

Cambridge Randonnées Saturday 5 July 2025: 100km route information

Controls:

- 1. 23km Ashwell:** manned checkpoint. Collect stamp in brevet card or scan QR code in E-Brevet app. Chelsea buns for all!
- 2. 31km Baldock:** info control at dead-end road. Answer question on brevet card or click in app.
- 3. 40km Sandon:** info control on grass triangle.
- 4. 47km Silver Ball cafe at Reed:** info control outside cafe.
- PLEASE NOTE: if you have something like a Garmin, it may take you right-then-left on the A10. **Don't do this!** Instead, bump through the car park to your right, control, cross the road in a straight line. The control answer is on the wall of the cafe in the outdoor area, near the picnic benches.
- 5. 62km Braughing:** info control on grass triangle.
- You are advised to use the bridge over the ford just before the control.
- 6. 77km Clavering:** info control next to The Cricketers pub.
- 7. 93km Duxford:** info control on grass triangle near church.
- 8. 104km Arrivée Haslingfield**

Route available in all the usual formats here: <https://ctccambridge.org.uk/routes/669>

Route sheet attached separately.

E-Brevet: download brevet 25-703

Cafes/village shops/toilets/water:

23km Ashwell: toilets near the control (ask the controller). Cafe, bakery, shop just off route.
31km Baldock: numerous cafes and shops, all off-route.
40km Sandon: tap at church, on left side of lych gate.
47km Silver Ball Cafe: Cooked breakfasts etc. Cards okay, cash preferred.
75km Clavering: shop with bench and grass for a nice sit-down. No toilets sadly!
92.8km Duxford shop.

In-ride trivia:

Our route was a staple of the audax calendar about 20-25 years ago; a tradition from that time is serving you Chelsea buns en route! So you can look forward to a bun at the Ashwell control. This is a surprisingly hilly route. But what goes up must come down; there are some lovely descents through pretty Hertfordshire villages, as well as several miles of actual tarmac just after Baldock. We wind our way back through pretty little Essex villages before dropping back downhill into Cambridgeshire.

0km just opposite our base is the fantastic Portrait House. There's also a sundial on the village green here where you get to be the gnomon.

23km Ashwell Spring: just after the control, there is a fenced off area to the right with lots of trees. The spring is the source of the River Cam. If it's hot, stop for a paddle – it is *freezing*!

31km Baldock: founded by the Knights Templar, probably as a money-making enterprise to finance their crusades.

47km Silver Ball Cafe: look up to see the silver ball! I'm told it used to be a dance venue?

67.7km Furneux Pelham church: as you turn right, pause to look at the bizarre inscription on the clock. Apparently there is no hidden meaning and it just implies you should do your work properly. I find this hard to believe.

77km Clavering The Cricketers pub: Jamie Oliver's parents owned this pub for 44 years. He grew up and worked here before celebrity chef-dom beckoned.

79km Arkesden: your route here joins the 150km route, who are controlling in Arkesden. The war memorial in front of the church is a fantastic bit of puddingstone; it looks like concrete, but is a naturally-occurring conglomerate sedimentary rock which is reputed to have various exciting supernatural powers. Hopefully those include giving you an extra burst of power over the last couple of hills on the way back to Haslingfield...