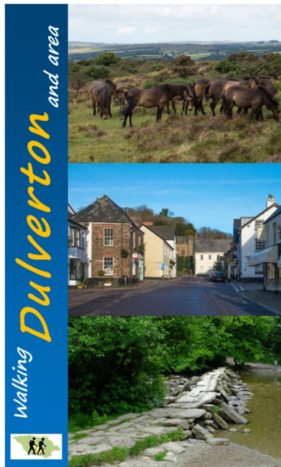




Walking Dulverton and area updates April 2024



These updates are for the March 2021 edition of the book. Updates are cumulative, so there is no need to read more than the latest set.

Maps

Add Croydecycle map 16 Wimbleball and nearby Exe, which covers the following:

- outward half of walk 6
- walk 7 from Winsford onwards
- outward half of walk 8
- walk 14.

Walk 1 around town.

The Exmoor Society office is now between the Copper Kettle and the post office. The National Park Information Centre will relocate at some point during 2024 to the National Park headquarters in Exmoor House. The Heritage Centre, in the rear of the building, is unaffected.

Walk 3 Hawkrigge and the River Barle.

An 'intermediate' alternative walk can be done that misses out Hawkrigge, but follows a pretty moorland and woodland path down to Danes Brook and continues to its confluence with the River Barle (8.5 miles, ascents and descents of 430 metres). The instructions are as follows:

Follow the main walk to the 1hr30min point ([5]). Turn right here through a gate on a signposted bridleway, following the path downhill. After a second gate, keep left at a fork with a low signpost. Descend to a pedestrian gate and continue downhill through oak woods to Danes Brook. Cross the footbridge, and keep ahead; ignore a crossing path and a path to the left. Continuing through a beech wood, return to Danes Brook and walk beside it until you reach a stone bridge close to its junction with the River Barle. Cross the bridge, rejoining the main walk at the 2hr55min point ([8]) to return to Dulverton.

Walks 3 and 4 refreshments.

Hinam Farm tea room is now permanently closed.

Walk 6 Winsford.

Not an update, but an alternative route between Copleham and West Howetown that is slightly longer, but less steep and in my view more interesting.

After turning on to the bridleway (the 2hr15min point, [5]) turn left as signposted opposite a stable, on to another bridleway. Go through a gate and cross an access drive, then head up to another gate. Continue ahead here, bearing left to walk on a ridge high above the river. After the next gate cross some open land and go through a gate to continue along the edge of a wood. A gate leads out on the left. Follow the fenceline around a bend. After two more gates, bear left on a mown path that will take you down to Edbrooke, where there is a packhorse bridge (no access). Continue ahead through further gates, noting an old quarry on your right. After an enclosed section the path comes out into the open. Keep to the left-hand edge of the field, soon meeting a concrete track and turning left through a vehicle gate. This brings you into West Howetown where you can continue on the main route into Winsford.

Walks 6, 12 and 13 refreshments.

The Bridge Cottage Tea Garden in Winsford is now permanently closed.

Walk 9 Dulverton to Bampton.

From the top of page 42 a clearer description is:

... parallel with a smaller set of power lines. After a kissing gate continue ahead alongside a beech hedgerow. Turn left at a crossing path signposted Exe Valley Way (1hr50mins, [5]), soon bearing right through a gap and crossing the field diagonally. In the next field Bampton comes into view; head diagonally towards it. After a gate, frequent marker posts emphasise your route along the left-hand field edge. At the bottom go through a kissing gate and over two stiles in quick succession. Join a track, look out for some tall conifers and follow the path up through them, then go over a stile on the right and along the left-hand edge of the field. Go through a gate, downhill on a driveway, then turn left on a narrow lane (2hr5mins, [6]). ...

Walk 10 Brushford and Chilcott.

For the shorter walk, page 46: after passing the garden hedge walk just to the right of a large spreading oak. Continue upwards towards the right-hand corner of the two enclosed barns, where you will find the gate on to the road.

There is a small café in the Carnarvon Stores in Brushford.

Walk 11 East and West Anstey.

The bridge and steps west of Streamcombe have now been repaired.

Shortly after the bridge, the route described in the book is not an official right of way (although I have always used it without any problems and it takes you further away from Bere Farm). The official route is as follows:

... with the field edge now on your left. Don't bear right with the field boundary but go over a stile and through a pedestrian gate, fork right, keep left of some standing stones, then follow the path ahead as signposted to take you around Bere farmhouse. Come to an old trackway under tall trees, with farm buildings ahead of you. Turn right and go through two gates in fairly quick succession. Ignore the first gate on the left, continuing alongside the hedge to a second gate (this is the 55min point, [3]).

If you have any further updates to report, please contact editor@exmoorwalker.uk