



# Bulbarrow

OS Grid Ref: ST 773 057 (Map 194)

GPS: N50:50.593 W2:19.332

Owned and farmed Mr & Mrs J. Langham  
by: Warren farm  
Bulbarrow  
01258 817446

Wind Direction SSW – WSW (210° to 240°)  
Best: SW (225°)

Height AMSL 820ft (250m)

Top to Bottom 115ft (35m)

Nearest Phone: Roadside below Bell Hill

Pilot Grades HG Club Pilot + 10hrs

Casualty Units: Poole General  
Dorset County, Dorchester

PG Club Pilot + 10 hrs

**Site briefing advisable**

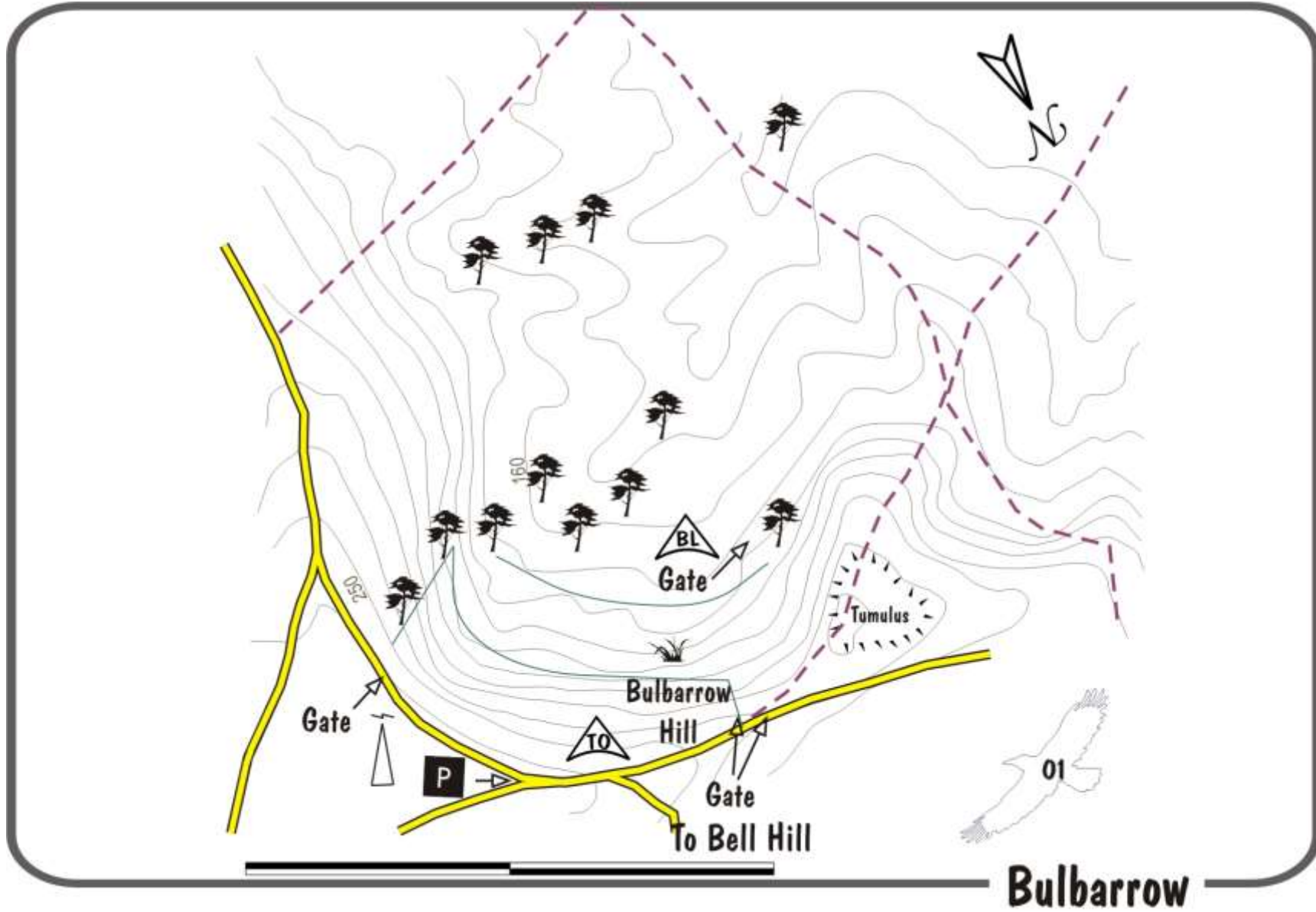
## Edit by Alastair Florence

**General Site info** Bulbarrow is rarely flown. It has gained a reputation as a poor site suffering from turbulence at times and no bottom landing.

It is rare in that it is an inland SW site - most pilots tend to head to the coastal sites in these conditions.

There is some XC potential here.

The ridge is used mostly by aeromodellers and as we are infrequent visitors here, it would be polite to speak to them prior to flying if present.



## Directions

**From Blandford** – Follow the Blandford by-pass toward Shaftesbury (A350). About 1 mile northwest of Blandford turn left (west) at the traffic lights onto the A357 toward Sherborne. In Shillingstone (2.3 miles), drive through the village until you see the war memorial on the right-hand side and then take the (slightly concealed) next left signposted Okeford Fitzpaine /Ibberton (Poplar Hill - 3.2 miles from traffic lights - 0.2 miles past petrol station). Follow the road into Okeford Fitzpaine and, at the triangular junction, turn left into Higher Street (signposted Bulbarrow). Follow for 1.4 miles and, just before a couple of cottages on the junction, turn left toward Bulbarrow / Ansty. Follow the road for 2.25 miles to the junction just past the Bulbarrow viewpoint. Turn right at the junction and immediately fork right again - signposted to Mappowder and Stoke Wake. Follow this road for 0.6 miles and, 100m past the turning off to the right for Woolland, entrance to the site is through the gate on your left.

... **alternatively:** at the A350 (from Poole) roundabout on the Blandford by-pass follow the signs toward Tesco. Continue down the Bournemouth Road through Blandford St.Mary passing the Hall & Woodhouse brewery on your right. At the T-Junction (opposite the impressive entrance to Bryanston School) turn left. Within 150m, bare right into Fair Mile Road – signposted to Winterborne Stickland (not 90° into New Road). Follow this road to Winterborne Stickland - 3.75 miles - turning sharp right toward Turnworth / Okeford Fitzpaine. After 0.7 miles turn left toward Bulbarrow and after a further 3 miles (at the Bulbarrow viewpoint) fork right - signposted to Mappowder and Stoke Wake. Follow this road for 0.6 miles and, 100m past the turning off to the right for Woolland, entrance to the site is through the gate on your left.

**Most other routes** – will bring you past Bulbarrow viewpoint, and then follow the last part of the previous directions.

## Access

Access to the site is through the metal gate.

## Parking

There is room for 3 or 4 cars by the Wessex Ridgeway bridleway signpost on the left. Please park close to the fence. Do not park in front of the metal gate as horse riders and members of the public also use it.

If 3 cars are already parked, please reverse back up the hill to park on the triangle of rough ground on the junction near the masts. Do not obstruct the obvious track across this area that is sometimes used for tractors with trailers to get round the tight corner.

- Hazards** This site can be very rough and experience significant rotor, especially if the wind is off to the west. Beware large-scale bowl effect.
- There is no official bottom landing so you must be very practiced at side landing in confined spaces on an irregular scrub-covered slope.
- Be aware that horses use the bridgeway. Do not inflate canopies if they are nearby and do not over fly.
- Launching** The area immediately below the gate may be used but be aware that it is close to the bridgeway.
- Alternatively, the top landing field can be used. Access is through the gate immediately on the left after entering the site. This field is closed if it contains a crop (including long grass) or sheep in the lambing season (spring). You need to clear a barbed-wire fence, so this takeoff is not suitable in light winds.
- Top Landing** (See above) The large field between the top of the sloping hill side and the road.
- Bottom Landing** **No Bottom Landing Negotiated!**
- Ridge Runs, XC** Excellent potential but not an easy site to get away from. Salisbury has been achieved.
- Keep to the south of Compton Abbas ATZ (up to 2,810ft AMSL) which you must avoid completely.
- Ensure you fully understand the extent of Salisbury Plain Danger Area.
- Beware Old Sarum, Boscombe Down and Middle Wallop ATZ's further downwind.
- The final obstacle is London airspace!
- Flying Generally** Shallow slope means that a strong wind is needed to soar in dynamic lift alone. Far better south-westerly soaring sites exist on the coast. Can be excellent if a sea breeze ever makes it to Bell Hill. Can provide very smooth evening flying.

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