

THE MENDIP RING. Leg 1b

Walton Hill to Butleigh. 6 Miles.

Start from the car park at on top of Walton Hill Grid Ref. ST446530

1. From the car park on Walton hill go through the kissing gate and walk along the ridge. The route from here through to Great Breach wood follows the Polden Way (PW) which is well marked with blue signs.
Keep to the ridge with fine views on your right. When you come to the kissing gate cross the road and keep to the main track eventually passing the Youth Hostel. Take the right hand path at the fork. You will walk out of the woods onto an open grassy area by the side of the road. Walk down to the cross roads.
2. Cross over and take the kissing gate opposite to climb Collard Hill. This is National Trust land so you are free to walk wherever you wish. There is a track that keeps high and a public right of way a little lower these eventually come together at ST489340. You will come to pair of kissing gates either side of the road. At ST 494339 Cross the road and follow the track up to the Hood Monument.
3. Exit the monument on the PW you will then pass through a kissing gate and follow a gravel track to a stile. Here you are again on open grass land walking along a ridge. Continue following the PW along tracks through the woods to the view point that affords a fine view of Compton Dundon ST500330
4. Retrace your steps a few yards and take the right hand fork and again follow the blue PW signs. You will eventually come to a kissing gate with step steps down hill. Go down the steps, over the bridge and up the steps at the other side. Continue to follow the blue signs of the PW You will pass Gilling Down and New Hill and Tanner. Go through a kissing gate marked PW into the woods and take the right hand track. You will come to a clearing in the woods take the left hand track and left again at the marker. Turn right and immediately turn left and you will see a marble monument at ST500 317
5. Turn right at the end of the track and then right again and cross the track into Great Breach Nature Reserve. Follow the track out of the woods and across a field. At the end of the field turn left towards farm buildings and pas the reservoir which is marked on the map. Follow the track through the farm and on to the road. Cross the road and go over the stile and head for the white gate. Cross the road and follow the sign to Higher Hill Farm and walk down to Butleigh Cross.
6. Turn left at the cross and take the right hand fork in the road. Take the stile on the left marked King Western Road Walk. Turn right and walk through the field towards the houses at the bottom. Cross the stile and walk between a fence and a hedge to another stile. Go through the garden and onto the road. Turn left and walk down to assign on your right marked High Street. Follow this road to the Post office.

