

Walk 5 - Fox Inn to West Chelborough Walk Description

Approximately 3 1/2 miles, 2 hours.

Keeping the Fox Inn (A) on your right, walk about 100 yards towards Halstock. Turn right along the "no through road" (B) to "Norwood Cottage" (C) and along the pathway to the right of this cottage. Pass through the wood, over a stile and across a field to the gateway into the copse ahead. Continue over the bridge, slippery when wet, to a gate on the far side and then over the centre of a field and through the next copse to a wicket gate. Immediately through the gate take great care as the ground over the bridge is unstable. This has caused a deep hole to open up. Proceed over field uphill following the line of the telegraph poles, then through the field leading to the outbuildings of Dairy House Farm (D). Go through the farmyard and past the farmhouse to the tarmac road. Follow the road for a few hundred yards to West Chelborough and St. Andrew's Church (E), which is well worth a visit.

To continue follow the road to the right and the path continues through the gateway of Manor Farm (F) to a gate at the top of the driveway on the left. The path is a bridleway and curves first to the right and then to the left, skirting the highest point of the hill and continues along a grassy track to a gate. The bridleway then curves around below the wooded slope through a gate and across to a 2nd gate in the far corner (G). Follow the line of the hedge through the field. (To your right in the middle distance is Halstock, and in the far distance a water tower on the outskirts of Yeovil.) The gateway at the end now leads into a grassy lane which can be very muddy.

Proceed along this lane until the bridleway splits at right-angles to the right and left (H). Ahead is the entrance to a field and the footpath goes diagonally to the right to a stile in the corner of a small copse (J). Leave the copse via the wicket gate (K) and using the permissive path go straight ahead until you reach a ditch where you turn left in front of "Woodwalls" (L), and head for a gate in the corner. Go through the gate making for a wicket gate at the edge of the copse. These last two fields are wildflower meadows, well worth a visit during spring and summer. Pass through the copse and over the stile into a field. Walk through the field with the hill to your left, aiming for the thatched roof and a gateway which brings you back to the Fox Inn.(A)

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