

# Miles Without Stiles

## The Two Church Circular



Negotiate the 'squeeze belly' in this attractive little walk linking the churches at Freshford and Limpley with the added bonus of the River Frome, with welcome stops at the Inn at Freshford and the Hop Pole at Limpley Stoke.

**Distance:** 3 kilometres/  
2 miles (1 hour)

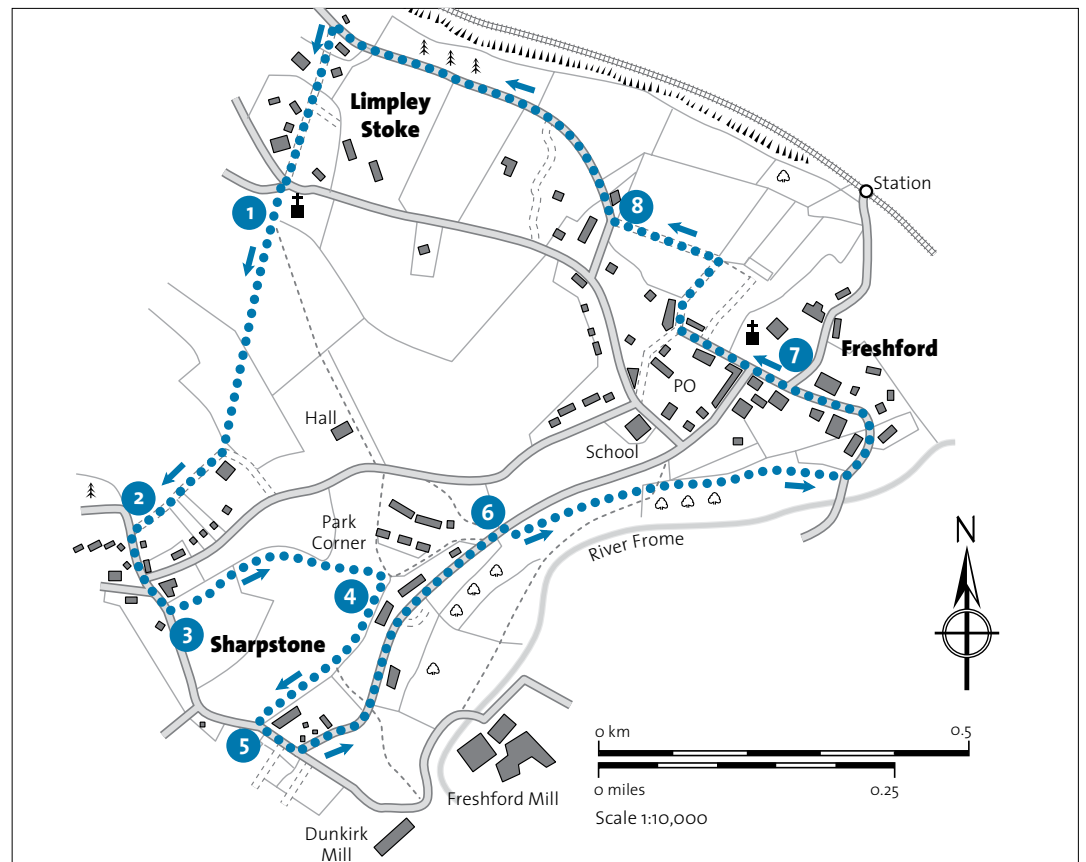
**Start:** Limpley Stoke  
Church

### Route:

Leaving Church Lane behind you, go up the steps by the side of the church **1** and through two kissing-gates into the field, go straight across the field down a steep hill and up the other side to another kissing-gate. Continue across the next field to another kissing-gate. Keep straight along a narrow footpath to a tarmac track which joins the road **2**.

Turn left onto the road, after 50m go straight across the cross-roads. The village pump on your right was installed in 1931 and last used in the drought of 1976. Turn left opposite Pear Tree Cottage - a finger-post **3** marks the way. Follow this path through three kissing-gates until you reach the T junction where you turn right through another kissing-gate. **4**

Keep straight on through the field keeping close to the hedgerow on your left. After 375m negotiate the 'squeeze-belly' at the end of the field



into a lane which leads you onto the road. Turn left onto the road, **5** and then shortly left again onto the road through Sharpstone. Continue on this road until you reach the War Memorial on your left, **6** then turn right off the road down the steps and follow the path along to the next kissing-gate on the right.

Go through the kissing-gate and turn left down a steep muddy path to The Inn at Freshford. The River Frome on

your right floods frequently after heavy rain, the bridge was constructed in 1530. Turn left past The Inn and follow the road up the hill to St Peter's Church **7** on your right. There has been a church on this site since the 14th century but there have been many changes over the years.

Continue down the hill, pass the old brewery chimney and turn right along a short path which takes you through yet another kissing-gate. Go

through the gate and immediately turn left along the edge of the field for 200m before passing through the gate at the end of the field which takes you out onto Crow Lane, look back at the way you have come and admire the views across the Limpley Stoke Valley.

**8** Turn right onto Crow Lane and then in 400m turn left up steep steps (the turning is way marked) until you emerge at the top opposite St Mary's Church - the starting point.