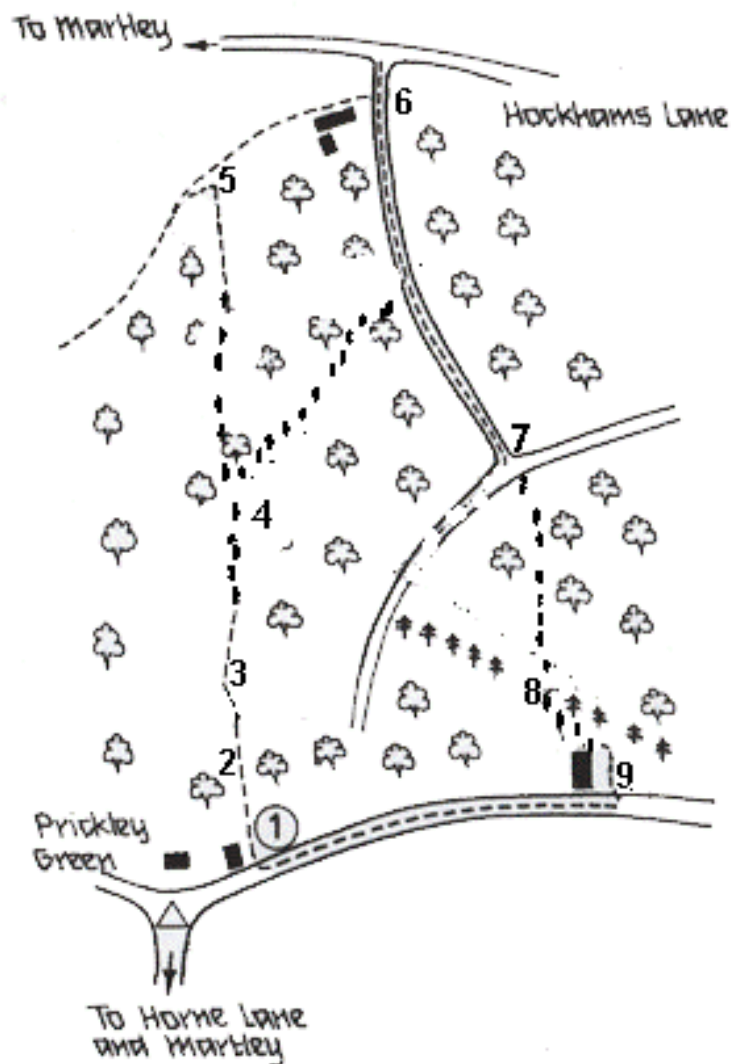


**START:** The walk starts in Prickley Green at the end of the lane signed off Horn Lane. Limited parking may be available in the lanes converging on the grassy triangle in the centre of the cluster of houses and farms. Walk East, along the lane away from the farmhouses to the stile and signpost beside the end bungalow on the left (1). Follow the hedge line of the paddock almost to the corner and bear right diagonally at the waymark through the trees with yellow markings, to a wooden waymarked footbridge across a brook (2). (If the bridge is missing use the crossing about 50 metres to the right then go left and pick up the waymarkers again). These orchards belong to Bulmers of Hereford and are all cider apples. Over the bridge follow the waymarked route diagonally through the trees with yellow paint on their trunks. Emerging from the trees bear right and turn left (3) (passing on the right an alternative shortcut to the main route) to follow a track along the edge of a wood. Continue along the track to the corner of the wood at the next signpost then turn left for ten yards then right (4) up the avenue of marked trees. Continue up the avenue to a gate on the right at the top (5) (The dainty silver birch to the left deserves its name of "lady of the woods"). All these apple trees are uniformly pruned to produce the maximum number of fruit buds on each spur. They bear only a slight resemblance to the traditional standard fruit trees in the average garden with their shaggy heads and often-inaccessible top fruit. Go through the metal gate past the "cottage in the orchard" and along the track lined with daffodils early in the year and beautiful roses later, (ignoring the footpath on the left) to the beautifully restored old farm buildings of Hockham's House, formerly Hockham's Farm. All these orchards once belonged, as agricultural land, to farmhouses like this. After the buildings, (which used to be the old milking sheds, pigsties and stables), turn right over a stile (6) along a narrow path. Carry straight ahead along a track, to the apple collection area and loading bays (7), ignoring path on right. Continue straight ahead through the green painted gate at the ditch and walk straight ahead for 35m to a waymark post. Bear right towards a row of conifers. At the top turn left at the waymark post then immediately right through a gap between the conifers and over a ditch crossing (8). Continue straight on for 50m to a waymarking post near the corner of a garden, over a stile and carry on into the lane beside Pear Tree Cottage (9). Turn right and descend the lane for about 500m to the group of dwellings at Prickley Green and your starting point.

# map



Not to scale



# Martley Walks

## No. 5: Orchards and Farmhouses

**Grade:** Easy, 1.5m (2.4km)

*Remember the Countryside Code:*

### Respect other people

- ✓ Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- ✓ Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

### Protect the natural environment

- ✓ Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- ✓ Keep dogs under effective control

### Enjoy the outdoors


- ✓ Plan ahead and be prepared
- ✓ Follow advice and local signs

The Path-or-Nones meet each third Sunday of the month for 2-3 hours from 9am, and has done since around 1985. The group tackles everything and anything on Martley's 41 miles of Rights of Way— clearance, installing gates, stiles, bridges, signposts and signage. We act on behalf of Worcestershire County Council and liaise between users and landowners. Volunteers are always welcome; we find it fun and worthwhile. Please contact Jon Pearsall 01886 888793 or John Nicklin 01886 888318 [www.thepathornones.co.uk](http://www.thepathornones.co.uk)

Martley Parish and all service outlets, supports the Walkers are Welcome initiative [www.walkersarewelcome.org.uk](http://www.walkersarewelcome.org.uk)

Come to see Martley's unique geology! [www.geo-village.eu](http://www.geo-village.eu)

These walks were first written by Keith and Audrey Trumper in the early 90s

(May 2019 by PONS. Sponsored  ARCC  
Adventure Running and Recreation)