

## *Penny Bridge, Nr Tarr Steps, on Exmoor, to Withypool and back.*

Map OS Explorer OL9 – Exmoor 1:25000.  
Time: 4½ hours. About 9 – 10 miles  
Grade: Easy, Some very short steep uphill stretches.



**P**ark at Penny Bridge, (Grid Ref 860316 Exmoor Map OL9), near Hawkridge, just above Tarr Steps and walk NE along the narrow lane down to Tarr Steps. Do not try to drive across the ford unless you happen to be in a tank! Cross over the stepping-stones and take the path left along the riverbank. Follow the river through various woods – Knaplock Woods, Lea Wood, Pit Wood almost all the way to Withypool.

**S**ome 600 m short of the minor Withypool road there are stepping-stones over the river leading to a track that would take you to the road above and leading down to Withypool. However! at the time of writing, the stones are not all in their correct positions having been moved by floodwater and a crossing would be difficult – and wet! So, if in doubt, walk on along the riverbank to the point where private land prevents further progress and move uphill away from the river to eventually emerge at the small lane leading down into Withypool. (And a very welcome tea house!)

**C**arry on along the road and up a steep but short hill. After about 2.5 km of fairly level walking, just past Westwater Farm and after a right-angled turn in the road take the track left through fields, gaining height gradually. Take a moment to look back at the wonderful views. After about 1.5 km, at a T-junction in the path, move right through and alongside Parsonage Farm and stay on the farm track/ road down to the stream. The track turns acutely left, uphill to a minor road end. Move left, signposted Penny Bridge, down a steep but interesting sunken rocky path to Penny Bridge – and so back to the start.