

## Dulverton and Court Down

This walk starts from our cottage on the Northmoor Road, Buchan Cottage, but if you are staying in our barn in Exford or elsewhere, it is easier to park in the parking area by [Marsh Bridge SS908290](#) and pick up the walk there, then Dulverton village is rather well placed for a refreshment stop!

Time 1hr 30min

Distance 3.4 miles, 5.46 km

Total ascent 155m

Easy to Moderate, 1 moderate steady climb up from Dulverton.

### Particular points of interest

**All Saints Church, Dulverton** – large c1500 church extensively rebuilt in 1855 in Perpendicular style. Noteable modern Oak rood screen, in traditional style.

**Marsh Bridge** listed Grade 11, two of the original four arches were demolished in 1866 and later replaced with the ornate painted steel section in 1979.

Cute adjacent packhorse bridge over a gully, the low parapet allowing ponies' panniers to overhang.



- 1) Turn Left out of Buchan Cottage gate, 19, Northmoor Road, and left again at the crossroads at the top of Dulverton High Street to start with a visit to All Saints church and churchyard, this is full of colourful bulbs and snowdrops in the Spring, with several benches to sit on and enjoy the peaceful views, many mature trees and abundant birdlife. Dogs welcome but please clean up . (and be aware the drop off to Lady Street at the bottom.....my dodderly old terrier took a tumble here!)

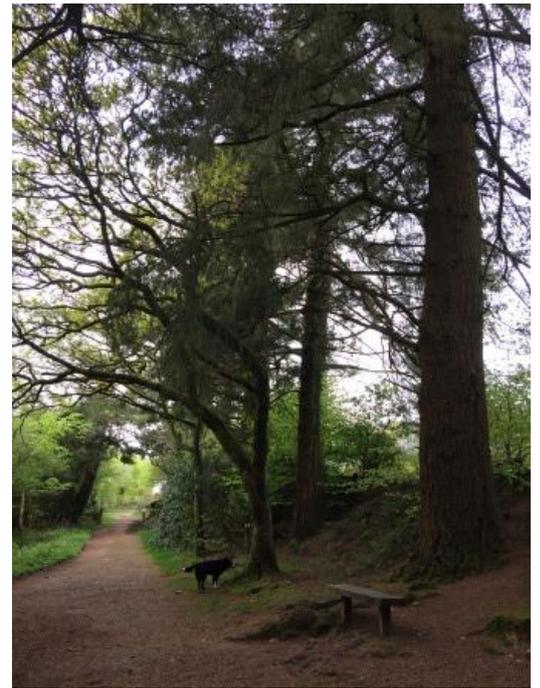


2) Head uphill with the church on your Left along an ancient narrow twitten, with views of the allotments below and to your right, passing the old school at the top, high above the church.

3) Turn left signposted Broford with a purple arrow and walk along this ancient byway for approx. 1 mile.

A signpost on the left for Northmoor road leads you down a zigzag path back to Buchan Cottage for a short walk, but we continue straight on.

4) The landscape opens into fields on both sides, and just after a bench on your right, before the lane enters a field through a gate, you turn sharp left and descend steeply through woodland.



Near the bottom of the track, ignore this path branching left.

5) Take care as you cross the lane to “Marsh Bridge” and the River Barle.

*However, as you can see from the map, there is a footpath slightly further along leading to the right and up onto the triangulation point at Court Down(316), this is a great place to picnic and enjoy the view and many extensions and deviations are possible.....the loop past Halscombe cottage through Broford Farm and Higher Broford, is particularly rewarding , taking in a length of the Exe Valley Way with fine views into both valleys of the Exe and the Barle.*



6) Walk across the small packhorse bridge at **Marsh Bridge SS908290** and you can dabble about in the river for a while before crossing the iron road bridge.

*Our route ignores the path that follows the Barle to the right but this section of the Exe Valley way towards Hawkridge and Withypool has some great swimming holes on a hot day....a detour up and back could take in the pub and ancient Clapper Bridge at Tarr Steps.(a great day walk)*



The tea rooms are a welcome sight when they are open, and a couple of 100 metres further up the lane you turn left and through the 2 gates at Kennel farm (signpost fairly hidden in foliage!)



7) Follow the path through Burrige woods with the river Barle down on your left.

8) Bear left when you reach the lane,



and it is an easy stroll back over the bridge to Dulverton.



Leading neatly past the Bridge Inn where a very fine pint of Exmoor Ale is served! Also good pies.....