

## To Pixies Parlour via Knightstone Manor.



***A Level walk of about 3.3 miles taking one and a half hours. Wee bit of road, a wonderful long green hedged track, a bit of history and a bit of myth and a glorious return path above and alongside the River Otter.***

Start in the Canaan Way Car park (Grid Ref SY 095 955) You have to pay a nominal fee, except on Sundays, but better than exceeding the 2 hours in the free supermarket park! Right out of the Car Park on to Hind Street and wander along bearing diagonally left into the town. Pass the superstore on your left. Interesting little lane off right - Picadilly Lane . Another alley off left - Saddlers Lane. No idea of the origin. Move into the open square area and take the third exit up Tip Hill on the Sidmouth Road. Up the hill and move left into Longdogs Lane. Where do these names come from! Wander along this road for about 600 yds to meet Slade Road, opposite Chineway Garden, then sharp diagonally back right on to the Public Bridleway. This is a marvellous green track passing through the real rural Devon countryside. Maybe slightly soggy in Winter but no problem except for those in high-heeled shoes. Wander slowly along here for about a mile. At the large farm complex stay straight ahead to soon emerge beside Knightstone Manor.



Knighstone Manor

Worth a peek over the wall at a gem of a Mediaeval / Tudor manor house. Once the home of England's nine-day queen Lady Jane Grey. Cross the little ford on foot or by bridge on to the road. Right here and, ignoring footpaths off to the left (maybe a trail for another walk) meet the busy road. Cross with care into the rough lay by area. Now, amble down the Public Footpath that exits from the lay by and hey, you are on another magic path that follows a weak stream on the right and skirts beautiful green slopes on your left. Continue down to a three-way footpath sign and here bear right to cross a small open pasture land and up the steps into the woods. Just follow the good path, with wonderful views looking down on the River Otter. But take a moment to see Pixies Parlour, a small cave complex that lurks in the rocky walls to your right (Grid Ref 0959 9444).



Pixie's parlour

Wee bit of uphill now to a metal gate into a field. Left along the edge of the field to drop down to a wooden bridge off left. Follow the good but slightly soggy path to emerge into open field. Sharp right and follow good track back to the road. Right up the hill then left at the junction and back to the Start.