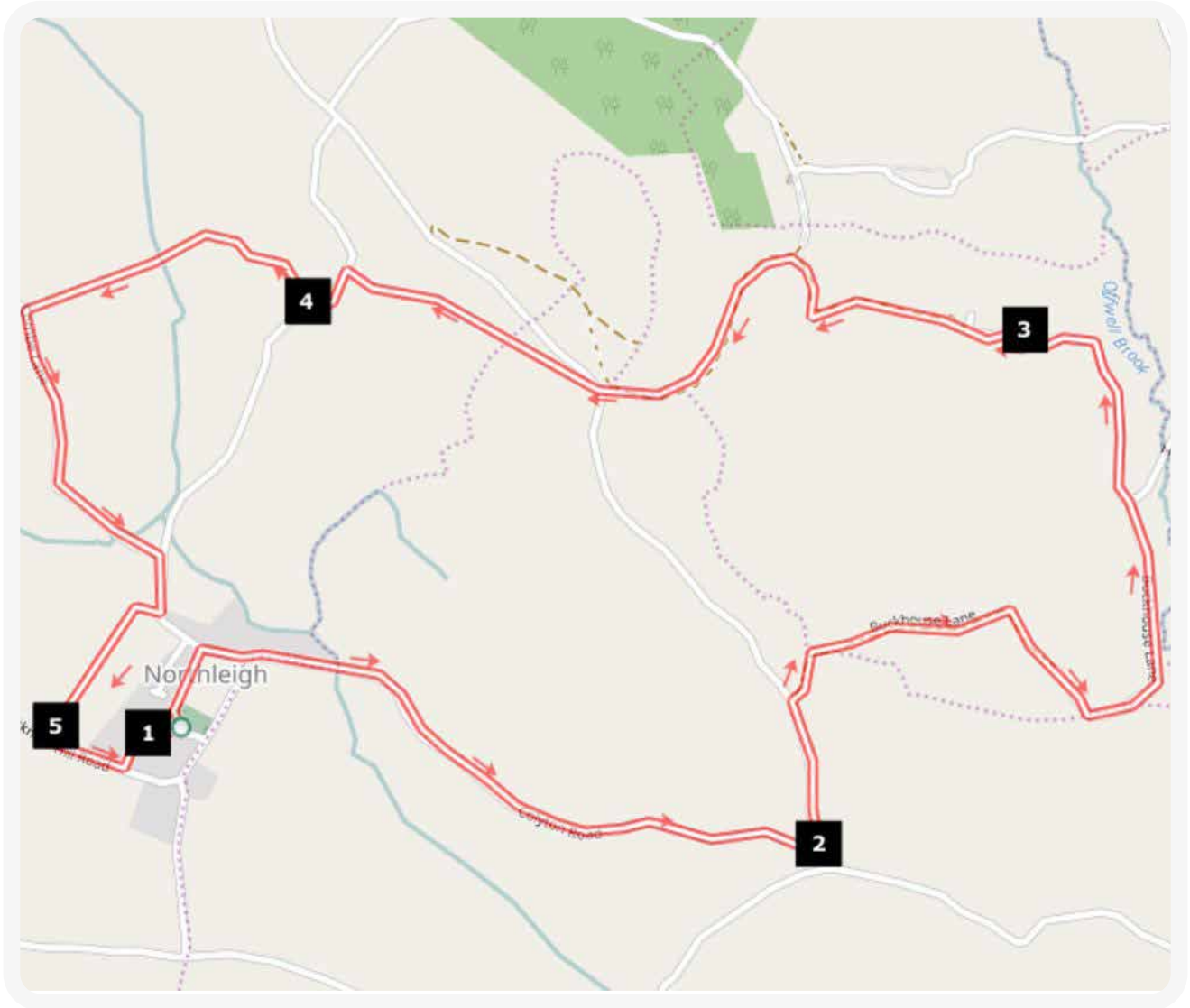
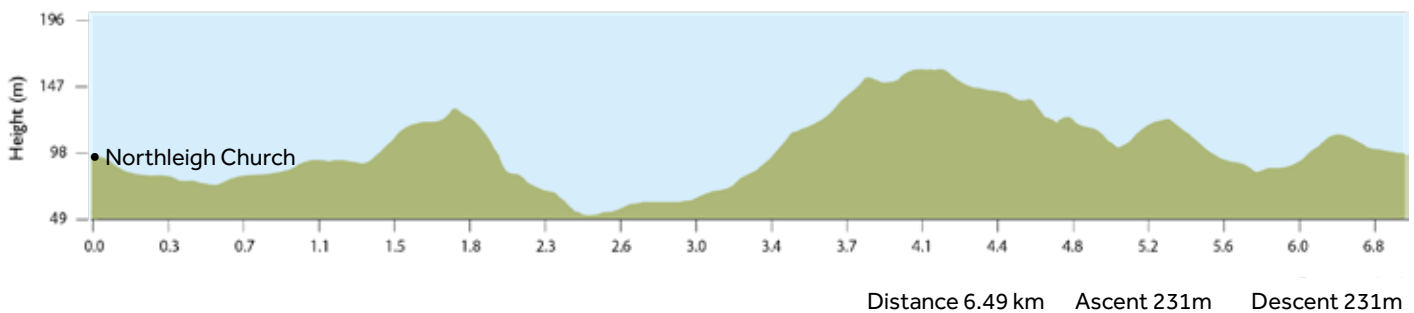


Northleigh & Coly Valley Circular



Difficulty: Leisurely
Walking time: 2 hours 10 minutes
Length: 6.5km / 4.0mi



Circular Route 10

Northleigh & Coly Valley Circular



Difficulty: Leisurely

Walking time: 2 hours 10 minutes **Length:** 6.5km / 4.0mi

Start location: Northleigh Church. Roadside parking. SY196959

Route Summary: A delightful walk in the Coly Valley with outstanding rural views towards the sea.

Getting there: By car from Honiton

Map: Explorer 115 Exmouth and Sidmouth / Explorer 116 Lyme Regis and Bridport

Description

[1] From the church walk down the field until you reach the road. Turn right and follow the Colyton Road until you reach Farwood Cross

The church of St Giles dates to the Norman period, though there may have been a timber church in this spot before the Norman Conquest.

The oldest features of the current church are a font of Beer stone and the south doorway arch, both dating to the Norman period. Much of the rest is 14th century, though the earliest recorded rector was Stephen Brente, who was named to the post on the eve of the Black Death in 1349.

The most interesting historical feature of St Giles is its rich collection of late 15th century woodwork. The oak benches in the nave have beautifully carved ends with a variety of intricately designed carvings within foliage borders. The early 17th century pulpit also has lovely carved panels including a traditional frieze of acanthus flowers and scrollwork.

[2] At Farwood Cross turn left and go up the road past Ball Hill on your right.

Look for a track going off to the right just before the telephone mast, follow this track passing north of Ball Hill. Follow the track down the hill. The track becomes a narrow road and heads north.

Take the left fork in the road and head for Tricombe Farm.

[3] At Tricombe Farm carry straight on, west, along a permissive track taking care to turn left as you approach the turning to Blamphayne Farm.

Carry on the track which goes up the hill until you reach Baker's Gate. Turn right, cross the road and look for a stile on the left.

Cross the stile and follow the path across the field. Go through a gate with waymark arrow into the wood. Go through the wood and continue on the path until you near a cottage. Just before the cottage the path goes left of the hedge to a stile onto the road. Turn left, down the hill, and look for a track on your right

[4] Go along the track past a footpath on the right.

Look for a footpath on the left, take this path down the field and over a narrow footbridge. Follow the right hand field boundary up the hill to the road.

Turn left along the road towards Collin's Farm. At a T junction turn right and look for another footpath sign on your right, just before the Northleigh village hall. Follow the footpath through the fields until you reach the road.

[5] Turn left onto the road and after approximately 200 yds. Take a track, north, past the cottages and through the gardens back to the Church.

Route developer: James Baldwin

Route checker: Ted Swan