

Village Walks

In 2006 Milborne Port Women's Institute, supported by the parish and county councils, produced four excellent leaflets explaining walks in and around the village. These range in distance from the 2.25 mile walk encompassing points of interest in the village to the 8 mile Ridges Walk which extends to the west and north of the parish. If you do not already have these free guides we do encourage you to get copies from the Town Hall, the village Library or Sherborne Tourist Information.

Over the coming months we hope to add to this bank by detailing some more outings that you can enjoy. There will, inevitably, be some overlap with the existing walks but we will try to help you explore some new areas.

Crendle and Hanover Woods
4.5 miles (OS Map Explorer 129)
Muddy sections in wet weather.

Our walk starts at the Post Office on the High Street.

1. Go eastwards along the High Street, turning left down East Street at the Queen's Head. Where the road turns sharply left take a path on the right that leads for a short distance between a beech hedge and a fence. Keeping the fence on your left walk across two fields. After the second gate bear slightly to the left towards two stiles that cross a horse ride. Head across one more field to a stile that takes you into Crendle Wood. (As you cross the field look over your right shoulder for a great view of Venn House.)
2. Follow the track up through the wood until you reach a junction of paths. Turn right through a metal gate; you are now walking down a well worn track. When you reach the next junction bear slightly right following the yellow arrow marker staying in the wood. The path is well marked from here with yellow arrow markers. At the end of the wood turn right on the tarmac road towards the busy A30.
3. Turn right along the A30 for about 50 yards, taking great care as the road is narrow and can be very busy with big lorries thundering by. Cross the road and a stile into a field, Walk through the field with the stream on your left, then cross a footbridge into Hanover Wood. Enjoy the track through the wood following blue arrow markers. Eventually the track becomes gravelled. Stay on it almost to the end of the wood before turning left onto a smaller path. Follow the path out of the wood turning right onto a road opposite a house.
4. Walk down this road towards Goathill for approximately 200 yards looking out for a right turn onto a farm track (this is not signposted). This will take you to a metal gate where you will turn left. Keeping the hedge on your left continue to follow the yellow arrow markers until you reach the sewage works. At this point look out for a left turn over a small bridge. Walk along the right side of the field and climb over a high stile. Bear slightly left over a stone bridge keeping the copse on the right.
5. From here there are no markers and the path is more difficult to follow. Look ahead across the field for a metal gate. Cross the gate and bear right heading for a point at the end of a line of trees. When you reach this point turn left towards the big barns in the distance. Keep to the left side of the barns and you

will eventually reach a tarmac farm road. Turn right along this and it will lead you out of the farm. Cross over into Bathwell Lane; turn right into the church yard and follow the church path to the left of the church. This will take you back to the A30 where you started the walk.