

## The Wilderness Walk - 2½ miles

This short country walk of about 2½ miles will take you down into the valley, at the northern end of a wetland area known as *The Wilderness*. You will cross over the river Medina, before walking through pastures to Cridmore Farm.

A country lane and bridleway will return you to *The Chequers*.

### **Start.**

Go to the front of the pub and turn LEFT down Niton Road.

**WARNING !! No pavements, take great care on this road.**

Walk for about 300 yards then turn RIGHT onto bridleway just before the cottages.

SIGN - Public Bridleway GL9 Cridmore or North Appleford & Great Appleford.

Walk down this broad path to the gate at the end. Once through the gate go straight ahead .

SIGN - Public Bridleway GL9 Cridmore.

Follow the well used path around the boundary of the field keeping the hedge on your right-hand side.

In the lower north-west corner of this field, almost hidden by willow and scrub, you come to a ford and a footbridge crossing the river Medina.

Having crossed the river, head straight across the field towards the fence then turn RIGHT. Keeping the wire fence on your left go through the gateway into a larger field.

Continue along the fence line to a stile and gate at the far end of this field.

Now walk up this gently sloping field, still keeping the wire fence on your left. The field gives way to a broad track and you will soon come to the first of two gates.

- As you close the gate, look back for a fine view of the Chequers Inn across the valley -

At the top of the slope the second gate comes into view and beyond this we see the buildings of Cridmore Farm. The track leads you down onto a narrow lane.

Go straight ahead past the barns and farm house, round the sharp right-hand bend, and past the main farm buildings.

The lane now swings right again, away from the farm.

About ¼ mile further on it curves to the left and begins to climb. Look out for a stony track leading off to your RIGHT. This is the path you take.

SIGN - Public Bridleway G18 to Rookley

At the end of the track pass through a gate and walk across the water meadow to the stile and footbridge where you cross the river once again.

When you reach the gate of Rookley Farm turn RIGHT . This track climbs gently, taking you back to the Chequers Inn.

Enter and refresh.

**NOTE.** This walk is suitable for occasional walkers.

Mostly on bridleways with some long but gentle gradients. Can become very muddy after periods of wet weather, so wear the appropriate shoes/boots. A spare clean pair in the car is a good idea.

Some road walking is inevitable, and although the country lanes are quiet, walk on the right in single file and keep alert for approaching motor vehicles. Please observe the Country Code.

ENJOY!!!

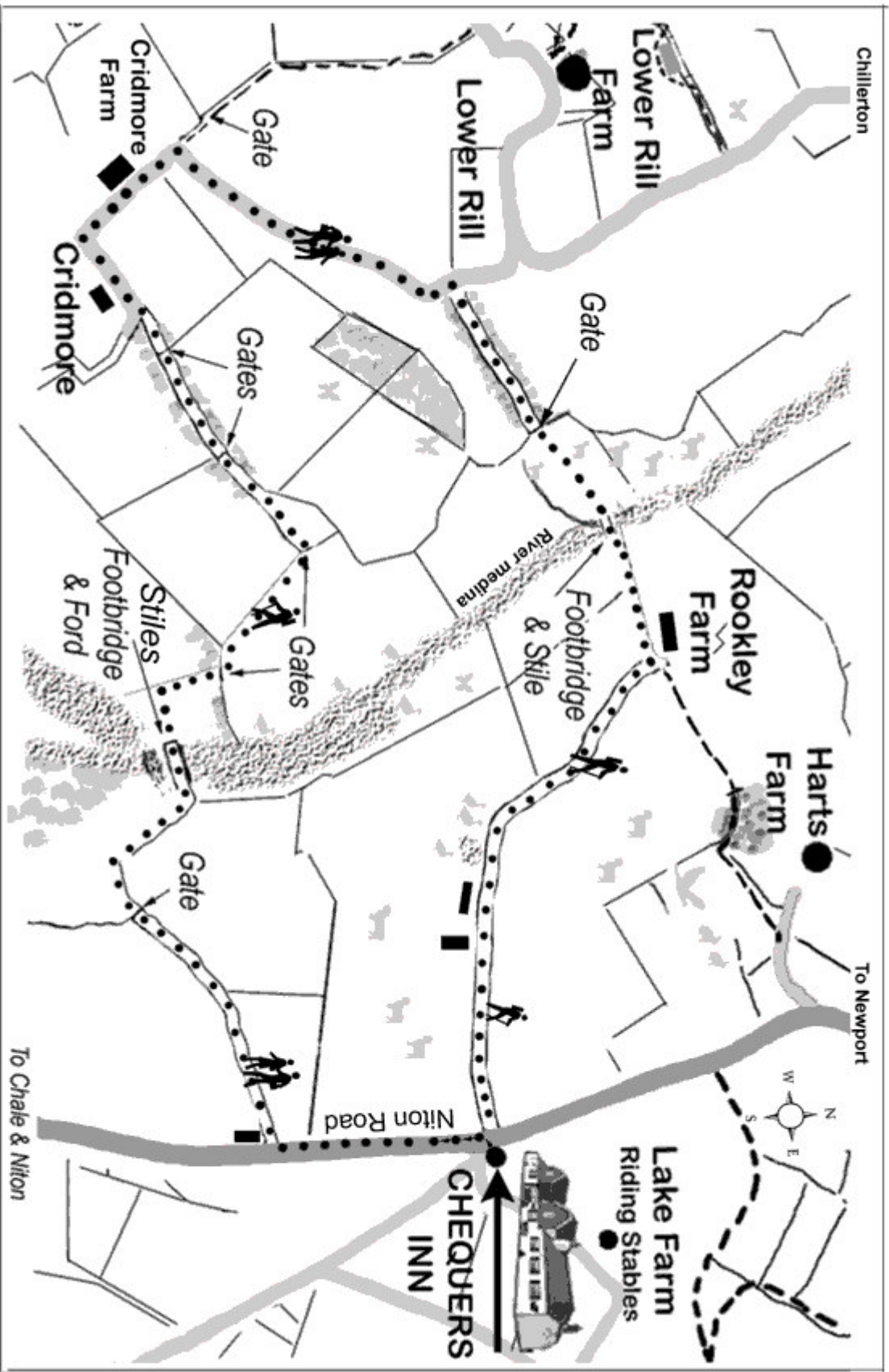
The Chequers Inn. Rookley, Isle of Wight.

[www.chequersinn-iow.co.uk](http://www.chequersinn-iow.co.uk)

**THE CHEQUERS INN**

**The Wilderness Walk**

Distance about 2.5 miles



Secondary Road

Lane

Track

The Walk