

Link Route - Branscombe to East Devon Way at Farway



Start location: South West Coast Path, Branscombe Beach (SY207 881)

Difficulty: Moderate - hilly and wet in parts in winter **Walking time:** 3 hours

Length: 11 km / 6.5 miles

Route Summary: Mainly off-road (fields and woods) link route from South West Coast Path at Branscombe to East Devon Way at Farway via Blackbury Castle.

Directions

- 1 **Start at the Sea Shanty on Branscombe Beach** - Take the path inland past the west side of the kiosk in a northerly direction > Follow the link marker discs along the path, past the turning to the National Trust Mill (open during the season) and on to the Village Hall and Old Forge.
- 2 **Walk through the National Trust car park and take marked path behind the Old Forge** - Follow the path up to the school, turn right and continue uphill along a seldom used minor road to a cattle grid > Take the higher road to the left until you come to a waymarked footpath on your right > Take this path down to a very minor road again > At Hole House turn right and follow the road to the bottom of the valley > Cross the bridge over the stream and up the other side > Take the waymarked track > Continue up through the woods > Eventually you pass Baldash House and take a hairpin turn in the path > Next, up some wooden steps, turn right, then turn left - up a trackway to fields > Cross these two fields and emerge at the A3052.
- 3 **Take care at the A3052 crossing** - After you've crossed the road, turn right along the gritted track (alongside the road) and then turn left into a field > Down through the field > Through the farm gate and turn sharp right > Down through the field and through a small gate > Then take a small footbridge to the right > Turn left after the bridge and wend your way down in front of the farmhouse and then turn left > Follow the track > At the waymarker, turn right down the hill > Follow the track to the bottom past the pond and up the other side for a short distance, then turn left into the woods > Follow the path up through the woods to the road > Turn left on the road and follow this road to Blackbury Castle (Blackbury Camp).
- 4 **Blackbury Camp (known locally as Blackbury Castle)** - Is an Iron Age hillfort and worth a quick detour > After your side trip continue along the road towards:
- 5 **Blackbury Honey Farm** - Just before the Blackbury Honey Farm, turn right onto a trackway (can be muddy in winter) > After a while, at a 3-way junction, turn right > Continue along this bridle path, across the first metaled track > Continue until you reach the next road.
- 6 **Minor Road** - (Maybe turn left and take a side trip to the farm, about 800 mtrs - from the farm (Mincombe Farm), you can take a short cut to the EDW - if so, take care crossing fast main road) - If not then cross the road and continue through fields > Then down a bridleway and past some woods to a road > Turn right, down the hill to Farway.
- 7 **Farway** - The Junction with the East Devon Way by the old iconic petrol pumps > From here turn left and follow the East Devon Way to Church Green and beyond to Sidbury.

OR

- 8 **Turn right, then immediate left** - And follow the East Devon Way to Colyton.

Branscombe To EDW (Farway) Link



1 km
3000 ft

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