

POINTS OF INTEREST

Originally built in 1720 of brick, King George III then stated he preferred stone, necessitating rapid and expensive cladding of **Kingston House** to maintain patronage!



The Elizabethan Manor (private) was built in 1590. Augusta Way, Hardy's image for Tess, lived here when it was tenements. Her daughter was later chosen, by Hardy, to play Tess.



Hardy was born and lived in **Hardy's Cottage** until he was 34. It provided the inspiration for the homes of the Dewys of *Under the Greenwood Tree* and the Yeobrights of *Return of the Native*.



This section of **Heathland** was the basis for Hardy's 'Egdon Heath'.



Hardy was first schooled in the **Old Schoolhouse** (private). He later made it the home of *Under the Greenwood Tree's* beautiful but fickle Fancy Day.



St Michael's Church is where Hardy's parents met, his father played in the church band and where they, alongside his heart, are now all buried near the yew tree.



Photo credits:
©National Trust/Christopher Collins; ©National Trust Images/James Dobson and Robert Morris

KINGSTON MAURWARD WALKABOUTS

WALKABOUT 1 Kingston Maurward to Hardy's Cottage 'Park & Stride'

A walk from Hardy's *Desperate Remedies* 'Knapwater House' (Kingston Maurward) to his childhood home, Hardy's Cottage. The route takes you through Hardy's real and imagined landscapes, through Kingston Maurward college estate and Lower Bockhampton.

The route via the Visitor Centre is 1.8 miles, with an optional return via Lower Bockhampton (2.7 miles). All admissions to Hardy's Cottage are through the Visitor Centre.

Parking at Kingston Maurward Animal Park and Gardens is **free** to visitors to the site and users of the Park & Stride.

Appropriate footwear is recommended, since wet or muddy conditions can be encountered at any time.

Kingston Maurward Animal Park & Gardens
Open Daily (Feb – Oct): 10am – 5.30pm (last entry 4.30pm)
01305 215003 www.kmc.ac.uk/gardens/

Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre and Under the Greenwood Tree Café
Open Daily: 10am – 4pm (last orders 3.45pm)
01305 251228 www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/hardysbirthplace

Hardy's Cottage (National Trust)
Open Daily (Mar – Oct): 11am – 5pm (last entry 4.15pm)
01305 262366 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardys-cottage

See websites for **more details** incl. **winter opening hours**. **Admission charges** apply at Kingston Maurward Animal Park and Gardens and Hardy's Cottage. Entry to Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre and woods is **free**.

These leaflets can be downloaded from www.dorsetforyou.com/walkabouts

Working in partnership



KINGSTON MAURWARD WALKABOUTS

Kingston Maurward to Hardy's Cottage 'Park & Stride'



KINGSTON MAURWARD TO HARDY'S COTTAGE 'PARK & STRIDE'

The route via the Visitor Centre is 1.8 miles, with an optional return via Lower Bockhampton (2.7 miles). All admissions to Hardy's Cottage are through the Visitor Centre.

STARTING POINT

Kingston Maurward car park, Stinsford

DISTANCE

approximately
1.8 miles

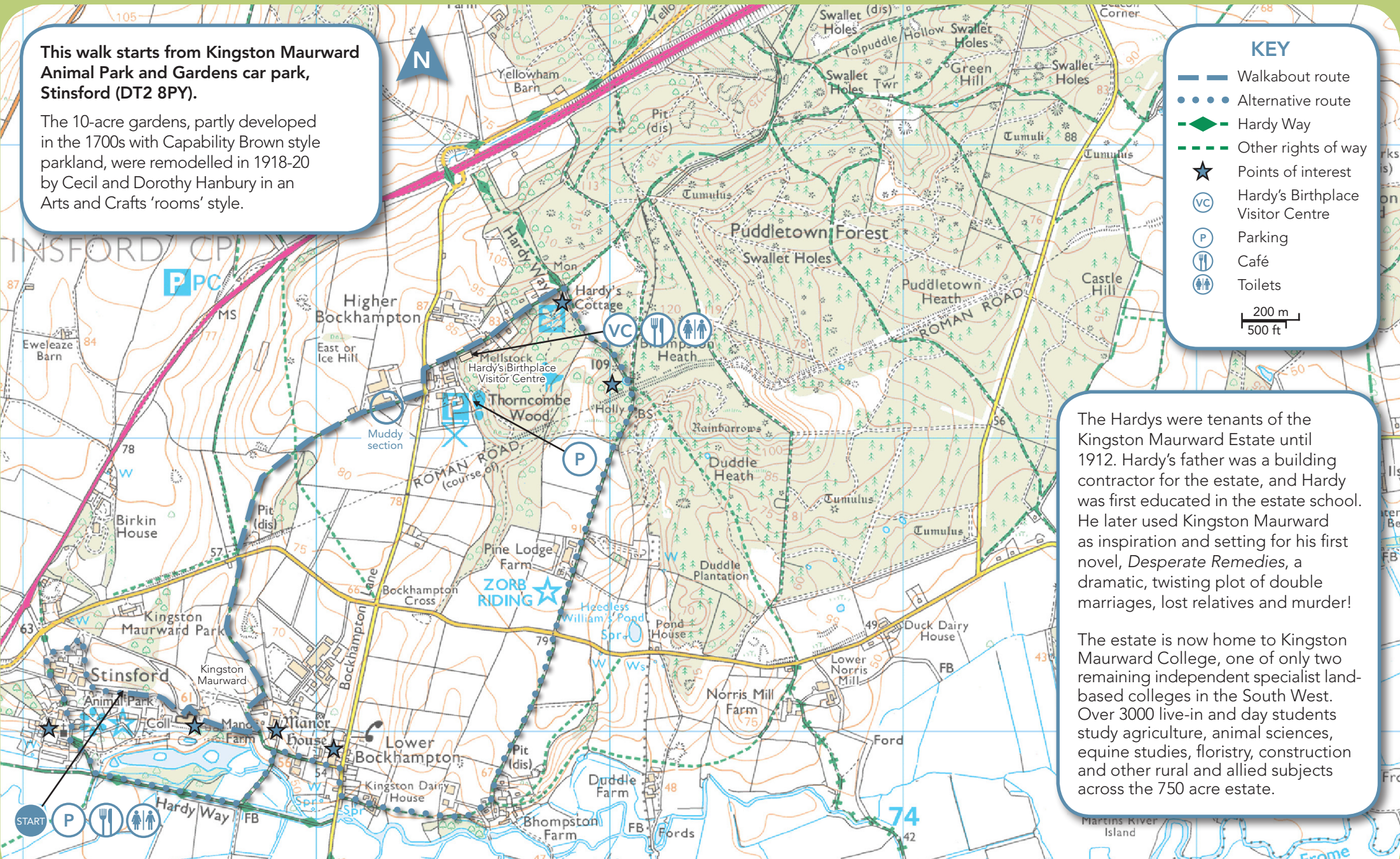
This walk starts from Kingston Maurward Animal Park and Gardens car park, Stinsford (DT2 8PY).

The 10-acre gardens, partly developed in the 1700s with Capability Brown style parkland, were remodelled in 1918-20 by Cecil and Dorothy Hanbury in an Arts and Crafts 'rooms' style.

KEY

- Walkabout route
- Alternative route
- Hardy Way
- Other rights of way
- Points of interest
- Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre
- Parking
- Café
- Toilets

200 m
500 ft



The Hardys were tenants of the Kingston Maurward Estate until 1912. Hardy's father was a building contractor for the estate, and Hardy was first educated in the estate school. He later used Kingston Maurward as inspiration and setting for his first novel, *Desperate Remedies*, a dramatic, twisting plot of double marriages, lost relatives and murder!

The estate is now home to Kingston Maurward College, one of only two remaining independent specialist land-based colleges in the South West. Over 3000 live-in and day students study agriculture, animal sciences, equine studies, floristry, construction and other rural and allied subjects across the 750 acre estate.