

Upwey House Walks – Local

Upwey and Bincombe

This walk is approximately 5 miles.



Background

This is a beautiful, scenic walk from Upwey House itself through the farming village of Upwey across countryside to Bincombe Hills and back through the village of Upwey. There is a charming little pub called The Old Ship Inn at the top of Elwell Street where you can celebrate your achievement with a pint of real ale and a heart warming pub lunch (www.theoldshipupwey). Alternatively, you could head back into the village to the Upwey Wishing Well for a delicious cream tea.

You can take your four-legged companions on this walk but we would suggest that you keep your dogs on a lead if there is any livestock in the fields en route – the local farmers don't take to kindly to over excited dogs upsetting their animals.

This walk is not appropriate for pushchairs or wheelchairs as access to most of the fields are via stiles and the fields can become rather muddy depending on the time of year. There are a few hills to walk up but nothing too strenuous.

The Route

- 1) Walk down to the bottom of the drive and take a left along Church Street. Go straight forward when you get to the Wishing Well, not up the steep road which is on your right-hand side but straight ahead.
- 2) Carry on past the 13th Century St Laurence Church onto the unpaved track. Go over the stile and walk along the bottom of a field, cross the little bridge and continue onto the path crossing another little bridge. Go over the stile and up the driveway to the road. Turn right, carry on down the road until you get to the bottom. Opposite you will see a gate for Bayard Dairy, cross the road and go through the smaller gate to the left.
- 3) Walk up to another gate and this will take you into the open field. Walk straight up this field and you will see a gate at the top, aim for right of the gate. Once you get there you will see a dry valley, walk along this, continue through the dry wall staying near the middle of the valley. You will see a few little trees to the left-hand side. Once you get to the other side there is a gate on the left-hand side. This will take you to a track. This is sign posted to Bincombe and Hardys Monument. You need to take a right and follow the track to Bincombe. The views from here are glorious. You can see the market town of Dorchester to your left and on a clear day Portland and the sea to your right.
- 4) Go over the bridge which runs over the new Weymouth relief road. Turn right once you get to the other side of the bridge then go left through the wider gate and walk along the fence line going up the hill. Once you get to the end of the field there is a gate on the left-hand side, walk through the next field to another gate.
- 5) Past the gate you join a country road (always walk towards the traffic when there aren't any pavements). Go right and walk down to the junction and turn right again onto a track. Continue along the track until you get to another lane. Turn right and follow the lane all the way down towards the bridge. Continue forward under the bridge and you have arrived at Ridgeway. When you get to the bend in the road where it joins Dorchester Road you will see Elwell Street. Just to your right is the Ship Inn Pub, continue down Elwell Street until you get to the bottom and you will see the entrance to Upwey House straight ahead of you.