILDLIFE SITE*' sign. After a further 500m at X paths TL on uphill path and then swing L again onto encl FP, eventually onto TK with hedge on L and fld on R. At end TR on RD and BL at RD junc. Pass to L of *Russells Farm Cottage* and cont on RD for 600m to TJ. TR and in 25m TL over ST and BL to enter wood over ST (**SHAKY AND SLIPPERY**). Follow FP thru wood for 300m, keep R of broken wooden gate and pheasant fence, then for 400m ignoring side turnings, to then X TK on arrows and shortly thereafter reach WM'd path junc. Ahd on TK (not following any of WMs) descending gradually to valley bottom, where BR. Follow wide TK, joining *CW*, for 1.2km to reach RD. GR 814 867

16. TR and where RD swings R, TL on encl FP (*CW*) which soon turns R. On entering wood in hollow (*Woodland Trust*), TL on path. After 100m at end of fence, BL then BR to ascend diagonally up hill, BL of trenches to reach RD at top. Wherever you emerge on RD, TL until you reach FP on R with *No Horse Riding* sign. TR on this FP, joining another path to pass house on R (*Monk's Corner* admiring frieze). BR on RD (Parallel pth in wood, and in 50m, at *Heathercroft*, TR on TK. As TK bears R, ahd on encl FP. X fld and thru GT then BR across field. Thru 2GT and BL on encl FP, becoming TK with houses on L. X village green on TK. X RD and ahd to R of bench. X RD WITH CARE and TR on verge. In 200m BL on TK. GR 835 870

17. BL at TK junc and after *Blounts Lodge* on R, TR on encl FP. Ahd for 900m, ignoring side turnings, to reach allotments. Ahd at encl path junct then BR in encl path to reach RD by *Duke PH*. X RD and TL on pavement for 60m. TR into *York Road* and at T junc X RD and thru GT into *Riley Park*. TL on perimeter path and at far corner BL thru GT. X RD bearing R to enter *Crown Rd* becoming *Dukes Place*. At T-junc TL on pavement. At pedestrian crossing TR across RD and TL on pavement. Cont past mini-roundabout and at next junc TR into *Liston Road* to reach, on L:

LISTON HALL, MARLOW**GR 851 867****OPENS 1030****CLOSES 16:30 16 ml route 26 km, 16.2 miles OR****CLOSES 18.00 25ml route 40.8 km, 25.4 miles****WELL DONE ! WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE CHALLENGE**