

Welcome to the "Oh no, not another stately home drive!"



Date: Sunday 23rd September 2018

Start: Gupshill Manor, Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury, GL20 5SY

Time: 09:00 for coffee / breakfast. Please telephone 01684 292278 to order bacon baps, breakfasts etc.

Depart: All cars need to leave Gupshill by 10:30 at the latest.

Finish: Broughton Castle near Banbury OX15 5EB

Organisers: Gavin (0793 091 9690) & David (0795 205 9668)

This Drive is simply an interesting way to get you to Broughton Castle. It is designed as a leisurely drive, although there are some good driving roads. The route uses a combination of B roads and lots of typically narrow, often bumpy, Cotswold country lanes. The entire Drive is about 81 miles long and can be completed in just over 3hrs without stopping. But please take your time, there are several beautiful and interesting places to stop and explore. During the Drive there are opportunities to stop for coffee, cake and a chat at Broadway Tower and /or Hidcote Gardens, a National Trust property, with free access to the café.

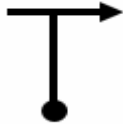




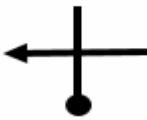



At the end of the Drive is the historic moated Broughton Castle. Access to the grounds and the café are free, the entrance fee for the Castle is £7 per person; you will need your MX5 Owners Club Membership Card to obtain this discounted rate, the usual cost is £9. The parkland outside the moated Castle provides an ideal space for a picnic - weather permitting!


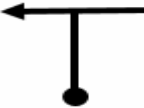


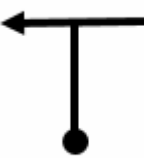
If you decide to stop and explore during the Drive please remember to make a note of your mileage so that you can adjust the mileages for the remaining part of your Drive. But above all enjoy driving your MX5.


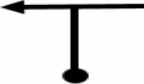


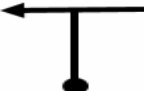
Please take care parts of the route are very popular with walkers, cyclists and horse riders, whilst other parts are narrow single-track roads with passing places.


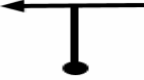

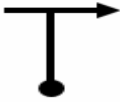

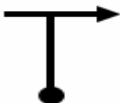




Note: mileage readings may vary between different MX5's


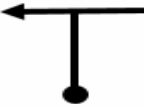
Please zero your Trip Meter when leaving the car park.


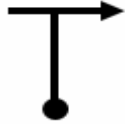
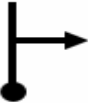
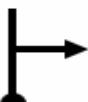
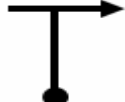
Total Miles	Direction	DETAILS	Total km
0.0		Turn right out of the car park onto the A38 towards Gloucester.	0.0
0.2		At the roundabout take the 2nd exit, signposted Gloucester A38	0.3
1.0		At the traffic lights turn left, signposted Bishops Cleeve, Stoke Orchard, Tredington, Recycling Centre.	1.6
1.5		Enter the village of Tredington	2.4
1.9		Take the third turning on your left into Bozard Lane, signposted Gotherington. <i>Views ahead of Cleeve Hill at 330 metres the highest point on the Cotswolds.</i>	3.0
3.3		Take care using the level-crossing, it's the Birmingham and Bristol main line.	5.3
5.0		At the crossroads turn left, signposted Evesham A435	8.0
7.5		At the roundabout take the 4 th exit, signposted B4077 Stow on the Wold	12.0
13.0		At the roundabout take the 2 nd exit, signposted B4077 Stow on the Wold	20.9
16.1		Go through the village of Ford	25.9
17.8		At the crossroads turn right, signposted Bourton on the Water, The Slaughters, Cotswolds Farm Park. <i>The views from this road are pretty</i>	28.6

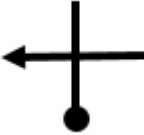

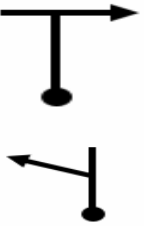
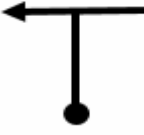
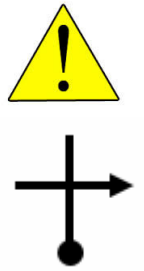

		<i>special.</i>	
21.7		At the second crossroads go straight on, signposted Bourton.	34.9
23.8		At the T-junction turn left, A429 Stow. <i>You are now on the Fosse Way. It is one of the longest Roman Roads in Britain linking Lincoln and Exeter. The word 'Fosse' is derived from the Latin "fossa" meaning "ditch" and it is possible that the ditch formed the western frontier of Roman Britain in the decades following the invasion of Britain in AD43.</i>	38.3
24.3		At the traffic lights go straight on, signposted A429 Stow on the Wold, Bourton Industrial Estate.	39.1
24.9		Turn left, signposted The Slaughters. The turning is just before the Texaco garage. We're heading for Lower and then Upper Slaughter. <i>The name "Slaughter" conjures up an image of bygone battlefield carnage. But it is said to originate from the name of a Norman knight, Philip de Sloitre, who was granted land in the area by William the Conqueror. The name proved too much of a 'tongue twister' for the locals who corrupted it to 'Slaughter'.</i>	40.0
25.4		In the village of Lower Slaughter, turn left at the T-junction and go over the bridge, sign-posted Upper Slaughter. <i>The road follows the River Eye, on your right, across the river, is the Old Mill which houses a small museum, a gift shop, ice cream parlour and tea room.</i>	40.8
26.0		Follow the road and signpost to Upper Slaughter.	41.8

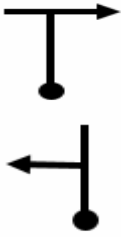

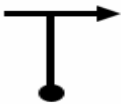


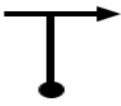
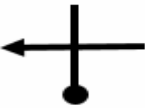
26.2		Turn right, signposted Upper Slaughter, Lower Swell.	42.1
		Follow the road as it winds through the village of Upper Slaughter. Lower Swell is our next target.	
27.9		At the T-junction turn left, signposted Lower Swell, Stow on the Wold.	44.9
28.1		Enter the village of Lower Swell. <i>In the early 19th century there was an attempt to develop Lower Swell into a spa resort!</i>	45.2
28.2		Turn right at the T-junction, signposted Stow, then turn immediately left by the red telephone box and at the crossroads go straight ahead up the hill, signposted Upper Swell.	45.3
29.2		At the T-junction turn left, signposted Ford and Tewkesbury. After just 20 metres turn right, signposted Donnington Brewery, Longborough.	47.0
		The road soon crosses the River Dikler and then passes the Donnington Brewery. <i>Donnington brewery was founded in 1865 by Richard Arkell has remained in the Arkell family ever since.</i> <i>Donnington's traditional beers use water drawn from a spring beside the mill pond. And the mill itself still supplies power for some of the brewery's machinery. Unfortunately, the brewery is not open to the public.</i>	
29.9		At the T-junction turn left, signposted Condicote, our next target.	48.1


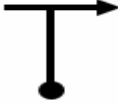



31.1		Turn right, signposted Condicote, Hinchwick.	50.0
31.4		At the T-junction turn left, signposted Condicote, Hinchwick.	50.5
31.5		Turn right, the road will lead you around the village green and past the church.	50.7
31.6		At the T-junction, turn right, signposted Hinchwick. A red telephone box is opposite.	50.8
		Follow this road through the village of Condicote.	
31.8		Turn right out of the village by the “Unsuitable for Heavy Vehicles” sign. <i>The short section of straight road out of the village is part of the old Roman road Rykniel Street. It runs from the Fosse Way at Bourton-on-the-Water to Rotherham in Yorkshire.</i>	51.1
32.7		At the T-junction turn right, signposted Bourton-on-the-Hill and Broadway.	52.6
34.5		At the crossroads, turn left onto the A424. There is no signpost.	55.5
34.9		At the crossroads turn left, signposted Snowhill.	56.1
38.3		At the crossroads turn right, signposted Snowhill and Broadway. (Straight ahead is a dirt track.)	61.6
40.1		At the second crossroads, on the very edge of Snowhill village turn right, signposted Broadway Tower, Chipping Campden. <i>There are some fine views across the</i>	64.5

		<i>Vale of Evesham on your left. This spot is about 270m above sea-level.</i>	
40.4		At the crossroads turn left.	65.0
40.6		Pass Snowhill Lavender Farm. <i>The Farm planted their first seedlings back in 1999. That was just a few hundred plants put in by hand. The lavender thrived, and they kept planting more every year. There are now over 40 different varieties, some 140 miles of rows and over 500,000 plants in total. Once harvested the crops are steam distilled on the farm and made into a range of toiletries and essential oils. Unfortunately, the shop and tearoom are not open in September.</i>	65.3
40.8		At the T-junction turn left signposted Broadway, Chipping Campden, Broadway Tower.	65.6
41.1		<i>If you wish to take a break at Broadway Tower. Take the next turning left, signposted Broadway. The car park for Broadway Tower is on your left, parking costs £2 which is redeemable against the purchase of coffee/food. Remember to adjust your mileage when you rejoin the Drive. To return to the Drive, turn left out of the car park, turn right on to the road and then left at the T-junction to rejoin the Drive.</i>	66.1

42.6		At the crossroads go straight across the A44, signposted B4081 Chipping Campden. <i>The “ancient signpost” at the Cross Hands crossroads is in fact a modern replica. The original is hanging in the Old Court Room above the Tourist Information Centre in Chipping Campden. There are some fine views as the road descends into Chipping Campden.</i>	68.5
45.0		At the T-junction turn right on to the High Street Chipping Campden, signposted Mickleton, Broadway and Stratford.	72.4
		Pass the famous Market Hall on your left and the Noel Arms Hotel on your right.	
46.3		Just after a right-hand bend, turn right in front of a red brick cottage, signposted B4081 Mickleton, Hidcote and Stratford.	74.5
47.1		Pass under a railway bridge.	75.8
48.1		On to the edge of Mickleton village, turn right just before the mini roundabout, signposted Hidcote and head up the hill. <i>Hidcote Gardens is one of England’s great gardens. Designed and created by the horticulturist Major Lawrence Johnston in the Arts and Crafts style, it is made up of a series of garden rooms, each possessing its own special character.</i>	77.4
49.1		<i>If you wish to take a break at Hidcote Gardens. Turn left at the T-Junction and follow the National Trust signs for Hidcote Gardens. Parking is free and you can use the Barn Café without paying the entrance fee for Hidcote Gardens. If you’d like to visit the gardens the charges are: Free for NT Members, £14.00 Gift Aid or £12.70 Standard. Remember to adjust your mileage when you rejoin the Drive. To return to the Drive, turn left at the end of the driveway signposted Hidcote Boyce, Mickleton. To rejoin the Drive, go straight on at the T-Junction on the top of the hill, signposted Hidcote Boyce, Ebrington.</i>	79.0
49.1		If you are not stopping at Hidcote Gardens turn right at the T-junction, signposted Hidcote Boyce, Ebrington.	79.0

50.4		At the second crossroads turn left, signposted Ilmington. And follow this road to Ilmington. <i>Ilmington Downs is the highest point in Warwickshire at 261m above sea-level. Ilmington had its moment in history on Christmas Day 1934, the first radio broadcast by King George V was introduced by Walton Handy, a village shepherd, and relayed to the world from Ilmington Manor.</i>	81.1
53.3		Enter the village of Ilmington, pass a sloping green area on the right with its memorial high up and fountain next to the road.	85.7
53.4		At the end of the green take the second right turn, immediately after the timber framed Village Hall. Head up Foxcote Hill. <i>There are excellent views over the 'henmarsh', a bogland where wild birds could be found, is a lowland area between the Cotswolds and the Oxfordshire ironstone hills. Out of this area run tributaries of both the Rivers Severn and Thames. During the 17th and 18th centuries improved drainage dried the area out. The name of Moreton-in-Marsh is a corruption of Moreton Henmarsh. If you want to annoy the locals call the town Moreton-in-the-Marsh.</i>	85.9
55.9		At the T-junction turn right and immediately turn left down the hill.	89.9
56.3		At the T-junction, turn left, signposted B4035 Shipston-on-Stour.	90.6
58.5		Please take care, this junction is an accident black-spot. At the crossroads turn right, signposted A429 Stow, Cirencester and Moreton. We are aiming for Todenham and Great Wolford	94.1
60.4		Turn left signposted Todenham and Great Wolford. (The turning you want is just after the Paxford turn.)	97.2

		Go over the hump-backed bridge (Knee Brook) pass Roveure Gallery on your right.	
61.7		In Todenham village turn right at the T-junction, signposted Great Wolford, Moreton. (The sign is partially hidden by the tree.) Then immediately turn left, signposted Great Wolford and Barton-on-the-Heath.	99.3
62.8		When you enter Great Wolford turn sharp right, signposted Little Wolford, Barton, and Shipston. We're aiming for Little Wolford.	101.0
		Go through the village of Little Wolford. <i>Look out for the 15th century Manor. It is hidden away behind wrought iron gates. When it was restored in the 1930s, the blood-stained stairs - said to date back to the battle Edge Hill in 1642 – were retained.</i>	
64.5		At the T-junction turn right. Signposted A3400 Long Compton, Oxford.	103.8
65.7		You will notice some woodland on your left, at the end of the woodland turn left signposted Whichford, Ascott.	105.7
66.4		At the crossroads go straight on. The crossroads is next to a gatehouse with a white picket fence.	106.8
68.1		At the T-junction turn right. <i>Pass Whichford Pottery on your left, it specializes in producing traditional handmade terracotta flowerpots. The pottery and its shop are open today.</i>	109.5
68.4		Follow the road through the village, follow the signs for Hook Norton and Banbury. Head up the hill out of the village.	110.0
69.5		At the crossroads turn left, signposted Traitor's Ford, Brailes.	111.8

71.2		At the bottom of the hill is Traitor's Ford. It is a shallow ford and shouldn't cause you any problems. We will check the depth of the ford the day before the Drive and if necessary provide an alternative route. <i>It's the River Stour by the way, and no one seems to know how Traitor's Ford acquired its name. Sorry!</i>	114.5
		From Traitor's Ford follow the road towards Brailes.	
73.1		At the T-junction turn right on to the B4035	117.6
		Follow the B4035 through the villages of Swalcliffe and Tadmarton. <i>Swalcliffe Barn Museum, this medieval barn was constructed between 1401 and 1407 and is perhaps the finest half-cruck (roof support) barn in England. It measures 128 ft by 23ft and the walls are 3ft thick. It is open on Sunday afternoons until the end of October.</i>	
80.4	 	As you enter the village of Broughton the road bends right then sharp left around the Saye and Sele Arms pub, after 10 metres turn left, signposted Broughton Castle.	129.4
80.6		The entrance to Broughton Castle is on the left. You made it! Enjoy the rest of the day.	129.7