

Walks around

TALATON

Use them or lose them!

A guide to short walks around the Parish. Sketch map included but for more detail use the OS Explorer 115 1:25000 Exmouth and Sidmouth map.

Compiled by Chris Harwood.

Introduction

Walks start from the Talaton Inn, are of variable distance and use Public Rights of Way and some small roads. Generous times are allocated to each walk so potter along and remember to look around at the scenery. Strong footwear is advised as some paths go through grass fields and tracks. Please remember the Countryside Code – dogs on leads, gates etc. So,....

Enjoy your walk!

Walk 1 (1 Mile 30 mins.)

Follow Clyst Hydon rd for 250 m to Public Footpath sign on left just before the Old Rectory. Down the narrow fenced path and over the stile into the open field. Straight across towards the farm but move right, over an old gate around the farm (avoiding the slurry pit!) and then left by gate into the farm area. Right and then almost immediately left down the lane to Newtown (about 250 m). Left and then left at the T-junction and back to the village. (At the time of writing new “Kissing gates “ are awaited on this route to make the passage easier)

Walk 2 (1 mile 30 min)

Walk to Village Hall, turn left up beside the Moor and at the top bear right beside detached cottage through kissing gate.. Cross field diagonally, via two metal gates (and a number of horses!) to far corner. Through gate and follow hedge on your right, (pass the gateway) to a gap in which lurks a small kissing gate. Into large open field – variable stock or crop – move diagonally across, passing two solitary trees, toward the farm buildings and the road. Move left uphill to Bittery Cross then left downhill to the Inn.

Walk 3 (1.5 miles 40 mins)

As for walk 2 but at Bittery Cross, continue straight for a further 600 m looking for Public Footpath sign to the left in a dip. Downhill through the field, via gateway, to track and Harris’s Farm. Pass the Church – or stop and enjoy it – then back up into the village.

Walk 4 (2.5 miles 1.5 hours)

Pass the Village Hall and across Newtown Corner to the thatched Ivy Cottages. Here rt over the cattle grid, up the track to the left of the cottages and move right to the hedge corner where lurks a wooden stile. Over the stile, follow hedge on your rt to a metal gate. Follow track past New Barn farm buildings, along the concrete lane to meet the Larkbeare rd. Left and downhill to Beacon Cross. Left a few yards downhill and then over the road to the right and follow the road uphill and past Lashbrooke Farm buildings. At Bittery Cross (of Judge Jeffries fame!) left and back in time for well earned drink.

Walk 5 (3.0 miles 1.5 hours)

As for walk 4 but at Beacon Cross, straight across and take leafy lane down to Talewater. At Half Moon Farm left uphill – breathing deeply – and back to Bittery Cross.

Walk 6 (3.5 miles 2 hours)

As walk 1 but on emerging in Newtown by notice board, turn rt. Walk about 1200 m to Railway Cottages, over railway bridge and then immediately rt down track. Take 2nd gate on left – about 30 m from cottage – and go north through field with hedge on your rt. Look for stile in the bank facing you, some metres in from the right. Over stile and diagonally right across field to a gateway. Follow the hedge to next gateway and then move downhill and across the field (1-2 o'clock direction) to a wet corner. Cross the stream – more a dribble – and over the high stile. Follow hedge on your right for about 300 m. As it veers away to the right, by gateway, leave hedge and move slightly right across field to meet a track. Right along track to and through the farm – saying hello to the nice dog! - to the road at Westcott. Right, check the views – and back to the Inn.

Walk 7 (6 miles 3 hours)

Getting longer, but easy walking!) Uphill to Bittery Cross, across and down to Talewater. Right at half Moon Farm, uphill and over railway bridge. About 250 m past low brick bridge over stream follow Public Footpath sign left into fields. Follow edge of field to wooden stile into Escot Estate land. Up grassy track, through gate and along edge of open grassland. At gate into woods (No Entry!) bear left around edge of woods to point near two old firs then move diagonally downhill (about 11 o'clock) to wooden gate and stony track leading over bridge over River Tale and up to Clapperentale Farm. Through gate, bear left up lane to meet concrete road. Left past Old English Orchard and at cottages right via kissing gate into open grassland. Move diagonally to corner of fenced off area and marker post then continue diagonally down to wooden kissing gate and old water trough. Left with fence on left and follow edge of woodland to wooden kissing gate. Move in straight line across field and pass to left of small wood (toward sounds of new rd!) to small gate. Then 2nd gate and turn right down path and under new road to Escot Church. Rt over stile, into Churchyard (handy to know that there is an eco-loo here!!) and out again via small gate. Follow track via two bridges to the road. Right and back to the village. (Can always visit Escot en route for a cuppa!)

Walk 8 (5 - 6 miles 2 – 3 hours)

As walk 7 but at Clapperentale Farm bear left again but stay on the concrete road to the lodge house at the end. Turn left and return to Talaton, using the lanes, via Feniton (Left at the level crossing.)