

A Local Walk Talaton to Feniton via Escot and back.

Map OS Explorer 115 – Exmouth & Sidmouth. 1:25000.

Time: About 2 – 3 hours (About 6 miles)

Grade: Easy. Some road walking.



Opposite the Village Hall, move up the lane beside the Village Green, known as the Moor, and at the top bear right beside detached cottage, up small steps and through kissing gate. Cross the field diagonally left, via two metal gates (and a number of horses!) to far corner beside some oaks. Through gate and follow hedge on your right, (**pass** the first open gateway on your right) nearly to the corner of the field where, in a gap lurks a small kissing gate. Into large open field – variable stock or crop – move diagonally left across, passing two solitary trees, toward the farm buildings and the road.

At the road, move right downhill passing the Lashbrook Farm – usually a squealing of pigs and maybe a wee bit of odour!) . At the small crossroads move left, passing through trees and then left again at the junction. Down the long, very scenic and beautiful hill (you can move right into the woods and then follow the track down through the woods if you prefer missing the road out). Spare a minute to absorb the views off left. Where the woods end look and follow the Public Footpath signed off to the right. Follow edge of field to wooden stile into Escot Estate land. Up grassy track, (have a quick look at the fishing ponds on the left -usually loads of wildlife here) through gate and along edge of open grassland. At the gate into woods (No Entry!) bear left around edge of woods to a point near two old firs and, where the fence veers gently right move diagonally right downhill (about 11 o'clock) to wide gate and track leading on to the bridge over River Tale (recently rebuilt following destruction in the floods) and up to Clapperentale Farm. Through gate, bear left up lane to meet concrete road.

*L*eft past Clapperentale Cottages and the Old English Apple Orchard and staying on the concrete road come to the Feniton road. Left here and plod slowly along the road to Feniton. (Takeaway coffee available in the shop!) Left just before the station and beside the Nog Inn and back on the Talaton road, via Talewater and Half Moon Farm. Up the not too long (but somewhat steep!) Talewater Hill – good views left at the top – over the road at Bittery Cross (bit of history here thanks to Judge Jefferies) and back down to the village and, if you have timed it right, a quick drink in the Talaton Inn. If not then a Choc bar in the Talaton Village Shop.

Chris Harwood. Revised January 2010.