

**11km/7.5 miles**

**3hrs**

**easy**

## Ashridge Estate

This walk guides you through the beautiful broadleaf woodland of the Ashridge Estate. It's fabulous in summer and magnificent in autumn.

### The walk

- 1 With the Bridgewater Monument behind you, head back down the access road for 350m
- 2 Turn R along the waymarked footpath, initially on concrete road, then forest track for 1km until you meet a crossroads of tracks, with a 'No Horses' sign ahead.
- 3 Turn L along bridleway, and follow L fork when path splits after about 100m. Follow path to road (B4506), where you meet a fingerpost sign 'Public Bridleway 46, Berkhamstead Common'. Ignore path to L when you reach a large field, L, and continue straight ahead on the edge of the woods. The path gradually curves R further into the forest, passing a cottage, L. When you reach cottage access track, turn R and follow until you bisect a bridleway, with farm buildings ahead.
- 4 Turn L along bridleway (blue waymark arrow), and when path forks in 100m (Herts Way Post 47), go R for 1km.
- 5 When you reach a clearing and cross-tracks, with a house to your R, follow bridleway straight ahead, and in 15m take a path on L (marker post hidden in undergrowth), and follow the narrow path into Frittsden Beeches for 500m,

to a cross-tracks (note the old 'Bridleway' sign high up on the tree).

- 6 Turn R and follow slight incline to clearing in 400m.

- 7 Turn R on bridleway that broadens into a bracken filled ride through the woods. Keep going for 1km until you return to Point 4 (Post 47), and continue straight ahead when you reach farmhouse, L. In 1km you reach B4506. Cross road and in 100m look out for fingerpost sign, L.

- 8 Follow fingerpost L into woods, and keep on path, ignoring first two paths on R, for 850m until you reach a crossways.

- 9 Turn R, following Icknield Way waymark (stone axe), and pick up signs to Bridgewater Monument. Keep on this path as it climbs to return to the monument and your start point. (NB your route criss-crosses many other tracks, so beware paths that stay on the level, and keep climbing).

### DETAILS

**Country Walking ID**  
2895  
**Mag** Route 8,  
September 2007  
**Region** East of  
England  
**Area** Hertfordshire  
**Length of walk**  
11km/7.5 miles  
**Time needed** 3hrs  
**Difficulty** Easy

### IS THIS WALK FOR YOU?

**Terrain** Easy woodland paths, one moderate hill, muddy in parts after rain  
**Stiles** None

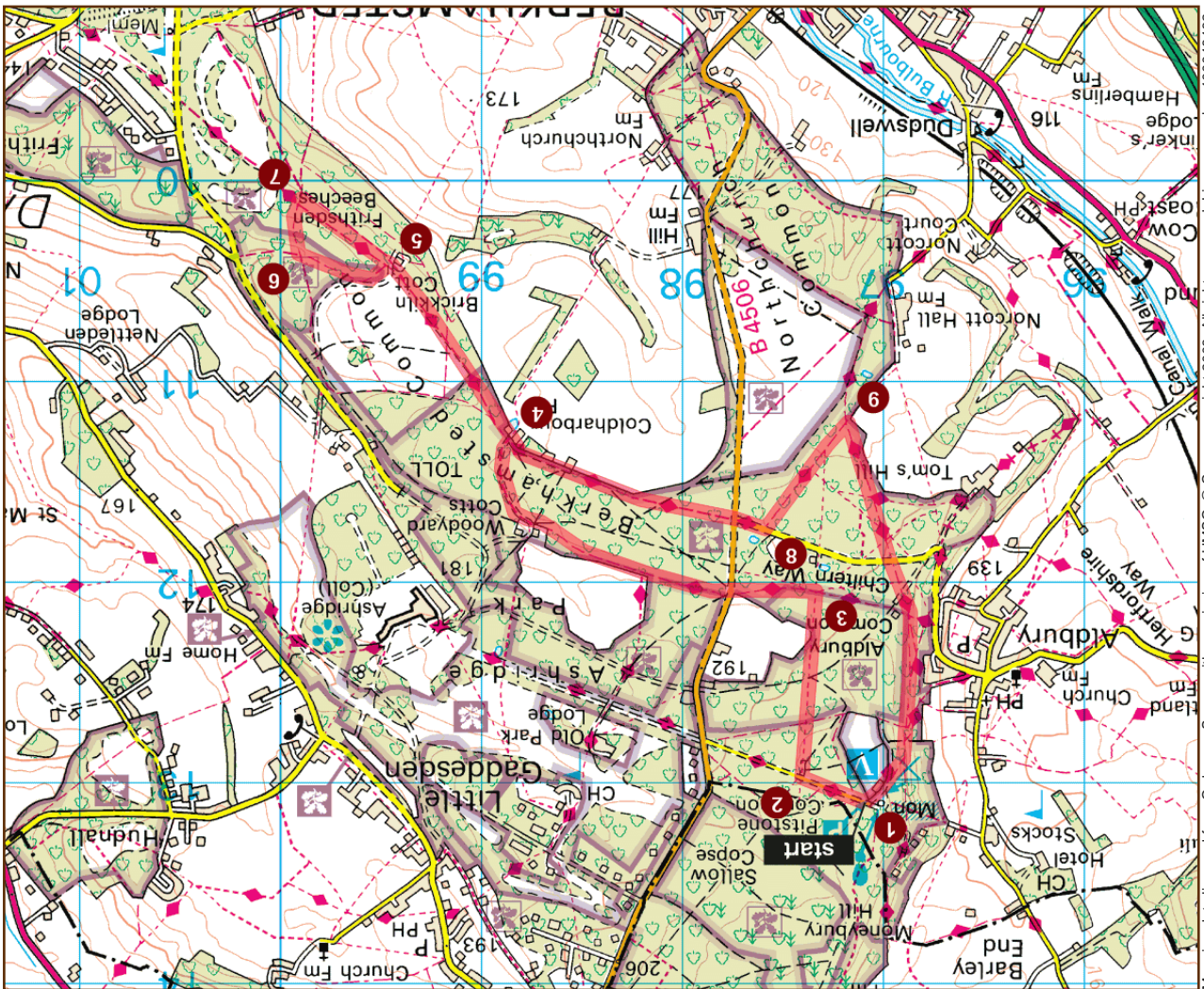
**PLANNING**  
**Parking** Car park by Bridgewater Monument, grid ref SP971131  
**Start grid ref** SP971131

**Nearest town** Berkhamstead  
**Refreshments** Café at Bridgewater Monument  
**Public toilets** At Bridgewater Monument  
**Public transport** Trains to Tring station (one mile away). Chilterns Rambler 327 bus on summer Sundays (www.intalink.org.uk)

### MAPS

Ordnance Survey Explorer 181; Landranger 165.

JONATHAN MANNING



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