



Stoweywalking

Nether Stowey, Over Stowey and the Quantock Hills

Length: 5.25 Miles or 8.4 kms. Two and a half hours.

Ordnance Survey maps: Explorer 140 Quantock Hills & Bridgwater & Landranger 181 Minehead and Brendon Hills area.

Refreshments: Pubs in Nether Stowey and Keenthorpe, Cafes in Nether Stowey, Inwood Farm & Mill Farm.

Public Toilets: Library car park, Nether Stowey

Public Transport: Regular buses 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

Nether Stowey and Fiddington



St Martin's Church, Fiddington

Description: A circular walk through pastureland and country lanes to the tranquil village of Fiddington. Grade - Easy

If walking from Mill Farm to Nether Stowey start at the big green & yellow sign post at the centre of the campsite, see point 9.

Directions:

1. Go right out of car park and then first left into South Lane. Cross Banneson Road and continue to sharp right-hand bend and take footpath on left at back of houses and follow to New Stowey Farm.

2. At New Stowey Farm turn right on to metalled track (old A 39) and continue to allotments on left. Go up wooden steps to verge of A39.

3. Cross main A39 road taking great care as traffic can be moving very fast at this point.

4. Walk to the right on the verge to the finger post. Follow the old road to 'Inwood Workshop' on the left.

5. Turn left before Stowey Rocks Cottages down Inwood Lane and onto the concrete road leading to Inwood Farm Business Park.

[To stop for refreshments at Paisley's Farm Shop and Café continue down the concrete drive.]

6. At end of road, at the entrance to the business units, follow footpath sign up bank to the right, across a concrete bridge and then left following the culvert. Enter large field and walk directly across field toward the left hand side of the barns on the horizon. At the next field boundary cross the stile in the middle of the hedge and then bear right towards the right hand side of the barns at Whitnell Farm.

7. At the right hand corner of the barns walk diagonally across the corner of the field towards the steep steps into Whitnell Lane. **Beware steps are steep and could be greasy in wet weather.** Turn left into Whitnell Lane and continue down the hill.

8. At the bend in the road continue along Whitnell Lane for ½ mile.

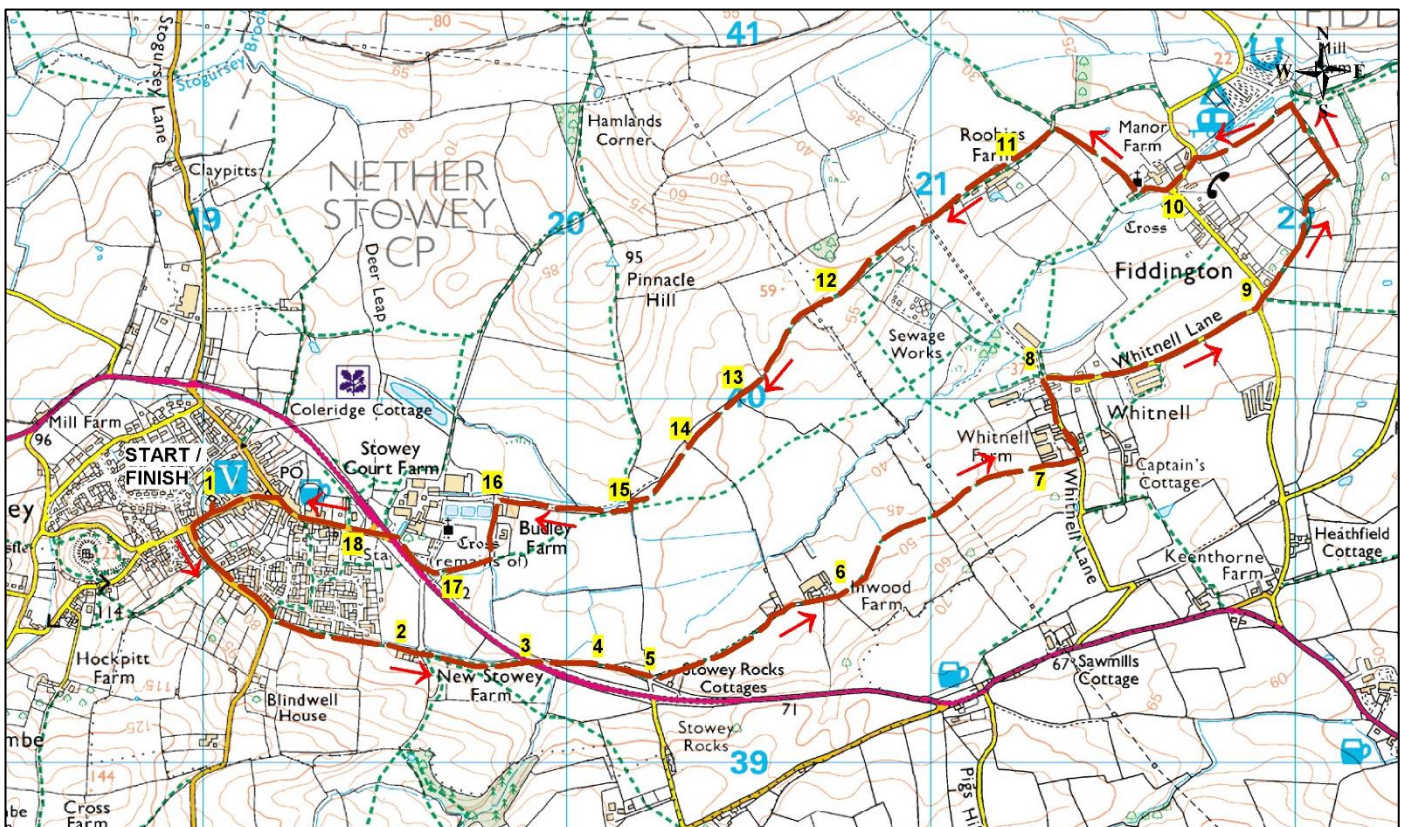
9. At end of Whitnell Lane cross road, go left, ignore first footpath sign, turn right up beside house and over waymarked stile next to the private entranceway. Continue through a gate onto new road into Mill Farm across the stream, to centre of the site. Note: dogs must be on leads once on the camp site.

[Why not stop at the shop and Fish and Chip shop for some refreshments?]

At the large yellow sign post in front of the reception follow the tarmac driveway marked Private Road with the mill-stream on your left, to the gates and wooden kissing gate at the end.

At the road turn left. At the 'T' junction turn right sign-posted Village Hall and Fiddington Church.

10. Go through small church gate and keeping to the left, leave the churchyard by the exit in the back left hand corner. Follow path across corner of field and keeping the hedge on your left continue until you meet the hard road.



Note: There is a sheela-na-gig in the external south wall of St Martin's, Fiddington. A sheela-na-gig is a stone carving of a naked woman (with exaggerated genitalia) usually found on religious buildings from the Romanesque period. It is believed to be a survivor of the Celtic pagan beliefs incorporated into new Christian churches, probably associated with fertility.

11. Turn left and continue on this track through Roobies Farm heading towards Nether Stowey.
12. Continue on this track in the same direction until you come to a wide gateway on your left. To your right is a metal gate taking you to the right of another hedge. Go through this and continue on down the hedge-line, passing under a pylon, until you come to a metal gate on your left.
13. Go through gate and continue on down, now with the hedge on your right.
14. Cross the bridge over the ditch at the end of the field. Keeping to the same direction continue with the hedge on your right, through two fields.
15. At the bottom of the field turn to the right at a way-marked sign-post and immediately left up a farm track.
16. Pass some barns and turn left following the concrete road through a metal Bristol gate past Budley Farm house. The track bends to the right with Nether Stowey Church set back to the right.
17. At the main A39 road cross the road taking extreme care.
18. Follow the road into the village turning left into the village. On the opposite side of the A39 road is Stowey Court with its 18th century gazebo. Go up St Mary Street to The Cross and take the left fork into Castle Street back to the car park.

*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***