

East Devon Way



A walker's guide



*Discover the hidden gems
of East Devon*





A walker's guide to the East Devon Way

Explore this 40 mile walking route between Exmouth and Lyme Regis. Follow it through the heart of the East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It links to the South West Coast Path, the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site and the Exe Estuary.

East Devon Way

A 40 mile walking route through outstanding East Devon



Home | **Find Your Itineraries** | Eat Drink Sleep Maps | **Guest Book** | **Route Information** | **Gallery** | **Contact**

Eat Drink Sleep

Use our tools to help plan your walking holiday, with welcoming B&Bs, cottages, hotels and secluded gardens for that special cream tea.

Perfect for every size of group and every pocket. Ideal for a weekend or why not make it week's holiday if it! (Please note the route is indicative not exact)

If you are a business, enterprise or organisation within easy reach of East Devon Way and would like to be added to the map, please contact us.

Select language ▼

www.eastdevonway.org.uk

Find places to eat, sleep and drink...

Planning your walking itinerary couldn't be easier, use our map to help you find local hidden gems to suit all group sizes, tastes and budgets. Find secret B&B's, hotels, self-catering, perfect country pubs or a tranquil garden to enjoy a real Devon cream tea.

We hope you enjoy walking along this route and experiencing all that East Devon has to offer.

What to take

Take plenty of water and some snacks, some extra clothing in case the weather changes and a picnic is advisable. Worth taking a compass too.

What to wear

Each of the stages includes some walking off road and up some hills, we advise wearing walking shoes or boots, always wear appropriate clothing for the weather and take a wind and water proof outer layer.

Dogs

All of the East Devon Way is dog friendly, as long as you stick to the countryside code. If you are going through fields with animals in please keep your dog under close control particularly in spring and autumn when livestock are pregnant with young. It can make them anxious, even if your dog is well behaved normally.



Follow the Countryside Code when walking with your dog.



Photos: Fran Rees

Introduction - The East Devon Way

The route links footpaths, bridleways and country lanes to create an inland route. It is split up into day walks from 4 - 9 miles long. They are a perfect way to explore the area in all seasons. On each of the stages you can escape and enjoy the delightful countryside which includes hills, woods, rivers and commons and lovely Devon villages which you may well drive right past if you were in your car.

Maps
















This new guidebook includes real sections of the relevant ordnance survey maps, the icons show points of interest, picnic places and perfect view points. Landmarks have been noted to help you make sure you are in the right place along the route. These maps are a taster, larger OS maps would be useful for exploring further; Explorer maps 115 and 116 cover this route. Always follow waymarkers as routes are subject to change.

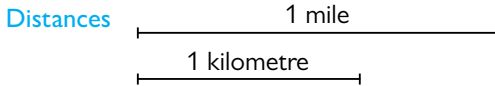
How long will it take me?

Everybody is different, as a guide, a fit unladen person can walk 1km in 15 minutes, for going up hills add 10 minutes for each contour line.



Map Key

	Footpath		Bridleway
	Byway open to all traffic		
	Road used as a public path		
	National Trail/Long Distance Route		
	Camp site/ caravan site		Nature reserve
	National Trust		Parking
	Picnic site		Public convenience
	Public house/s		Viewpoint
	Cycle trail		Roman



Things to look out for

- | | | | | | |
|--|---------|--|-------|---|--------------|
|  | History |  | Flora |  | Picnic spots |
|  | Views |  | Fauna | | |

Follow the route

The whole of the East Devon Way has been waymarked with pink directional arrows and a foxglove logo to help you find your way easily.



Follow the pink waymarker arrows



Cannington Viaduct

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Exmouth seafront



Distance: 7.5 miles
Start point: Exmouth, EX8 1EN
Map Ref: SY 999 812
Map: Explorer 115, Landranger 192

Stage 1

Exmouth to Woodbury Castle

Exmouth is a lively town, situated on the south coast of Devon, where the River Exe meets the sea. With a long sandy beach and thriving town, it links to the South West Coast Path and has good rail service and bus links.

The walk starts at the estuary, one of the biggest Local Nature Reserves in Devon with a massive area of tidal sand and mud at the southern end of the Exe estuary. It's a globally important area for winter birds. The route passes A la Ronde, a National Trust property and a lovely place to stop for a cup of tea, before winding up through Lymptstone Common and on to Blackhill Quarry, where you may see grazing ponies.

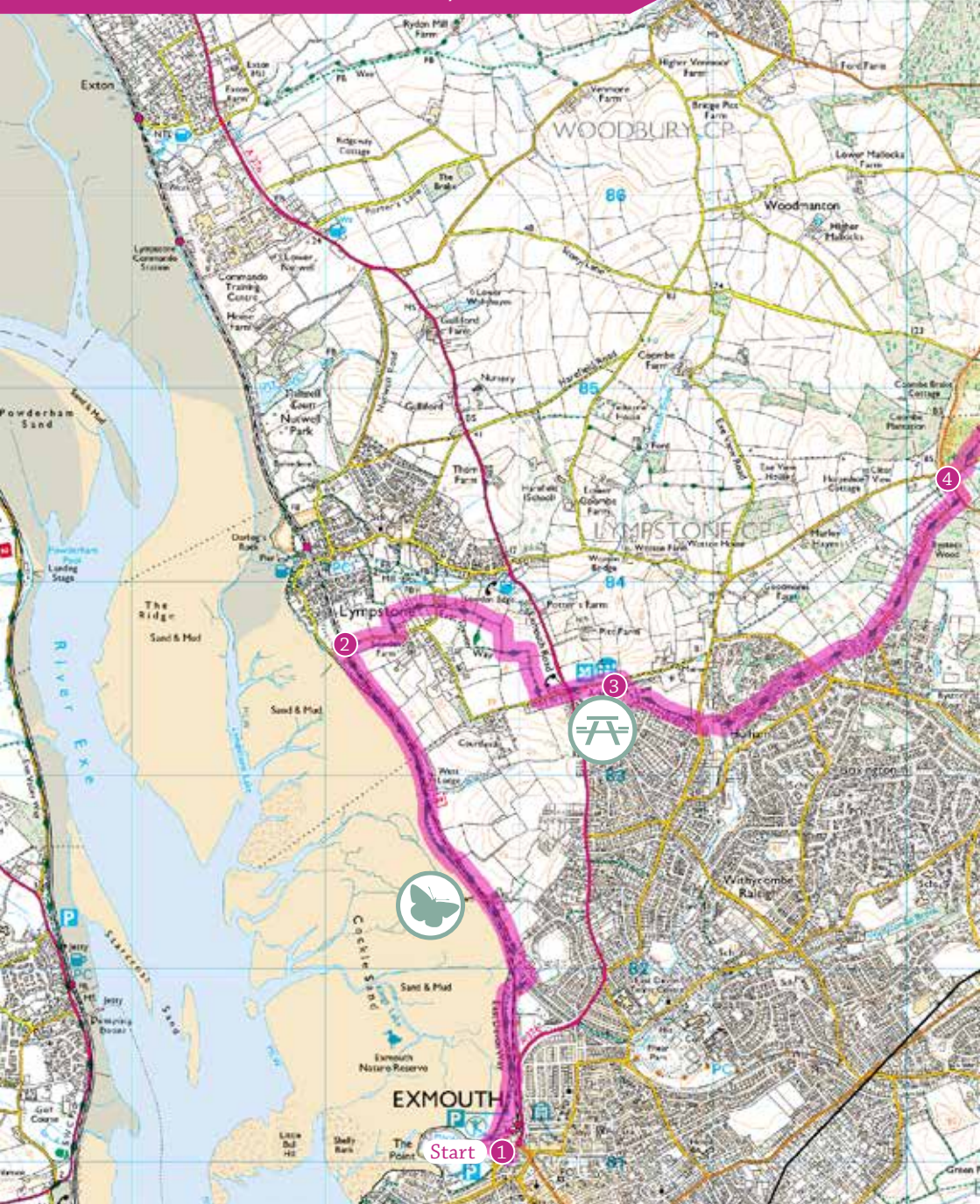
This landscape will be constantly changing over the coming years as the RSPB transform it from a quarry back to heathland. The path leads on to Woodbury Castle for fabulous views.



Exe Estuary

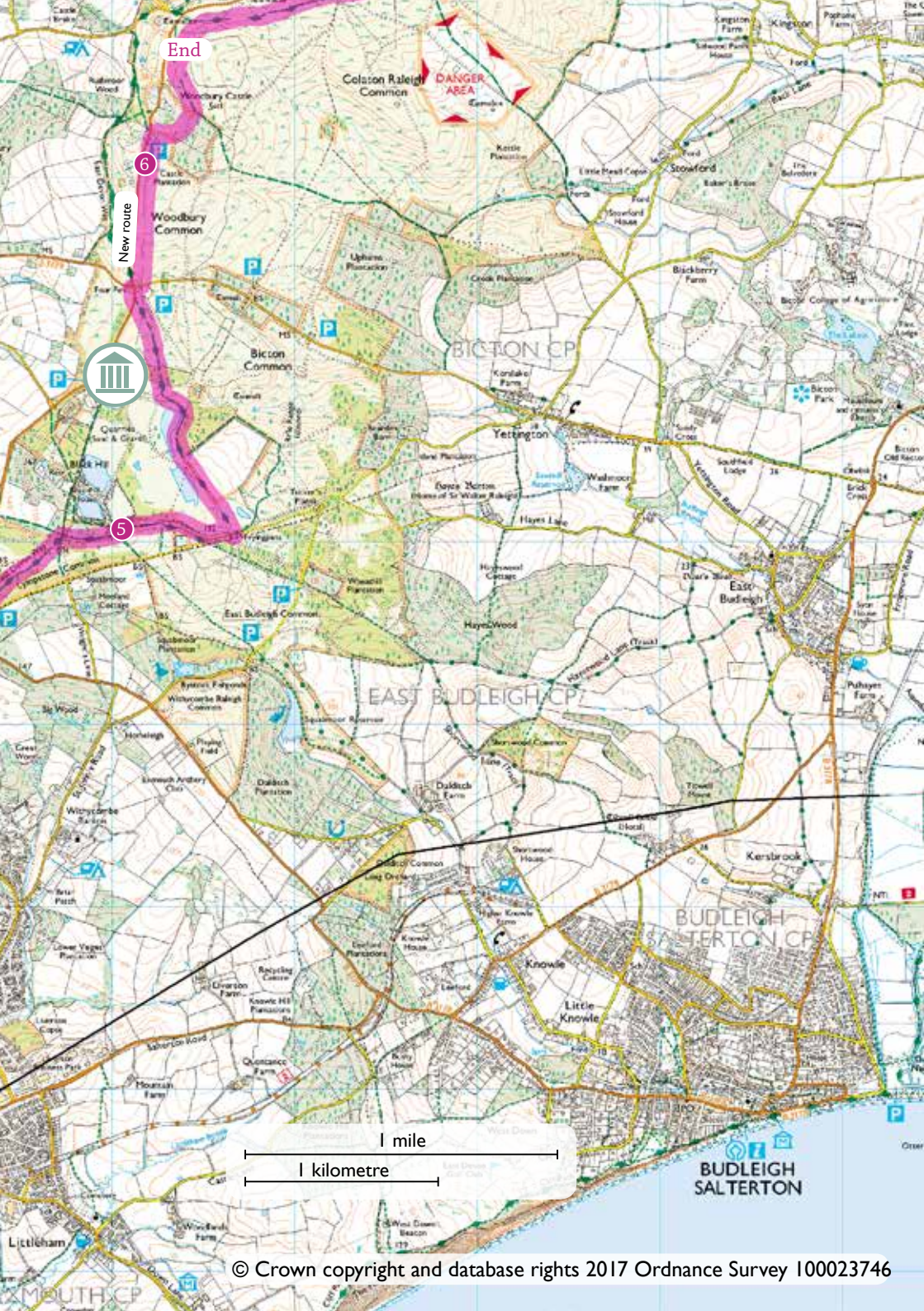
Reproduced with kind permission of the
Exe Estuary Management Partnership

Exmouth to Woodbury Castle



Start 1





End

DANGER AREA

New route

6

5



1 mile

1 kilometre

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

Directions

Step 1

From the Estuary long stay car park (SY 999 812), keep the estuary on your left. Walk (N) towards the boat yard. After 400 yards come away from the estuary slightly and cross the railway line, this leads through houses, then turn left (N), keeping the estuary on your left. Pass Lower Halsdown Farm (NT) take the new wide cycle route and footpath on the right along the Exe Estuary trail.

The original path is on the left and can still be used, this will offer a narrower & closer to the estuary route along its length, both paths meet at the end.

Landmark: Estuary views and wildlife on your left.

Fauna

The Exe Estuary may be one of England's smallest estuaries but it is an important stopover point for many winter migrant birds such as Avocets, Curlews, Lapwings and Brent Geese.



Avocet

Photo: Northeastwildlife.co.uk

Step 2

At the end (SY 991 837) as you reach the railway bridge up above you on your left, turn right (E) along the lane. When you see the big gates of Southtown House at the end of the lane turn left (N) up the lane. Go through Sowden House over a stile and into our very first field, uphill. At the second stile turn right in the field with telegraph poles in. Follow the field round keeping the hedge on your right, turn left up to the A376 when you reach 'The White House' at the cross roads go straight over up Summer Lane towards A la Ronde a National Trust small property.

Landmark: Look out for the Estuary in the distance on your right.

Step 3

Come out of A la Ronde, turn right (E) along the road, after 20 yards turn right again, with houses to your right and fields to the left. Go straight over the road and up the path, keeping the residential houses to your right. Cross over the road and walk through the path for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. Cross over Dinan Way through into another leafy track called Marley Road, turning left at the top for $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile. This narrow road can get busy, we are passing Bystock Wood on our right. At the T junction turn left along the B3179 / B3180 (towards Woodbury Common) for 80 yards then turn right up the lane, then left into Lypstone Common, where there is a car park.

Landmark: A la Ronde a National Trust property.

Picnics: Stop for tea at A la Ronde



Photo: Kyle Baker

A la Ronde

Step 4

Woodland Wander – go through Lympstone Common woodland, you will see pebbles underfoot as you go along the trail. Where the paths cross (SY 027 850), keep straight on (N), passing through the gate and follow the right fork in the path which bears gradually right (E). Stay on the path until you meet the turning at Frying Pans where you turn left (N) (SY 037 850).

Landmark: Depending on the weather/season, you may catch glimpses of the view to the sea on your right – towards Budleigh Salterton.

History



Over 300 million years ago, a swift-running stream, 3 miles wide, flowed from Gloucestershire to France by way of Somerset and Devon. It laid down a gravel bed and it is on this Bunter sandstone that Blackhill Quarry is sited. The sand and pebbles are products of the friction caused by that stream.

Step 5

Blackhill Quarry is an amazing landscape of quarried red sand and gravel; this is currently managed by the RSPB with grazing ponies. The landscape will change significantly over the coming years, back to heathland. Follow the waymarked tracks (NW) up through this quarry. Go through the woodland and up through Four Firs car park and cross straight over the lane up through the common. Keep the B3180 on your left.

NOTE: This was re-routed in 2014 to create an easier and more pleasant trail, follow pink route in this guide and waymarkers on the ground. (On old OS maps the East Devon Way crosses over the B3180.)



Photo: Kimmo Evans

Walking the East Devon Way

Explore

This stage finishes at Woodbury Castle, a perfect place for a picnic or you could explore the area further with a short detour to be 'King of the Castle'. The woodland (SY 032 872) is a magical place with moss covered tree roots, the high ramparts of the castle walls go round in a half mile circle. Walk through or go around the castle to see views across Dartmoor, Exmoor and the Brendon and Quantock Hills in Somerset.



Photo: Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust

Woodbury Common

How to get there

By bus or rail

Avocet Line rail connection from Exeter St Davids.
 Bus connections to Exmouth.
 Visit: TravelineSW.com for further details (0871 200 2233)

By car

Start: at the Estuary Long stay car park near Exmouth train station on The Royal Ave Exmouth, Devon EX8 1EN
 Pay and display parking adjacent to Exmouth railway station.

End: Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust carpark at Woodbury Castle EX5 1JJ just off the B3180.



Woodbury Castle
showing the ramparts

Distance: 3 miles
Start point: Woodbury Castle, EX5 1JJ
End: Aylesbeare Common EX10 0BL
Map Ref: SY 032 872
Map: Explorer 115, Landranger 192

Stage 2

Woodbury Castle to Aylesbeare Common

Starting at Woodbury Castle car park, explore this magical place where trees have grown around the ramparts (where the castle walls were) almost half a mile in circumference, their roots covered in moss. Be king of the castle on this important Iron Age hill fort, imagine it guarding the Exe estuary below.

There are some beautiful views and on a clear sunny day you can see from the Exe Estuary to the sea in Lyme Bay or from Dartmoor through to Exmoor and the Quantock Hills in Somerset.

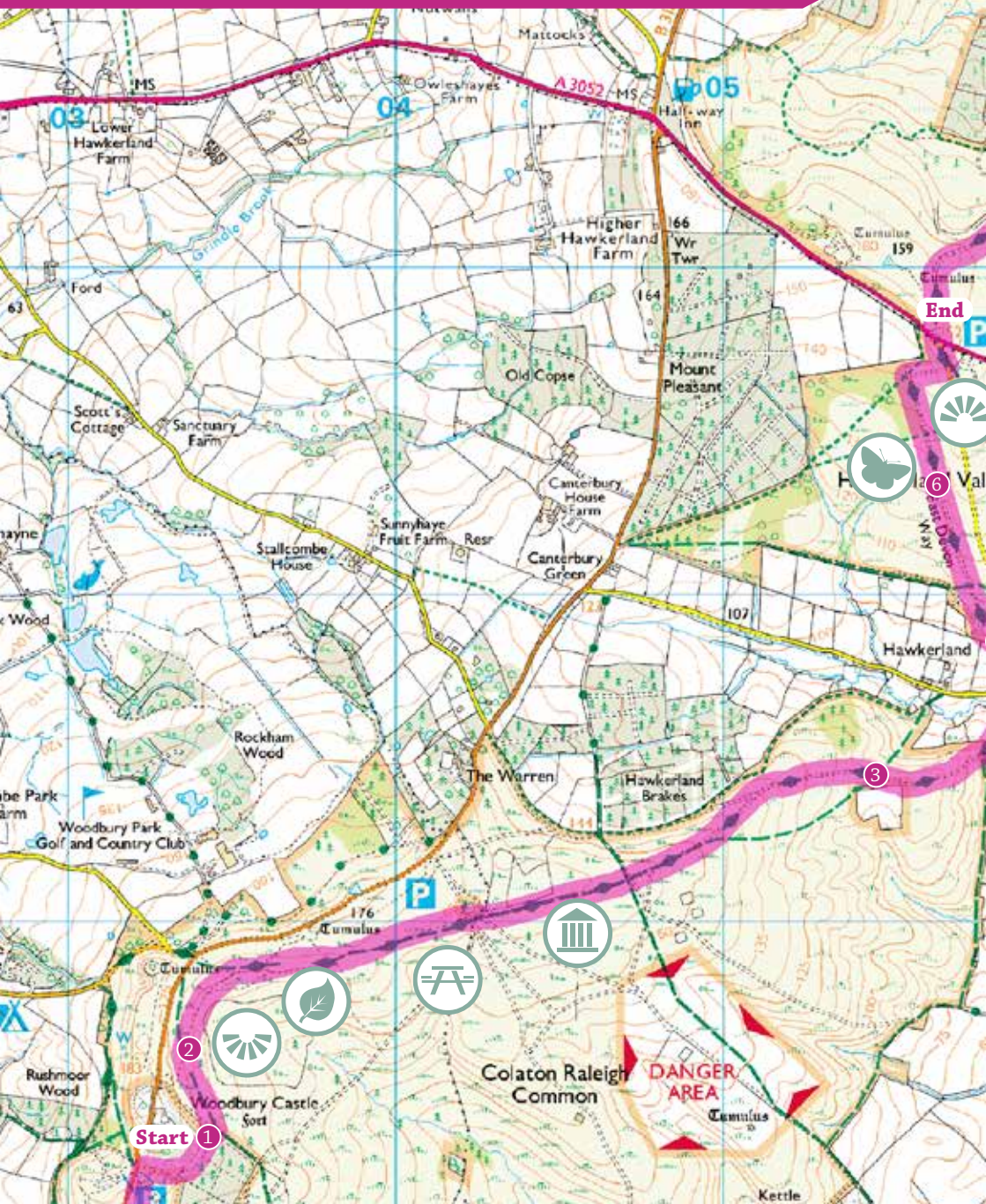
This is a very pleasant four mile walk, across Woodbury Common and the pebblebeds, which were created over 240 million years ago. Now this area of heathland is a haven for wildlife and includes 30 species of butterfly and 21 species of dragonfly. Other wildlife to look out for includes bright yellow gorse, vibrant purple heather, stonechat, dartford warbler, yellowhammer, roe deer, dormouse and fox.



Stonechat



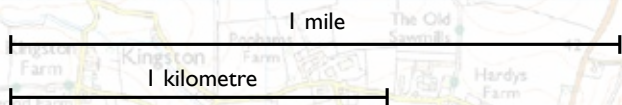
Woodbury Castle to Aylesbeare Common





NEWTON POPPLEFORD AND

COLATON RALEIGH CP



Directions

Step 1

Start at Woodbury Castle an Iron Age Hill fort, go past the large Pebblebed Heath notice board and walk in a semi-circle following the ramparts left and left again up towards the road where you turn right (N) to join the path and then go right.

Step 2

Enjoy the wide open space of the common, follow the wide coach and horse track (NE) for 2 miles, with gorse bushes on either side of the path.

After 1 mile the path borders a military training ground on the right, marked danger area on the map, look out for red warning flags when it is actively being used and during these times please stick to the path.

Landmark: See the sea to your right in the distance. After 1km look out for a white thatched farmhouse on the left.

History

Enter the dawn of the age of dinosaurs. Walk over the pebblebeds, they took 240 million years to form.

View

Take a short detour further east from the hillfort to see views across Dartmoor, Exmoor and the Quantock Hills in Somerset.



Pebblebed Heaths

Photo: Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust

Step 3

Follow path north eastwards as it goes gently downhill into a small beech copse. The track narrows as it winds down and has high banks on either side, just wide enough for a car. It leads down to Hawkerland cross roads, with a bridge over a stream.

Landmark: The white finger post at Hawkerland crossroads.
Turn left to Woodbury.

History

This section of the East Devon Way was once part of the old road along which the stage coach passed on its journey from Topsham to Newton Poppleford.



Hawkerland cross roads

Step 4

At Hawkerland cross roads (SY 060 887) turn left (W) signposted Woodbury, walk along the road for about 50 yards, past a converted chapel (look through gates to your right) & a small old red brick barn on your left, opposite this barn turn right (N) up the first road towards a large white thatched house on the right.

Landmark:
On your left a waymarker points off the road and into a woodland copse.

Flora

Sparsely wooded, clearings with coarse moorland grasses, heath, whortleberry and gorse.

Folklore says you should only kiss your beloved when gorse is in flower.



Gorse

Step 5

At the top of the incline, past the house, turn left to go through the woodland marked Morish Cotley on the map, with beech, oak and gorse bushes. Follow the track as it winds around, after about 100yds you will see wide open vistas as the wide 'coach and horses' track leads up on to the common.

Landmark: Heather, moorlands, grasses

Fauna

Adders, one of our three native snake species and the only venomous one.



Photo: Steve Edmonds

Adder



Photo: Northeastwildlife.co.uk

Yellowhammer

Step 6

Follow the cart track, after $\frac{1}{2}$ km cross a bridleway and a footpath. You will soon see the A3052 up in front of you. Take the path on the right (E) up to the Hawkerland Hill car park (also known as Joney's Cross). This is the end of stage 2. Across the A3052 Road is Aylesbeare Common, a nature reserve well worth exploring and the start of stage 3.

Landmark: Open heathlands



The wide 'coach and horse' track across the common



Fauna

Buzzards soaring above. These medium sized birds of prey thrive in the countryside of East Devon. With their distinctive 'mewing' call they circle high above the landscape.



How to get there

By bus

Start: Nearest bus stop is in Woodbury Village

End: Bus services to Joneys Cross.

Visit: TravelineSW.com for further details (0871 200 2233)

By car

Start: Parking free Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust carpark at Woodbury Castle EX5 1JJ just off the B3180 on the left hand side if driving towards Exmouth.

End: Parking free at Joneys Cross car park, on A3052 opposite RSPB Aylesbeare Reserve EX10 0BL



Distance: 7.5 miles
Start point: Aylesbeare Common EX10 0BL
End: Sidbury EX10 0SN
Map Ref: SY 056 898
Map: Explorer 115, Landranger 192

Stage 3

Aylesbeare Common to Sidbury

This is a varied landscape walk, through Aylesbeare Common Nature Reserve, one of the few remaining southern lowland heathland habitats in England, interesting through all seasons and grazed in summer by traditional livestock. The route then crosses the river Otter, through Harpford wood, with remains of a Victorian railway line, before rising to see panoramic views at Fire Beacon Hill. You then drop down into Sidbury, a quintessential thatched Devon village with a pub, church and crypt. Sidbury is one of the earliest settlements in Devon.

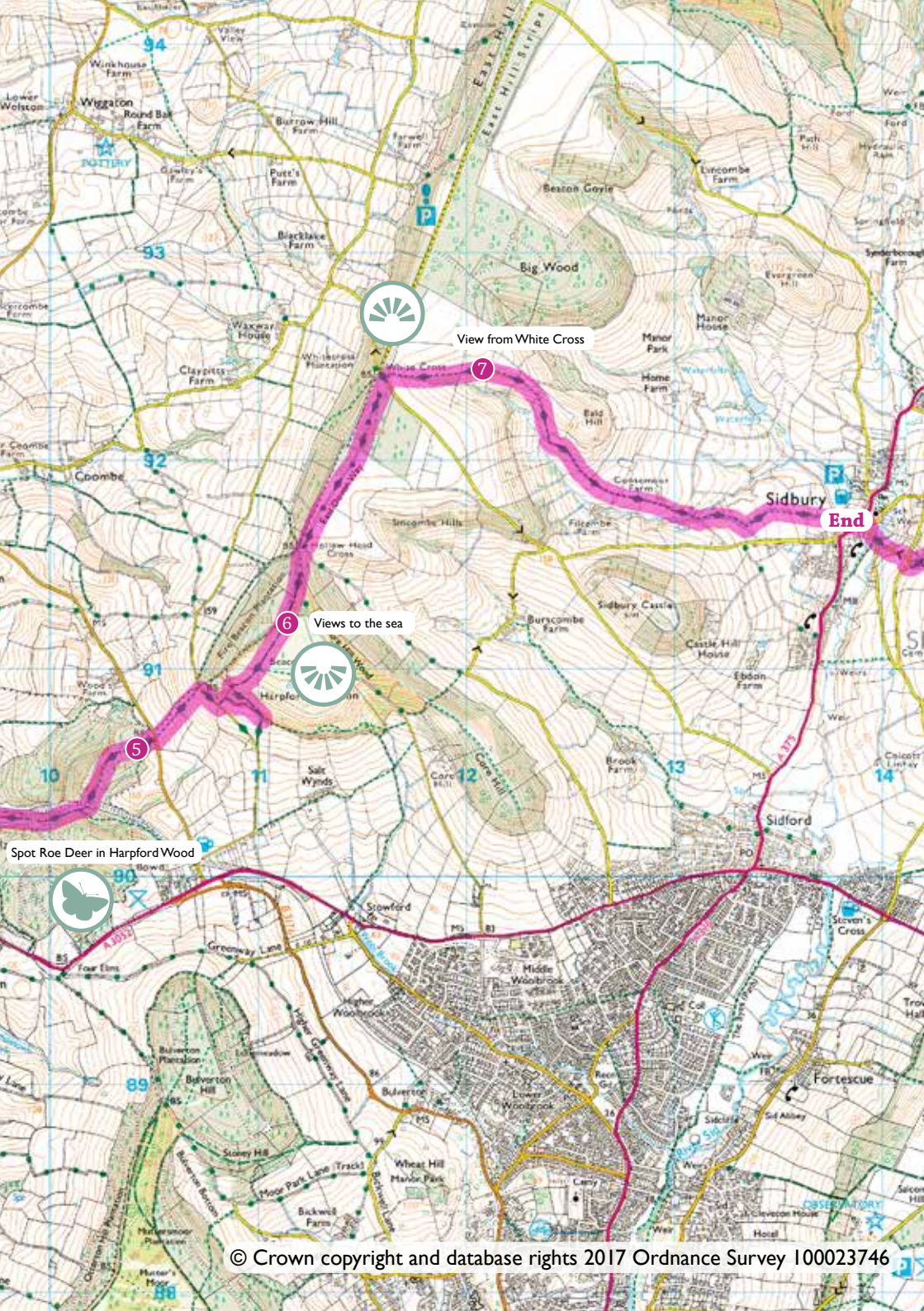


Peacock butterfly

Photo: Northeastwildlife.co.uk

Aylesbeare Common to Sidbury





View from White Cross

7

6

Views to the sea



5

Spot Roe Deer in Harford Wood



End

Directions

Step 1

Cross over the A3052 (SY 056 898) into the Aylesbeare Common Nature Reserve, follow the private tarmac track which leads downhill with beech trees on either side. Turn right (SE) off the track onto the woodland path, going down into the valley. Cross over the stream by the small wooden footbridge. Follow on the track until you get to a building, turn right past a tiny thatched building on your left.

Landmark: Take time to read the interpretation board on your left as you enter the Nature reserve. Look out for a view of the sea to your right.

Picnic spot

A sweet woodland copse and clearing over on the right shortly after entering the reserve is a lovely spot for a picnic.



Primroses, the flower of Devon

Photo: Northeastwildlife.co.uk

Step 2

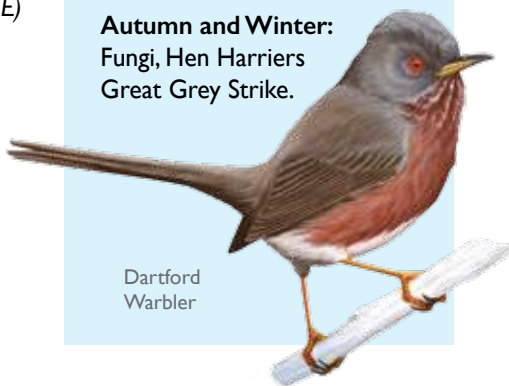
At the lane (SY 075 900) turn sharp left (N), up over the fields. At the next lane turn right (Southerton SY 076 903), along the narrow road to Brooklands Cross through the fields (E) towards the River Otter and through the orchards.

Landmark: Bubbling stream in the nature reserve

Fauna

Spring and Summer: tadpoles in the pool edge. Dartford Warblers, Dragonflies.

Autumn and Winter: Fungi, Hen Harriers, Great Grey Strike.



Dartford Warbler

Step 3

Cross the river Otter over Harpford Bridge (SY 089 903). Turn left along the lane towards the Church, there is a brook on your right hand side. Go past a large white house, Court Place, on your left and St Gregory's Church in the village of Harpford. Turn left (N) past the church along Higher Way for a few yards before turning right (E) along Knapp's Lane with Peak House on the corner. Carry straight on down the track, do not continue left on the road.



Photo: Peter Vernon

Roe Deer, likely to be seen in Harpford Woods

Step 4

Follow this track until you reach another kissing gate to enter Harpford Wood. There is a sandstone gully with a stream running through the woods. Pass a brick lined drainage and access tunnel, go straight up this path away from the brook. Walk underneath the Victorian old railway bridge and straight on (NE), the path leads up a slight incline, with a little gully on your right. At the top of the path through the woods take a right towards the road, B3176.

Landmark: Deer in Harpford Wood

Step 5

Cross the B3176 road (SY 105 907) & up through a metal gate of Woods Farm, part of the Donkey Sanctuary. Go straight up the steep incline to Fire Beacon Hill Local Nature Reserve, aim for the stile in the centre of the field at the top near the woods. Go over the stile and up the steps into the woods, turn right (SE) along the tarmac lane for 100 yds then left up on to the steep stony track with a tall wooden fence, which is also a bridleway. At the Nature Reserve sign take a hair pin bend up left & as the path winds round follow it up to the right. You reach the top of Fire Beacon where the views south are spectacular.

Landmark: Telegraph poles on the top of Fire Beacon Hill

Views

At the top of this field before you enter Fire Beacon take a moment to look right to see the sea and the valley below you, get a bird's eye view of the surrounding countryside. The top of the Fire Beacon has great views too.



Heather and gorse in flower on Fire Beacon Hill

Step 6

Carry straight on across Fire Beacon Hill (N) see power lines on your right, heading towards White Cross (marked on the map). Go through the gate and along the beech tree lined track, wide enough for a vehicle, for about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile until you reach White Cross, where there is a small car parking area. Cross over a little tarmac lane then head right, over the stile into the field keeping the hedge to your right. Turn right across the field towards the wooded copse in the dip in the centre, keep to the left of this, walk underneath the pylons to the metal gate which leads on to a steep sided valley with gorse and a woodland on your right.

Detour: For fine views at White Cross veer left off the path to look over fields and valleys beyond



Photo: Fran Rees

Oilseed Rape field in rolling Devon farmland

Step 7

Come to a line of trees and walk down diagonally right across two fields to a gate, then turn left down a farm track which can get muddy, pass Goosemoor thatched farm house on your left and down an asphalt farm track. Turn right to cross over the bubbling brook.

Take a sharp left through the field through a metal gate at the end of that field take a left along the edge of the field, you will see white houses to the right. We cross the entrance drive to Sidbury Manor at the gate house and enter Sidbury village centre, with its shop and pub.

Landmark: The gate house to Sidbury Manor



Red Admiral

How to get there

By bus

Start: Joneys Cross bus services.

End: Sidbury

Visit: TravelineSW.com for further details (0871 200 2233)

By car

Start: Parking free at Journey's Cross car park EX10 0BL, on A3052 opposite RSPB Aylesbeare Reserve.

End: Car park behind Sidbury Parish Village Rooms EX10 0SN, signed from village centre.



View from White Cross

Distance: 6.5 miles
Start point: Sidbury, EX10 0SN
Map Ref: SY 138 917
Map: Explorer 115, Landranger 192

Stage 4

Sidbury to Church Green, Farway

This walk starts from Sidbury, a charming Devon village with thatched cottages and a pub. It crosses over the river Sid at the Millenium Green and continues up through fields and woods to the top of Buckley hill to see fabulous views over Sidbury and later the Roncombe Valley. It passes down through a magical conservation woodland and then up through Knapp Copse Local Nature Reserve, with its ancient woodland and species rich grassland to cross the Bronze age ritual landscape of Farway Common. Finally cross over the road and continue down to Church Green, a small village with a pretty church and great ancient yew tree.



Bridge Street, Sidbury village

Sidbury to Farway



View of Coly Valley
Farm



Farway
Sustle

FARWAY

5

4



3

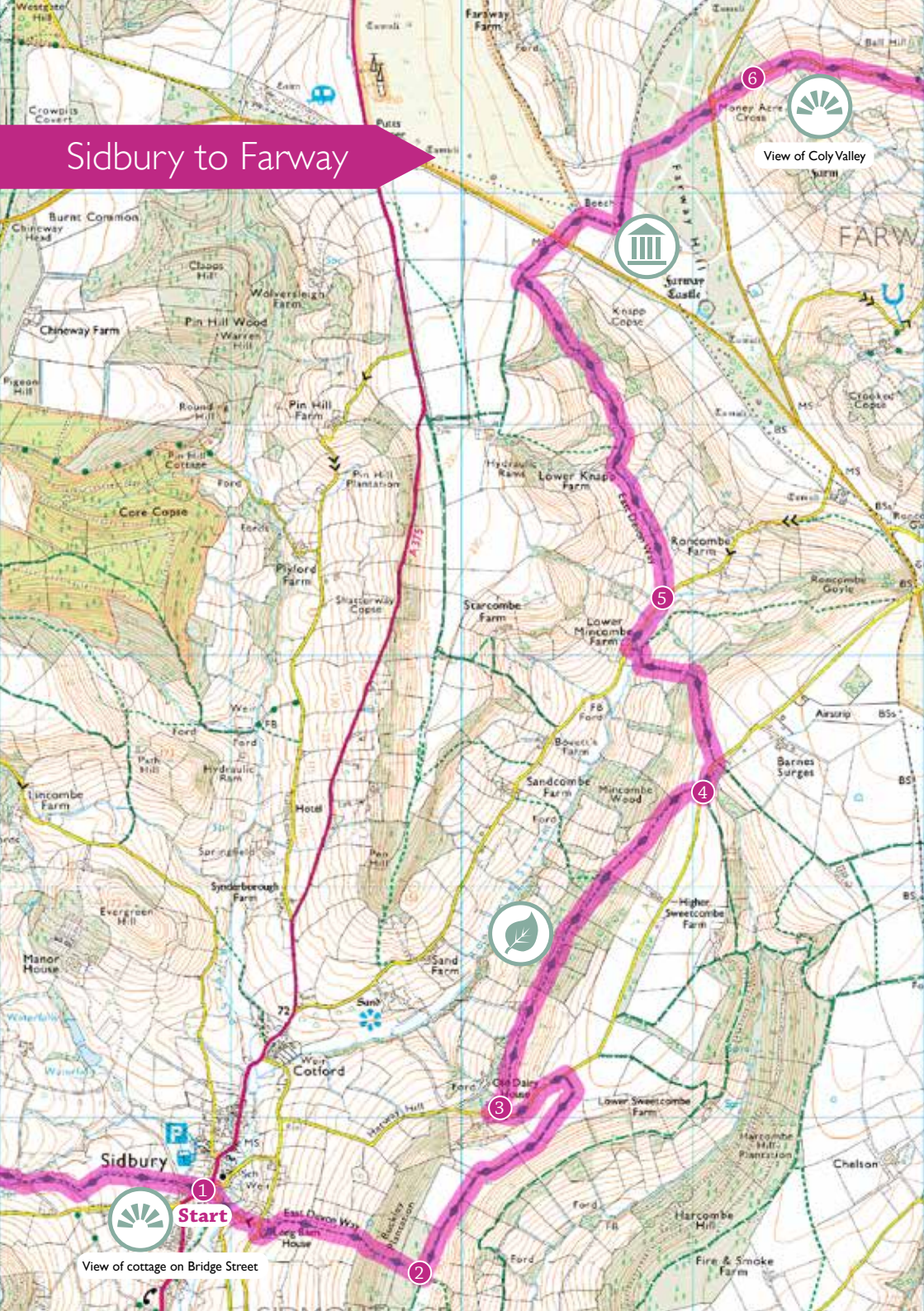
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Start

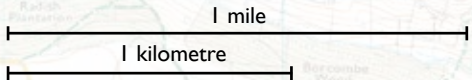
View of cottage on Bridge Street

2





End



Directions

Step 1

Start the walk from Sidbury, a lovely Devon Village with a pub and convenience shop in the butchers. Go down Bridge Street, two roads south of the Church, walk past some typical Devon thatched cottages and go over the river Sid and red brick bridge at the Millenium Green. At the top of this lane turn right, keeping the barn wall of Long Barn House on your left (marked on the map), 20 yards further on turn left, go through the kissing gate up into the field. Look up to the hilltop in front of you, with mainly conifer trees, marked Buckley Plantation on the map; this is where you are heading.

Keep the hedge on your left as you go up and over the stile, go directly up to the line of trees.

Go over the stile then once in the woodland go straight up, the path is not that clear and it is steep and quite a climb. The view beyond the woodland is worth it.

Landmark: Typical Devon thatched cottages in Sidbury Village.



Harvest time above Sidbury

Step 2

Turn left at the top (SY 148 913) along a wide flat bridleway for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.

Harcombe valley drops down to your right. Turn left (SW) downhill along the tarmac lane at the T-junction. To your right in front of you will see the valley and great views of Devon's patchwork fields.

Step 3

Turn right (NNE) (SY 151 920) through the gate opposite Hatway Cottage with its wide tarmac drive and garage. This leads into a field and woodland edge with the land rising up to your right; carry on further to a gate into an enchanting conservation woodland. There is a boardwalk through part of it where it is quite boggy.

At the end of the woodland go through a gate into another woodland. Heading uphill, look down to your left on to Sandcombe Farm (marked on the map) down in the valley and Mincombe Woods is on your left. Pass Oaklands Farmhouse on your left.

Landmark: Old Dairy House is on the left, visible once you are in the field, it has Victorian decorative bargeboards.

FLORA**Spring and Summer:**

Springtime bluebells in the conservation woodland.



Bluebell

Photo: Northeastwildlife.co.uk



Kestrel

Photo: Northeastwildlife.co.uk

Step 4

Turn left along the tarmac lane for 300 yards, and left again joining the bridleway through a gate into a field. Go down steeply through this field.

Here there is a wide-open vista with the field sloping steeply up to your left, on the other side of the valley are meadows.

Go down the flint track, then through a gate. At the bottom of the track we reach Lower Mincombe Farm, go left through the farmyard and over the ford, then right (N) along the lane. The river is on your right.

Landmark: Look out for Lower Mincombe Farm on the opposite side of the valley in front of you. We are going to go through this farm on our walk.

Step 5

Turn left off the lane (SY 158 932) take the track into Lower Knapp Farm holiday complex and continue for 500 yds. At the complex, keep right between the buildings and stay right, through a gate, over a stream and uphill through Knapp Copse Nature Reserve.

Continue out of the wood, along the track to the T-junction, turn right towards the B1374 road (SY 957 154) and cross over the road at Keepers Croft, a former Keepers Cottage go (NE) into the woodland opposite. This is Farway Hill, marked on the map. Follow the track round into the woodland till you see a waymarker turning you right, away from the track, then turn left (NE) along the wide track. You may soon hear the sound of cars as you emerge from Farway Forestry Commission woodland.

History



Bronze age Farway is scattered with rounded earth mounds. This area is a nationally important relic of the Bronze age landscape.



Photo: Northeastwildlife.co.uk

Foxgloves

Step 6

At the crossroads marked Money Acre Cross on the map, cross over towards Farway and Northleigh. Take the tarmac road down towards Church Green, enjoy the views over on your right as you reach the end of this stage. Church Green is a very small village with a 14th century Church.



View to the Coly Valley as you walk down the lane to Church Green

How to get there

By bus

Start: Sidbury

End: Church Green - no services

Visit: TravelineSW.com for further details (0871 200 2233)

By car

Start: Car park EX10 0SN behind Sidbury Parish rooms, signed from village centre.

End: Parking not recommended in Church Green / Farway.

There is car parking nearby at either the Knapp Copse Local Nature Reserve EX10 0QG or limited parking at Forestry Commission site at Money Acre Cross.



Distance: 6 miles
Start point: Farway, EX10 0QG
End: Colyton EX24 6NA
Map Ref: SY 189 959
Map: Explorer 115 & 116,
Landranger 192 & 193

Stage 5

Church Green, Farway to Colyton

This walk starts in Church Green just west of Farway, it is a pleasant mainly flat walk. It crosses over the river Coly leading through Northleigh a rural village with a charming Saxon Church. Then along country lanes before walking through fields by the meandering river Coly, with plenty of picnic spots, to the historic market town of Colyton, a perfect town for a cup of tea or a refreshing drink at the end.



Northleigh

Farway to Colyton



1
Start

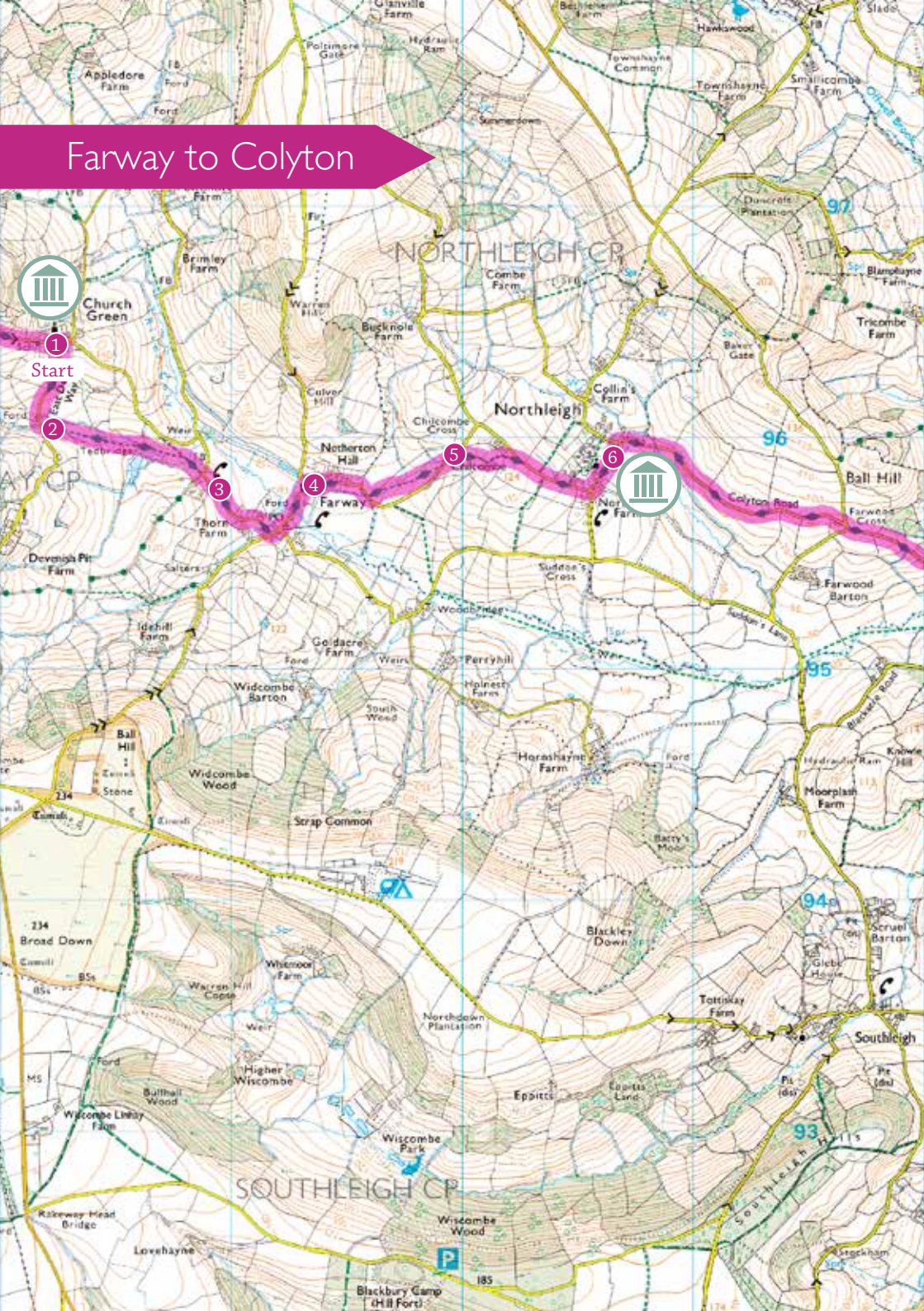
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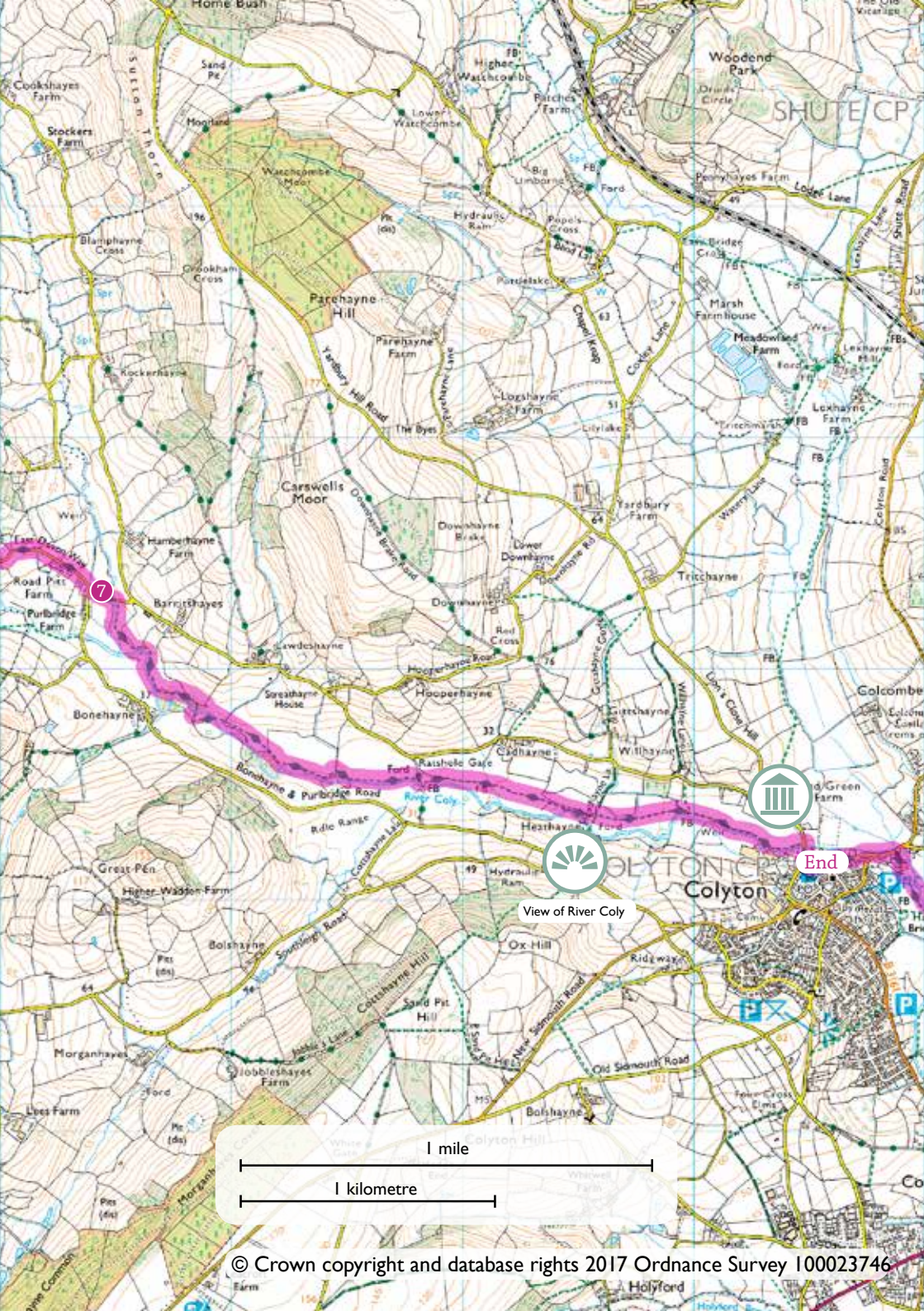
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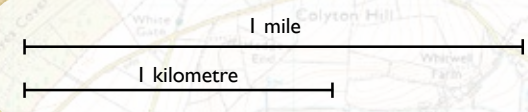


7



View of River Coly

End



Directions

Step 1

At Church Green village (SY 173 964), just west of Farway. Go (S) down the lane directly opposite the church signposted Sallicombe. Follow down the lane down as it curves to the left, take the bridge over a small stream. Turn left (E) into the field over the stile, then go through the field gate almost opposite to the left.

Landmark: Stream at the bottom of the lane.

History

Take some time to look around the lovely church in Church Green.

The yew tree that stands with another yew of nearly the same age in Church Green village churchyard may well be over 1000 years old.

This female yew tree was selected as one of the Great Trees of East Devon in 2008.



Photo: Mo Bowman

Yew tree in Church Green churchyard

Step 2

Keep the stream on your left as you go through the field and over a couple of stiles, look out for a thatched cottage, marked Tedbridge on the map. Go over a couple more stiles with the stream on your right. Head up across the sloping field towards the telegraph poles. Go over the stile at the top, on to the cross roads, where there is an old telephone box.

Landmark: Telegraph poles at the top of the field on your left is a farmhouse (currently with solar panels on its roof)

Step 3

At the cross roads go straight up the lane, following the road sign towards Farway and Northleigh. Walk through Farway, a pretty Devon village with thatched cottages. Further up this lane you will come to a finger post signed to Netherton; turn left towards the ford. Cross over the ford, via the footbridge, take the lane up towards the very grand Netherton Hall.

Landmark: Thatched cottages in Farway village.



Photo: EDDC

Old petrol pumps, Farway

Step 4

Turn right past Netherton Hall (SY 184 958), follow the lane to the right as it winds round, turn left at the public foot path sign. Go over a stile leading into a field. Cross over two stiles, follow through field across the little footbridge in the middle of the field and go up diagonally towards the houses.



River Coly

Step 5

After climbing the stile, leave the field at the top and cross diagonally over the lane, where opposite there is another stile, go over it into field. In this field keep the hedge to your left. Further on in front of you look out for three houses, after following the hedge on the left you reach a wooden gate. Then cross the next field until you reach a metal gate, go down a grassy lane then turn right towards Northleigh. At the public footpath sign turn left (after North House) follow the footpath round to the right which brings you immediately past the church.

Landmark: Northleigh Church

History

Northleigh Church
small flint and stone
C14th church, beside
old yew trees, a
Norman doorway,
note the carving
on the screen and
Jacobean / Carolean
pulpit.



Photo: Clare Brewster

Northleigh Church

Step 6

Pass Northleigh Church on your left go (N) straight on, then down the lane and at the junction turn right (E) signposted Colyton; the village hall will be to your left. Go through Northleigh Village with its flint walled cottages and past one called Ashen House. Walk straight along Colyton Road for 1 mile, past Road Pitt Farm (on the map) just over the stream, take the next right (S) through a kissing gate into a field (SY 953 216).

Landmark: Farmhouse on your left with a hill behind it.

Step 7

With the river Coly on your right hand side, go through fields for 1 ½ miles. You need to cross several small footbridges over streams and low lying land where you will see the farmhouse landmark. There is one at the start of this section and you then turn immediately right keeping the river on your right. Next you will come to a big footbridge after which head on through kissing gate, towards Colyton Church. You will pass the tannery, a large warehouse building on the side of the river, on the right. Just past this turn right over the old Chantry Bridge, up to the large wrought iron gates of Colyton House and turn left up Vicarage Street. This is the end of this stage, take time to explore Colyton with its traditional tram rides to Seaton and enjoy some of the tea shops and pubs in this ancient town.



Colyton Tannery

Photo: Sheila Haycox

How to get there

- By bus** | *Start:* No service to Farway nearest connection is at Putts Corner (Hare and Hounds pub).
End: Colyton bus services, which connect to Colyford/Seaton.
Visit: TravelineSW.com for further details (0871 200 2233)
- By car** | *Start:* Parking not recommended in Church Green as it is limited in this small village. There is car parking nearby at either the EX10 0QG Knapp Copse Local Nature Reserve or limited parking at Forestry Commission site at Money Acres Cross.
End: Pay and display car park, Colyton Town centre, Dolphin Street EX24 6NA.



RD
SEATON
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2 Eye Court Road Seaton
Tel: 01297 21105
www.everys.co.uk

ELECTRIC TRAMWAY

Seaton Tramway with stops at Colyton, Colyford and Seaton

Distance: 9 miles
Start point: Pay & display, Dolphin St
Colyton Town centre, EX24 6NA
End: Lyme Regis DT7 3PG
Map Ref: SY 247 940
Map: Explorer 116 & Landranger 193

Stage 6

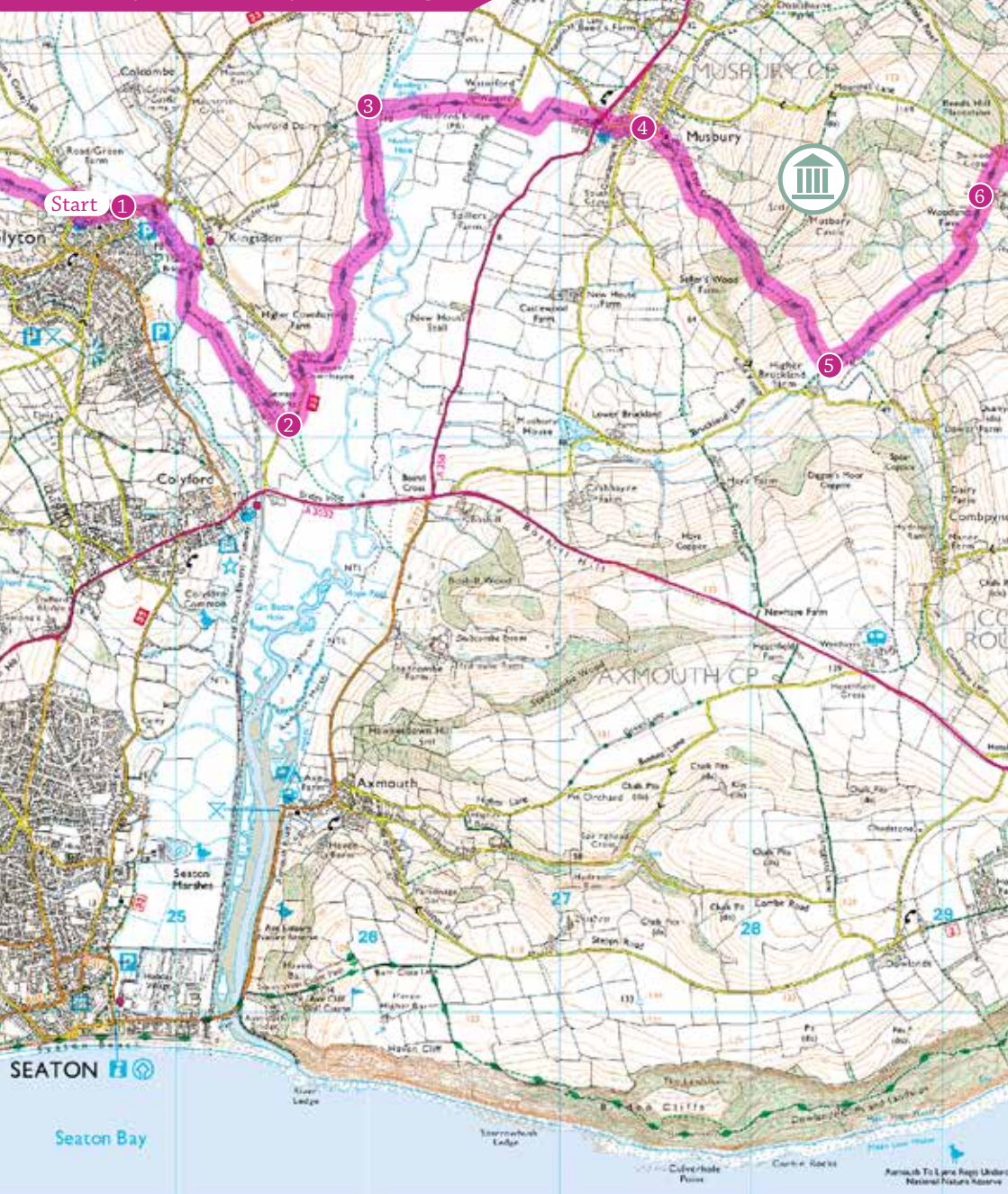
Colyton to Lyme Regis

This is a lovely day walk, taking in three rivers, an iron-age castle, an impressive viaduct and ending in the bustling Dorset seaside town of Lyme Regis. Starting in Colyton; an ancient market town has shops, pubs and tea rooms, the walk crosses the wide Axe Valley, up-hill to Musbury Castle, with a short detour to be king of the castle a fine place for views and a great spot for a picnic, down rural lanes leading to Uplyme and on to the attractive seaside town of Lyme Regis on the Jurassic Coast.



View from Lyme Regis

Colyton to Lyme Regis



Start ①

③

④

②

⑤

⑥



SEATON

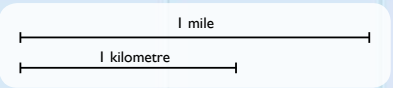
Seaton Bay

Kernow to Lyme Regis Under National Nature Reserve



View of Cannington Viaduct

End



Directions

Step 1

From Colyton car park (SY 247 940) turn right down Dolphin Street towards the River Coly and Station Road. Cross over the road turning right, away from the river, before Ham Bridge. Walk through the workshops till you reach the telegraph pole, turn left, past the flint wall, through a kissing gate into the field with more telegraph poles in it. Keep the river to your left. Go through the metal gate over two railway sleepers which are acting as a bridge.

Take the bridge over the river, the river is then on your right, after 200 yards turn left (SE) at the metal kissing gate. Heading away from the river, go across the 2nd field to the corner and take the steps up over the tram tracks.

Once over the tram tracks go diagonally right and over another set of steps into the field. Go through this field and over the stile into another field, keep the hedge on your right. You will hear the sound of water (on the map it is noted as sewage works). Head to the bottom right hand corner of this field and cross over the stile.

Landmark: The river is on your left, once over the bridge the river is on your right

Step 2

Turn left along Cownhayne Lane for 250 yds. Turn right at Lower Cownhayne Farm (SY 256 934), turn right between the farm and the open barn. At the end of the farm track go through a kissing gate. Keep the hedge to your left as you walk straight over the little unobtrusive bridge over the field drain. In the top left hand corner of the field go over the stile and turn right, keep the field boundary on your right.

Keep the River Axe on your right (sometimes close and sometimes a field away) for 1/2 mile as it gently meanders round. When the river is in front of you and where it widens you turn right (E) (SY 260 946) towards Nunford Bridge.

Landmark: The River Axe on your right.

Step 3

Go over Nunford footbridge (marked on the map), over the River Axe, go through the gate at the entrance to Waterford Lane, walk past Waterford Farm on the left. Turn right along Dead Horse Lane for 50 yards then turn left across a couple of fields to Musbury and the A358.

Landmark: Go through the small wooded copse, head towards the tractor track, keeping the hedge on your right.

Step 4

At Musbury crossroads (SY 272 946) go straight over the road with the Spar on your left and the Golden Hind public house on your right. Continue up the road towards the school and St Michael's church. Keep the church on your left, go up the incline towards the farm and between some farm buildings.

At the top of this tarmac track turn right, go over the stile diagonally across the field, keeping the telegraph pole on your left. Aim for the stile in the middle of the hedge line above you. Go over the stile, this is the base of Musbury Castle, an Iron Age hill fort. Go up the hill.

Detour: Detour to be King of Musbury Castle, go past the second five bar gate, carry on up the hill, then take a very sharp left to be on top of this Iron age hill fort. See amazing views of the sea on one side and back down to the Golden Hind pub, 155m below.

Go up the track past the first gate on your right, turn right at the second five bar wooden gate and kissing gate.

Go through the five bar gate into the wooded coombe, at the end there is another five bar gate and kissing gate on left, with an EDW sign pointing forwards. Go over a stile (SY 280 939) and down three steps, through the gate in front of you and diagonally left (SE) across the field. Landmark: The valley runs in front of you and into the distance, the sea is over to your right. There is white house in front of you in the distance and diagonally to the left is a hamlet, aim between these two.

Landmark: The valley runs in front of you and into the distance, the sea is over to your right. There is white house in front of you in the distance and diagonally to the left is a hamlet, aim between these two.



Flag Iris

Step 5

Turn left along the lane towards Higher Bruckland Farm (SY 284 934). The path goes (NE) up the field. This straight track is an old drovers trail, where the farmers used to drive their sheep. Walk through the field with the stream on your right. Go over the little stream up through a five bar gate on to a tarmac road. Follow the drover's road as it curves round past Hart Grove Farm and yard. There is a bit of an incline and at the top is a cross roads called Bulmoor Cross, turn around to enjoy at the view here.

Landmark:

There are power-lines overhead. Reach another gate where a bolt goes into the trunk of a tree.



Photo: Northeastwildlife.co.uk

Kingfisher

Step 6

At the cross roads turn right for 1 mile towards Uplyme. Go over the little stone bridge, what used to be the old railway line from Axminster to Lyme Regis, turn right over the bridge and immediately left over the stile and up through the field, keeping the hedge on your left. Go through another field and through a five bar gate.

At the top cross over Trinity Hill Road (SY 304 938) on to a bridleway. At the top go through another gate into an open field; go straight ahead. There are telegraph wires over head. Reach another gate where the bolt goes into the tree trunk. Look out for the impressive Cannington Viaduct on your right. This is Woodhouse Hill, nearly 180 metres above sea level, go past the bungalows. At the top of the track turn right down Woodhouse Lane for nearly 1 mile. Follow Wadley Hill Road round and down into Uplyme. you will see the sea in the distance. At the telegraph pole on your right turn left (SY 322 933) down the road, towards the cricket pitch.

Landmark: The 93 foot high Cannington Viaduct on your right.



Cannington Viaduct

Step 7

As you reach the bottom of the field turn right past the village hall along the B3165. Take a left, before the Talbot Arms beer garden, down a footpath with some pretty cottages at the end. This path leads you down to a wooded area, still residential; see a glimpse of the River Lim, a lovely meandering river on your right, at this point it has very steep sides.

Cross the road, keeping the thatched cottage on your right, take the four steps down towards the River Lim. Turn around to look behind at the most idyllic Devon thatched house. The path goes down to pass an old mill, now residential, with its water wheel on the end wall. Just past the mill and through the small field is a footbridge. This is the official end to the East Devon Way, but as we are less than half a mile from Lyme Regis, you can follow this path beside the River Lim all the way to the seaside. You can take any path you like through Lyme Regis, on the following page is a suggestion.

The End



Old Mill

To the seaside

Walk along Windsor Terrace keeping the River Lim on your right with a weir, down Jerico Road (says it's a dead end) we are now following the Wessex ridgeway signs too. The River Lim is then on our left, as the Lim bends round you go past pretty cottages and we move away from it only to meet it again after the cottages and go straight over on to the Riverside Walk. This little path has the river either side of a boardwalk going past the Town Old Mill, take a right into the courtyard of the mill, where they serve teas, cross over the river and up some steps up into the car park and you are at Lyme Regis seafront.

Explore Lyme Regis and enjoy its many quirky shops, fine tea rooms, restaurants and plenty of places to stay.

Congratulations

We hope you have enjoyed your walk through East Devon.

How to get there

By bus

Start: Colyton bus services connect to Colyford/Seaton and pass through Musbury on the route.

End: Uplyme and Lyme Regis with Axminster, and Lyme Regis to other coastal towns.

Visit: TravelineSW.com for further details (0871 200 2233)

By car

Start: Pay and display in Colyton Town centre, Dolphin Street EX24 6NA.

End: Selection of pay and display car parks in Lyme Regis.

The East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

The East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is a special landscape, protected to conserve and enhance its natural beauty since 1963. The Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty covers nearly 270 sq km of Devon's finest countryside from Exmouth to Honiton and Uplyme, Lyme Regis.

We have created a special website for the East Devon Way.



Information

For all your public transport information visit www.travelinesw.com or call Traveline 0871 200 22 33

For all Rights of Way information visit www.devon.gov.uk/mylocalpaths

To report a path problem call Devon County Council 0845 155 1004

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Credits

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The East Devon Way



Find places to stay, things to do and local food to eat on the route on our website

www.eastdevonway.org.uk

Your walking adventure starts here

- Explore two seaside towns, eight villages and cross five rivers plus enjoy miles of rolling country side
- Easy to follow walk directions, split into six stages
- Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 maps for each stage
- Viewpoints, picnic spots, history, flora and fauna identified on the maps



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