WELCOME TO CHARRINGTON FRUIT FARMS - COVID 19 SPECIAL MEASURES & AUTUMN / HARVEST EDITION - PLEASE TAKE A MAP WITH YOU AND KEEP IT FOR NEXT TIME

## **Charrington Fruit Farms** Cryals Farm, **Boundary Map** & **FOOTPATHS**



**POINTS OF INTEREST:** 

Granny's Bench (rest area)

Wildlife corridors - throughout the farm

**B&B – bug Hotels** 

Conservation areas are marked with:



**Big Farmland Bird Count Observation** site

Wild Flower and beehive sites

#### **AUTMN / HARVEST EDITION & COVID 19 SPECIAL MEASURES**

**PLEASE STICK TO THE FOOTPATHS AT ALL TIMES** – WE HAVE VULNERABLE PEOPLE WHO ARE STILL ABLE TO WORK ON OUR FARM IF YOU KEEP TO THE FOOTPATHS. PLEASE NOTE THAT FOOTPATHS DO NOT PASS ANY HOUSES, FARM BUILDINGS OR ROADS. HAVE A LOOK AT OUR INFORMATION BOARDS AND OVERLEAF. PLEASE KEEP TO THE FOOTPATHS, ANIMALS ON LEADS, POOP SCOOPED, AND LOOKING OUT FOR MACHINERY....REMEMBER THIS IS A WORK PLACE – ALBEIT A BEAUTIFUL ONE!

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Four Acre PLEASE DO NOT WALK IN LARGE Wood **GROUPS AND KEEP IN HEARING** DISTANCE ONLY OF ANYONE YOU SEE. MINIMUM 2 METRES BUT WE **RECOMMEND MORE THAN THIS.** ENTRY HAVE A LOVELY WALK. OVERLEAF YOU CAN READ ABOUT WHAT WE EXII DO HERE AND USE THE MAP TO SEE SOME OF THE WILDLIFE. IF YOU WANT TO TRY OUR CIDER / JUICE / CRISPS YOU CAN ORDER FROM CHARRINGTONSDRINKS.COM AND WE'RE STILL DELIVERING - YOU CAN GET 10% OFF BY SIGNING UP TO OUR NEWSLETTER. Take a rest at Granny's bench...

SPECIAL MEASURES - PLEASE KEEP TO THE FOOTPATHS AND MAINTAIN DISTANCE AT ALL TIMES WE'RE STILL DELIVERING BUT PLEASE ORDER ONLINE WWW.CHARRINGTONSDRINKS.COM OR CALL 01892722372 PLEASE NOTE THIS MAP IS ONLY INDICATIVE TO MAKE YOUR WALK MORE INFORMATIVE AND ENJOYABLE

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#### WELCOME TO CHARRINGTON FRUIT FARMS

# PLEASE DO TAKE THIS PAGE WITH YOU ON YOUR WALK AND KEEP WITH YOU

### **KEEPING THIS WITH YOU IS PART OF OUR COVID 19 SPECIAL MEASURES**



**HOORAY FOR HARVEST...** This is a great time of year. Our trees have nurtured and carried their apples. With the harvesting soon comes Autumn and the leaves dropping. We definitely make use of all the good weather we can and start harvesting our early varieties like Zari from mid to late August and move through the varieties as they ripen until mid October, often picking the same trees multiple times. We pick between 8 and 10 million apples all by hand – we only have 40 hectares. These apples will be carefully stored in very sophisticated cold stores and marketed by us for many months to come.

It's not just what we grow, but how we do it. We have the highest accreditation in the country (LEAF) for sustainable farming, supplying all the major supermarkets with fresh apples and making our own award winning apple juice, premium sparkling ciders and apple crisps. We have won 6 Great Taste Awards and 4 Quality Food and Drink Awards, winning Best Cider, best mulled apple juice and Best Sweet Snack (apple crisps) for innovation and quality. We have also been awarded the Emsden Trophy for our contribution to the Kent Countryside, looking after everything we have here – our precious water where we are net contributors to the water table, harnessing the sun with our solar panels to power our cold stores, and looking after our trees and everything and everyone who lives on and visits the farm (including you <sup>©</sup>). Even though the Reservoir looks incredibly low our water conservation and rainwater collection means it will soon be full again and helping to fill the wider water table. In fact we are a carbon positive business and we are net contributors to the water table significantly more water over the year than we use.

What's happening in the orchards?... everything is going – literally as you walk. The hot days and warm nights are being replaced by cooler days and colder nights. The trees have looked after their apples and now are dropping their leaves. All the animals and birds are preparing for winter. We'll be doing the same as soon as harvest is over in mid October.

**Replanting & regeneration:** If you walk through our field on Cryals Road (by the main entrance), you will see we have recently planted it. We are going to be doing the same with another three orchards this year. You will pass by 10 Acre at the top of the farm and

you can watch the preparation through the year from grubbing the trees, planting mustard to naturally cleanse the soil, marking out the new orchard structure and positioning, preparing the irrigation and finally planting the new trees once all this has been done. These are long term investments and we hope to have our first full crop 4 years from planting. Apple orchards are very kind on the land with everything during the life of the orchard being returned to the field – that's 20-25 years. Look out for the transformation over your many walks...

Who else is about? Everyone is gathering and hiding! There's plenty of food on the orchard floor and nuts falling from the trees. You'll see rabbits and squirrels gathering and field mice all getting ready for winter. Listen out for the change in the bird song and keep your boots to hand as the weather turns wetter and colder and the nights get longer. Wild Geese parade over the reservoir. Ladybirds and lots of bugs are preparing to overwinter in our bug hotels ready to emerge in spring...

Wishing you a lovely walk: You are very welcome here. Please do keep to the footpaths and look out for all the workers (bees and humans and tractors)! The fields look lovely and open but we would be very grateful if you could keep firm control of your dogs and scoop any poop – it upsets the foxes and most of all it is not appreciated on the bottom of our boots when working in the fields. If you would like to meet us or know more about the farm, our apples and our award winning single juices, ciders and crisps, please email us info@charringtonfarms.co.uk or call Alex on 07919413104. You can also see what we're up to on www.facebook.com/charringtons, Twitter @\_charringtons, web pages charringtonfarms.co.uk and charringtonsdrinks.com, and even our You Tube channel "Hello@ Charrington's" where you will find more information and you can buy our cider, juices and apple crisps (we don't have a shop but we do deliver!).

As you walk through you will see Information Boards, Wildlife Corridors, Bug hotels and Conservation Areas. Please feel free to take this page away with you or leave in the holders at the entrances /exits to the farm. Look out for events that we will be running through the year from Cider tastings to Blossom walks or drop us a line to make a suggestion. Have a

lovely walk! *Alex*