

Cycling East Sussex

Rye & Romney Marsh circular



Tour de la Manche

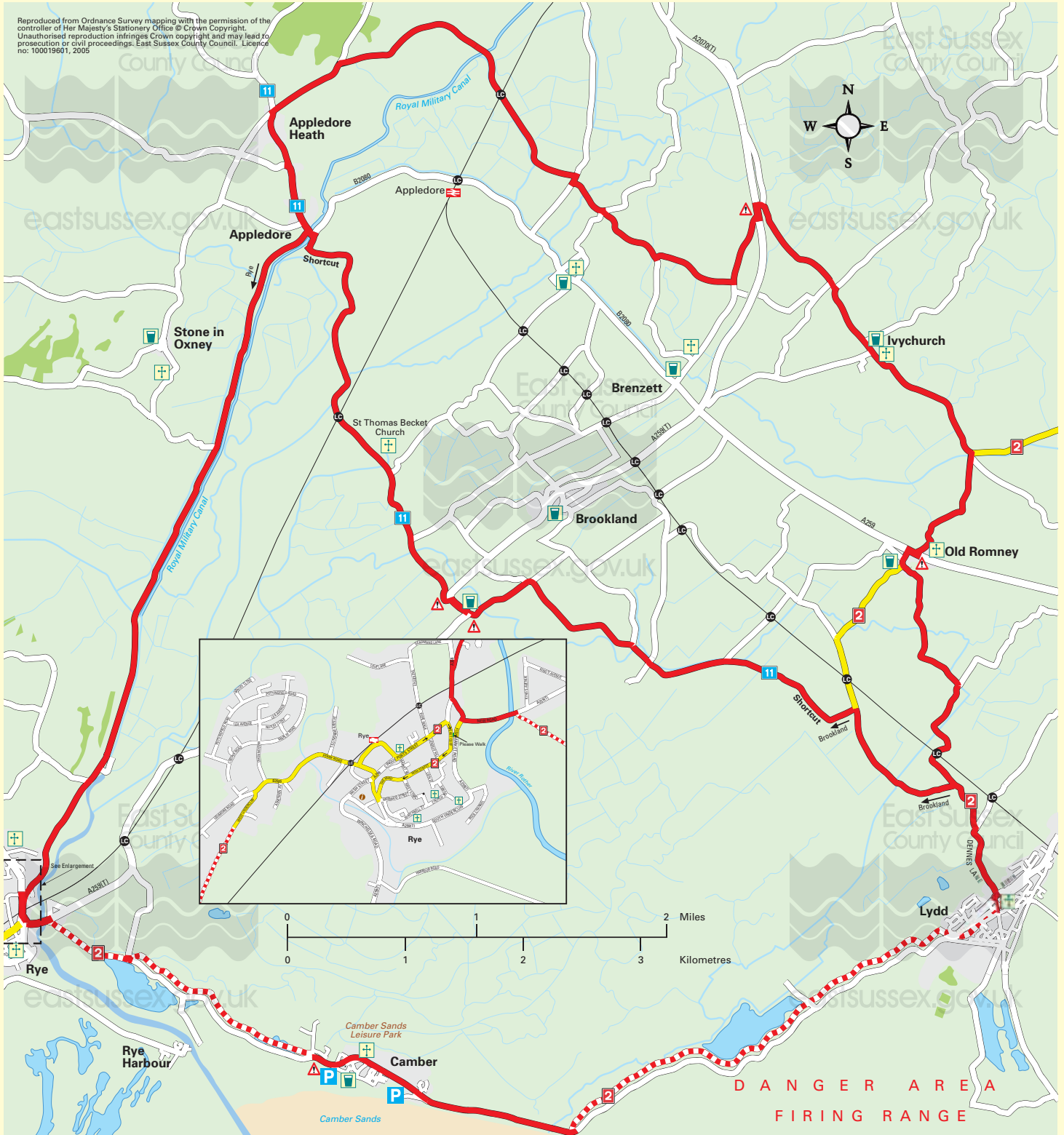
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**DANGER AREA
FIRING RANGE**

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Circular Route (On Road) | A Road | Church |
| Traffic Free Sections | B Road | Pub |
| National Cycle Network (On Road) | Minor Road (arrow indicates steep hill pointing downhill) | Railway Station (with name) |
| | Railway (with Level Crossing) | Take Care! |
| | Follow Road Sign as Marked | Tourist Information Centre |
| | | Car Parking |



David Sellman

Romney Marsh



Ian Chamberlain

St Thomas Becket Church



David Young

Bamber Beach Kites

At times you'll find it hard to believe you are in the densely populated Southeast of England on this ride as you cross the wide open spaces of Walland Marsh and Romney Marsh under huge skies.

You leave Rye on the road that runs alongside the Royal Military Canal to Appledore, taking in fine views towards Stone in Oxney on the way. Built between 1804 and 1809 as a defence against Napoleon, the Royal Military Canal echoes the turbulent past of the now quiet village of Appledore. The canal runs for 28 miles between Hythe and Cliff End, Pett, enclosing the area of Romney Marsh and Dungeness, thought vulnerable to French invasion.

Short Cut via Walland Marsh

There is a short cut option from Appledore to Lydd using Regional Cycle Route 11. After a mile or so you can be forgiven for thinking you are in the middle of nowhere where you are truly away from it all! After the level crossing the amazing isolated church of St Thomas Becket comes into view. Care needs to be taken at the junction with the A259 shortly before joining National Cycle Network Route 2.

Full route via Ivychurch

North through Appledore Heath and past a tiny 22ft chapel, there is all that remains of Horne's Place, a manor house besieged by Wat Tyler's angry peasants protesting against the 14th-century poll tax. Tiny quiet lanes then run across the flat expanse of Romney Marsh. Take care at the crossing of the A2070 after Brenzett Green. Pushing on to Ivychurch, a pub is located right in the front garden of the church. The route continues on to Old Romney and Lydd. A cluster of houses and the Guildhall are set in this strange area of scrub and shingle.

The church in Lydd dates from the 14th century and is known as the 'Cathedral of Romney Marsh'. There is a superb bird reserve at nearby Dungeness. Shortly after leaving Lydd the route follows a traffic-free path that runs parallel with the main road almost all the way back to Rye. The route is back on road through Camber. You may choose to get off your bikes and climb the sea wall to look out over the vast shingle beaches.



David Young

Romney Marsh



David Sellman

Walland Marsh



David Sellman

Rye Beach