



*This short circular walk explores the heart of the island, with a wooded valley, and takes about one hour. Suitable for pushchairs but with some steep slopes.*

- 1 Starting at the Visitor Information Centre, turn left and head down the street, then turn right at the T-junction.
- 2 Bear left to join Braye Road down to the harbour.
- 3 Approximately 80m down the road you approach a left hand bend, next to a seating area. Turn right off the tarmac and onto a dirt track which leads you down into the woodlands that fringe Le Val.
- 4 After 150m you reach a switch back in the track which leads you off to your left and down Water Lane.

#### **WATER LANE**

*This wooded valley track used to be a main road up into St Anne but has fallen out of use over time. The mature sycamore and ash woodland surrounding you is some of*

*the densest on the island and is home to numerous resident birds including great tit, thrush and blackbird.*

- 5 As you reach the bottom of Water Lane, you will see several large grey poplars to the right of the track, some of the largest trees left on Alderney. At the bottom of the track you come out onto Newtown Road.
- 6 Turn right and make your way through Newtown.
- 7 Having passed the Harbour Lights on your right, you come to a small one way road heading steeply up the valley known as Valongis. This is a steep climb on a narrow road and though traffic is infrequent care should be taken.
- 8 As you climb the road you will see an old Abreuvoir Public to your left-hand side.

#### **ABREUVOIR PUBLICS**

*These historic watering places were vital for an island with large numbers of agricultural livestock and few surface*

streams. This Abreuvoir Public has been incorporated onto the end of a large water storage tank. This was probably built to supply drinking water to the workers brought to Alderney to build the Victorian forts, many of whom camped in what is now Newtown.

9 Continuing up the lane, on your right, is one of the medium-sized stone quarries that are dotted around the island. This quarry is now well wooded and provides excellent habitat for insects and other wildlife.

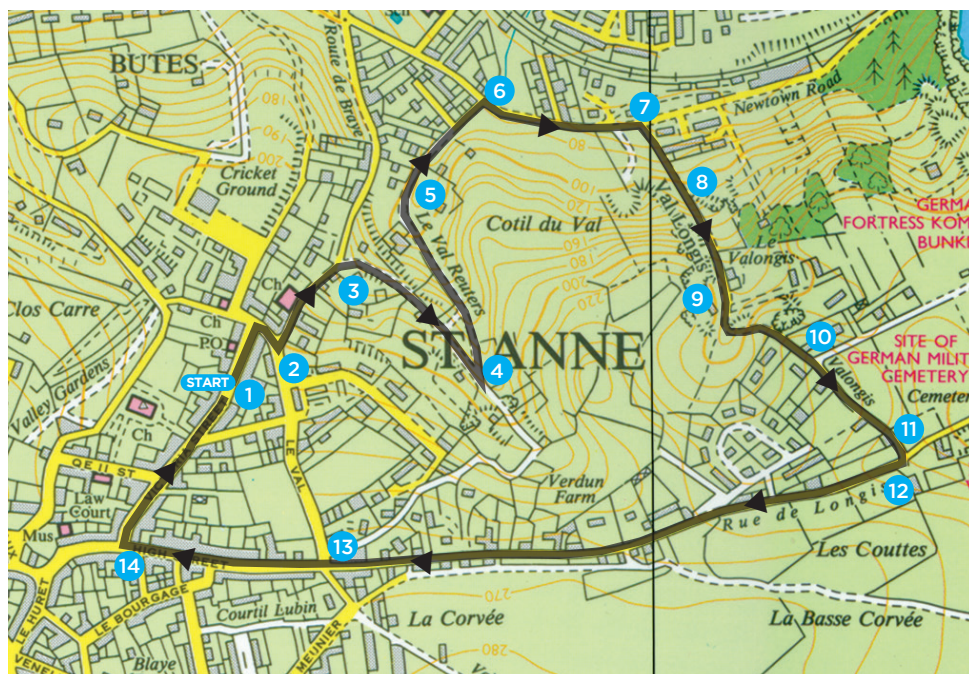
10 As you reach the brow of the hill you find Les Rochers track and the Alderney Community Woodland (Walk 7) to your left, with houses to your right.

11 Continue straight along until you reach a T-junction with the main road. To your left is the Strangers Cemetery.

### STRANGERS CEMETERY

Up until the turn of the 19th century the Strangers Cemetery was the resting place for unidentified bodies washed ashore. A large granite headstone, which stood in the German war cemetery beyond, was placed here after the graves were removed.

12 Turn right onto the main road which has a reasonably good pavement on one side or the other for most of the way, and continue back towards St Anne.





## WHITE HOUSE

*Around 300m up the road you will see a large privately owned house set back and known locally as the 'White House'. This was originally a convalescent home and later the residence of the late John Arlott, who was many things - poet, author, wine connoisseur, but above all a cricket commentator and a much loved resident of Alderney.*

**13** Continuing along the road you will reach a crossroads which marks the end of Longis Road and the beginning of the old High Street of St Anne.

**14** Cross onto the cobbled High Street and continue until you reach the first right hand turning which will take you onto Victoria Street.



## HIGH STREET

*As you walk down the High Street you may well notice the difference in appearance between the buildings that line the street. St Anne was, up until 1939, largely an agricultural settlement. Many of the original houses were farmhouses with a barn and yard, and most of these have now been redeveloped into residential dwellings.*

