

Stowey walking

Nether Stowey, Over Stowey and the Quantock Hills



Length: Approx 3.3 miles or 5.3 km. About 1.5 hours

Maps: OS Explorer 140 Quantock Hills & Bridgwater & OS Landranger 181 Minehead and Brendon Hills area also Around and About The Quantock Hills, The Yellow Walk Maps

Refreshments: Pubs in Nether Stowey and Keenthorne, Cafes in Nether Stowey.

Public Toilets: Library car park, Nether Stowey.

Public Transport: One bus a day from Bridgwater and Minehead stopping in Castle Street, Nether Stowey, also occasional buses to Taunton.

Start and parking: Library car park in Castle Street, Nether Stowey. GR: ST190395

Around & About Nether Stowey



Lime Street, Nether Stowey

Description:

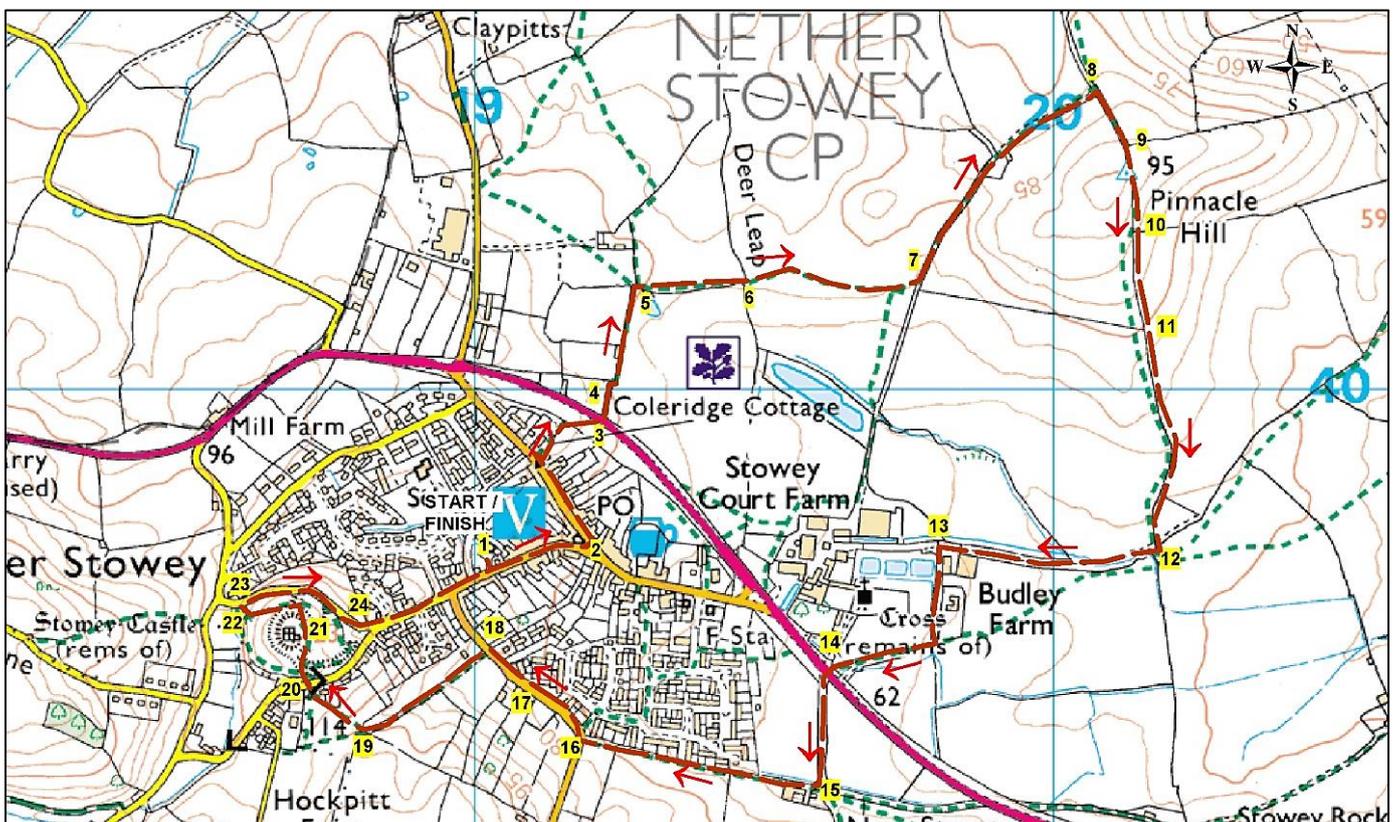
Starting from the centre of the village, this route makes a complete circuit of Nether Stowey with views over the village and the surrounding countryside and coast across to South Wales. Ascents and descents are fairly gentle and the going underfoot generally good although some parts can be muddy in wet weather. These are noted in the text. The walk as a whole is unsuitable for wheelchairs but there are sections where buggies could be used in dry weather. The main A39 is crossed twice and great care needs to be taken with this busy road.

Grade - Easy

Directions:

1. Leave the car park and turn left down Castle Street.
2. In the centre of the village, The Cross, turn left up Lime Street.
3. Just past Coleridge Cottage turn right up slope past the Village Hall. Go through a wooden kissing gate onto the grass verge of the busy A39.
4. Bear diagonally right to cross the road opposite the 'Cricketer Farm' sign and marked footpath. **Extreme care** needs to be taken here.

5. Enter field by stile and follow hedge on left to field entrance at top.
6. Turn right, ignoring the footpath sign straight ahead, keeping hedge on right to stile in corner of field.
7. Go over stile keeping hedge on left and through a wooden kissing gate onto a gravel farm track.
8. Turn left following track uphill to the 'T' junction at the top.
9. Turn right and continue on track to next junction. You now begin to get views across the Severn Estuary to South Wales, the islands of Steep Holm and Flat Holm and towards Burnham on Sea plus views to the River Parrett and Bridgwater.
10. At a farm gate go through the metal kissing gate and go straight ahead keeping the field boundary on your right.
11. At the next gate go through a second kissing gate and continue downhill. At the bottom of the field go straight ahead passing a small copse on the left.
12. At the next 'T' junction turn right down a farm track. After a few metres Nether Stowey Church tower comes into view ahead of you.
13. After some farm buildings on the left turn left at a crossing of tracks. Go through a farm gate and keep straight ahead passing a large red brick house on the left. Follow the track round to the right until you reach the A39 at the end. (If you wish to visit the church you can take a short detour turning right along the verge and right again down a drive).
14. Carefully cross the A39 and take road opposite to New Stowey Farm.
15. Go right through the metal gate by the farm gate and straight through the farm yard. Go through a second metal gate and follow the footpath alongside the farm keeping the hedge on your right. NB. This area can be very muddy in wet weather and you may need Wellingtons to get through it.



16. Continue to follow path alongside houses to gate onto lane at end.
17. Turn right along South Lane crossing junctions to Banneson Road and Wilson's Close.
18. Shortly after this, after Highbeer Close, take marked footpath on left through kissing gate and follow it to the end.
19. Go diagonally right and slightly uphill across field to iron kissing gate.
20. Go through gate into a small parking area and cross road. Between Mount Cottage and a farm gate go through a metal kissing gate onto the remains of Nether Stowey Castle. There is an information board that explains the history of the castle.
21. As you approach the castle mount there is a footpath to the right at the base of the mount. (Alternatively you can take the path heading up the mount to the right. From the top there are excellent views of the Mendip Hills, Burnham on Sea, and Brean Down and South Wales).
22. Follow the path round the base of the mount anti-clockwise until you are halfway round. There is a track going steeply down between the last bungalow and the pine trees.
23. Go through a metal kissing gate and down some steps into Butcher's Lane.
24. Go right up the lane and down the other side to join Castle Hill.
25. Turn left down Castle Hill continuing down Castle Street, crossing Channel Close and Mount Road, back to car park.



View of The Quantocks with Nether Stowey in the foreground

The details of this walk were correct at the time of publication but may be subject to minor changes particularly when walking over farmland. Footpaths may be subject to diversion, please follow local signs on the ground. If you have any problems or feel the directions could be clearer please contact Stowey Walking via our website: stoweywalking.co.uk