

Ride Otmoor – Route Plans

Ride One – Manor Fields – a great lead rein route – about a mile

Follow the main track out of the farmyard for about half a mile until you get to a concrete area and crossroads. Cross the concrete bridge on the right and follow the grass headland around the field called MANOR FIELD returning to the farm via the track next to the horse paddock and ménage.

Ride Two – Manor & Marlake Fields – about a mile and a quarter

Follow the main track out of the farmyard for about half a mile until you get to a concrete area and crossroads. Cross the concrete bridge on the right and follow the grass headland along the bottom of the field called MANOR FIELD. Continue through the gap and follow the grass headland around the field called MARLAKE FIELD, returning to the farm via the track next to the horse paddock and ménage.

Ride Three – Sheep's Field – about a mile and a half

Follow the main track out of the farmyard for about half a mile until you get to a concrete area. Go over the concrete area and bear right with the post and rail fencing to your left and a ditch to your right. Follow the grassy track along for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, follow the track as it turns right and then right again and returns to the farmyard via a track running alongside the horse paddock and ménage.

Ride Four – Gardener's Barn & Canterling Hill – 3.8 miles

Follow the main track out of the farmyard for about half a mile until you get to a concrete area and crossroads. Turn left and follow the track for about a mile. You will pass the S bends, keep going until the grey gritty track ends at some concrete. Turn right and back on yourself on the grass headland with maize pheasant cover growing on your left and the hedge on your right. Follow this grass headland around the perimeter of the field. The ground rises to a gradual incline known as THE CANTERING HILL. You can ride back down the 'concrete hill'. You must keep to the grass strips either side of the concrete as the surface can be slippery.

Ride Five – The Galloping Hill & Wood Field – about 3.5 miles

Follow the main track out of the farmyard for about half a mile until you get to a concrete area and crossroads. Turn left and follow the track for about a mile. You will pass the S bends, keep going, the grey gritty track becomes a limestone track. When you get to Gardener's Barn House, turn back on yourself so you are riding on the grass headland the other side of the hedge. This lovely grass track follows the perimeter of Wood Field and rises to our famous GALLOPING HILL. You'll pass our boys folly known as 'The Sun Deck'. Follow the headland round the wood called TIPPINS COPSE and back to the concrete track to ride home. You can ride back down the 'concrete hill'. You must keep to the grass strips either side of the concrete as the surface can be slippery.

Ride Four & Five link well to form a longer ride incorporating both the CANTERING HILL & THE GALLOPING HILL

Ride Six – Horton cum Studley - A circular route round Horton cum Studley Village, approximately half on the farm and half through the village – approximately six miles

Follow the main track out of the farmyard for about half a mile until you get to a concrete area and crossroads. Go straight over an onto a bridleway for about half a mile. At the end of the bridleway, turn left onto unmarked track known as Ragnall's Lane towards Horton Cum Studley. Pass some cottages on the left and follow the road until you turn left continuing on Ragnall's Lane. You'll pass the church and, at the end of Ragnall's Lane continue up Horton Hill. Turn left on to Murcott Road and continue through the village until you pass a house called XXXXX Studley?. Turn left into the farmtrack which is the back drive to Manor Farm. Follow this track until to reach the concrete area and crosroads, turn right and back to the farm.

Ride Seven – Hundred Acres on Otmoor – approximately five miles

Follow the main track out of the farmyard for about half a mile until you get to a concrete area and crossroads. Go straight over an onto a bridleway for about half a mile. At the end of the bridleway, turn right past Moor Farm and onwards towards Otmoor. At the end of this grassy track you need to cross over a narrow bridge. This bridge is owned and maintained by Oxfordshire CC and is approved for horses to cross. However, we strongly advise that you dismount, cross your stirrups and lead your horse over. You then pass through two gates – KNOWN AS CORNER FLAG - on to a large expanse of moorland known as HUNDRED ACRES. Proceed forwards leaving the hedge on your right. This is a lovely opportunity for a canter (the ground is always good on Otmoor even in the height of summer). When you get to a single gate – known as THE HUNTING GATE – you can turn left following the path towards a double gate and humped back bridge – known as THE ROMAN BRIDGE. Turn left and slightly back on yourself taking a diagonal route back towards the double gates known as CORNER FLAG.

Ride Eight – The Noke Bank Ride – Approximately 9 miles and the route previously used for the Otmoor Fun Ride

Follow the main track out of the farmyard for about half a mile until you get to a concrete area and crossroads. Go straight over an onto a bridleway for about half a mile. At the end of the bridleway, turn right past Moor Farm and onwards towards Otmoor. At the end of this grassy track you need to cross over a narrow bridge. This bridge is owned and maintained by Oxfordshire CC and is approved for horses to cross. However, we strongly advise that you dismount, cross your stirrups and lead your horse over. You then pass through two gates – KNOWN AS CORNER FLAG - on to a large expanse of moorland known as HUNDRED ACRES. Proceed forwards leaving the hedge on your right. This is a lovely opportunity for a canter (the ground is always good on Otmoor even in the height of summer). Go through the single gate – known as THE HUNTING GATE and proceed onwards following the grassy track towards CHARLTON ON OTMOOR. The track curves round towards NOKE, passing over the River Ray and through the RSPB Nature Reserve eventually coming to a single gate near the RIFLE BUTTS. Pass through this gate and follow the hedge on your left (another lovely canter opportunity!) to the ROMAN BRIDGE which has gates before and after. Then take a slight right, following the well-worn path back towards the double gates at CORNER FLAG. Once again crossing the narrow bridge, follow the grass track back again and remember to turn left after MOOR FARM following the bridleway with sheep field to your left and back towards MANOR FARM.

Ride Nine – Ride to The Abingdon Arms at Beckley – approximately 8 miles total

Follow the main track out of the farmyard for about half a mile until you get to a concrete area and crossroads. Go straight over an onto a bridleway for about half a mile. At the end of the bridleway, turn right past Moor Farm and onwards towards Otmoor. At the end of this grassy track you need to cross over a narrow bridge. This bridge is owned and maintained by Oxfordshire CC and is approved for horses to cross. However, we strongly advise that you dismount, cross your stirrups and lead your horse over. You then pass through two gates – KNOWN AS CORNER FLAG - on to a large expanse of moorland known as HUNDRED ACRES. Bear slightly left and cross the moor diagonally following the well-worn path towards the bridge with gates either side known as THE ROMAN BRIDGE. Go over the bridge and across the next field towards the RIFLE BUTTS. Go through the single gate in the corner and turn left along a narrow grass track taking you to a single-track road which leads to Beckley. The ABINGDON ARMS is at the top of this single-track road.

Ride Ten – Ride to The Crown at Charlton on Otmoor – Between 8 and 9 miles total

Follow the main track out of the farmyard for about half a mile until you get to a concrete area and crossroads. Go straight over an onto a bridleway for about half a mile. At the end of the bridleway, turn right past Moor Farm and onwards towards Otmoor. At the end of this grassy track you need to cross over a narrow bridge. This bridge is owned and maintained by Oxfordshire CC and is approved for horses to cross. However, we strongly advise that you dismount, cross your stirrups, and lead your horse over. You then pass through two gates – KNOWN AS CORNER FLAG - on to a large expanse of moorland known as HUNDRED ACRES. Proceed forwards leaving the hedge on your right. This is a lovely opportunity for a canter (the ground is always good on Otmoor even in the height of summer). Go through the single gate – known as THE HUNTING GATE and proceed onwards following the grassy track towards CHARLTON ON OTMOOR. Where the track curves round, turn right and this track takes you to THE CROWN where they have tie up rings in the car park. Return to the bridleway and either take the same route back or continue on the Noke Bank bridleway. The track curves round towards NOKE, passing over the River Ray and through the RSPB Nature Reserve eventually coming to a single gate near the RIFLE BUTTS. Pass through this gate and follow the hedge on your left (another lovely canter opportunity!) to the ROMAN BRIDGE which has gates before and after. Then take a slight right, following the well-worn path back towards the double gates at CORNER FLAG. Once again crossing the narrow bridge, follow the grass track back again and remember to turn left after MOOR FARM following the bridleway with sheep field to your left and back towards MANOR FARM.

Ride Eleven – Almost exclusively away from the farm and crossing the M40 towards Arncott – approximately 8 miles

TBA

Ride Twelve – About a mile on road to Fencott where you can access Otmoor

Ride from the yard by the muck heap, follow the track beside the ménage and paddock, the turn left and immediately right (small spinney on your right known as Middle Pond). Follow the headland until the end, turn right and immediately bear left towards open gateway onto the road (1.3 miles of roadwork to get to FENCOTT) with white thatched cottage opposite (this is known as Marlake House). Turn left onto the road and ride through MURCOTT. You will pass the famous Michelin Star restaurant called THE NUT TREE where you are welcome to pop in for a drink. Horses are welcome on the front lawn. Follow the road towards FENCOTT. Immediately after passing the white 'Village Gates' turn left down the bridleway known as THE SPLASH. Follow the bridleway until it divides.

Take the left fork for the shorter ride around HUNDRED ACRES, you will ride down an open grassy track, over a concrete bridge and onwards until you get to a single metal gate known as THE HUNTING GATE. Go through the gate and you can do a circular ride around this field. You need to follow the well-worn paths as there are some old bomb holes! There are lots of cantering opportunities and the ground is always good even in dry weather.

OR, take the right fork which will take you towards CHARLTON ON OTMOOR where you will pick up the NOKE BANK CIRCULAR RIDE described above. You can then return to MANOR FARM, MURCOTT via the narrow bridge at CORNER FLAG or back to THE SPLASH at Fencott and back via the road.

Block Name: Farm Ride

Start Type: Not Before

Start Date Time: 01/11/2020 10:00

Ring Name: Otmoor Farm Ride

Description: Farm Ride

Judges

To Be Confirmed (Ride & Conformation Judge)

Classes

Number	Name	Description	Qualifier	Qualifier For
1	Ride Otmoor	Ride Otmoor	No	