

The Four Bridges Walk



This walk starts in the village of Horrabridge between Yelverton and Tavistock on the A386.

The walk will take you up on to Roborough Down and then underneath the viaduct seen in the top photo. You will then walk through the Walkham valley to go under Gem bridge built in 2012 and carries route 27 cycle track. Then staying in the valley to walk the river bank to go over Grenofen bridge. Then climbing out of the valley and going through a long since disused railway tunnel and past mine workings you return to Horrabridge and walk back over the bridge in the middle of the village.

Wherever you have parked in Horrbridge walk back up towards the church fork left into Station Road and with the church on your left walk up to the A386. Cross over into Old Station Road and walk to the top of the road.



This is also a bus stop walk that stops at Drake's café . (The Three Bridges Walk.) This walk continues to Horrbridge to see all four bridges.



Go through the little gate and



..cross over the road and up the track perhaps pausing to read the information board all about Horrbridge.

Keep following the track with the hedge/stone wall on your right until it makes a sharp right turn.....



...then when it does look to the horizon and follow the sheep tracks that aim for Brent Tor Church .



Then follow the path that takes you steeply down to the valley floor and start to follow the stream down hill



Keep to the left of the stream to go under the viaduct

Magpie Viaduct on the Tavistock branch of the South Devon railway.

Opened 22/06/1859, closed 31/12/1962. The original viaduct was built of granite and timber in 1859 to a design by Brunel. Rebuilt in 1902 in Staffordshire brick. The viaduct is 197.5m long and about 19m high.



Then follow the well used track through the woodland and turn left when you arrive a wide track that starts at the car park on your right



If you look towards the carpark you will see the spoil heaps of Wheel Franco copper mine. There was also a brickworks and you will see yellow clay in the path as you walk along.



Take the right hand fork

Then a bit further on keep left as the right fork ends up in the river.



Gem Bridge was officially opened on 22nd May 2012, costing £2.1M The previous iron girder bridge was demolished in the 1960's. It was named after Little Gem mine which is on your left as you start to walk along by the river.



If you want to go up on to the top of the bridge there is an access path up behind the gate

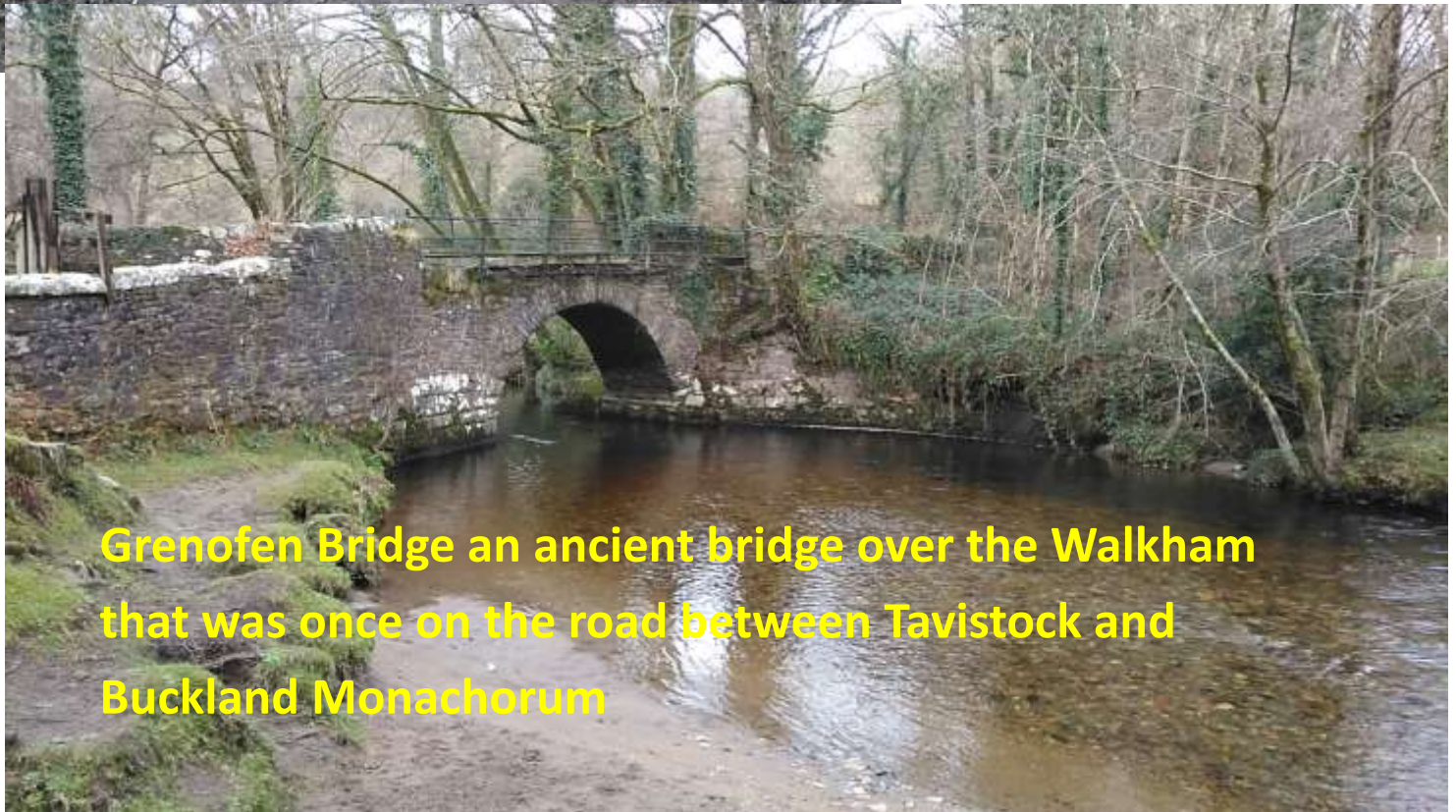


Having gone under Gem Bridge walk on down to the river edge and follow the path next to the river all the way to Grenofen.

The path is rocky and very rooty and washed out so take care.



Walk past the muddy car park and over the bridge.



Grenofen Bridge an ancient bridge over the Walkham that was once on the road between Tavistock and Buckland Monachorum



Walk up the lane but only as far as you can see.

Turn right and go through this gate



Along the fenced in path



Through the gate and steeply up through the wood



When you reach the cycle track turn left



Grenofen Tunnel designed and built by Isambard K Brunel in 1859

Keep on the right through the tunnel. You may need an umbrella and keep a look out for cyclists.



Just the other side of the tunnel turn right and walk up to Drake's Café on the A386.

Walk around to the other side of the café building.





Go down the gated road behind the café.....

....and turn right to walk up Whitchurch Road for about 100m....



...and opposite Branson Park fork left to walk up Fullamoor lane for slightly over a mile.

A footpath crosses the road and here turn right and go over the stile into a field.





Walk next to the hedge on your left all the way to the farm.



Go through the gate and then leave the farm by going over the ladder stile



Go through the wood and over another stile

then over a stream and yet another stile

and then turn left to walk up the driveway

When you reach the slate fronted Old Mine House keep right....



...to stay on the track.



On reaching the field stay on the right and at the top of the field go through the opening...



...over the stream and immediately left up a fenced in path and over a stile.





Follow the well used path through the wood and all the mine workings...

...past a building and lots of spoil heaps in the wood on your right.



Turn right when you reach this gate...



...and walk on down hill passing this huge spoil heap on your right.





Go through this gate



and then this one



Then when you reach this junction turn left

...to walk behind Grimstone Manor.

When you have gone past the house



...fork left and walk along the access driveway.





About 50m before the drive meets the road turn right through the gate .

Through the parkland.



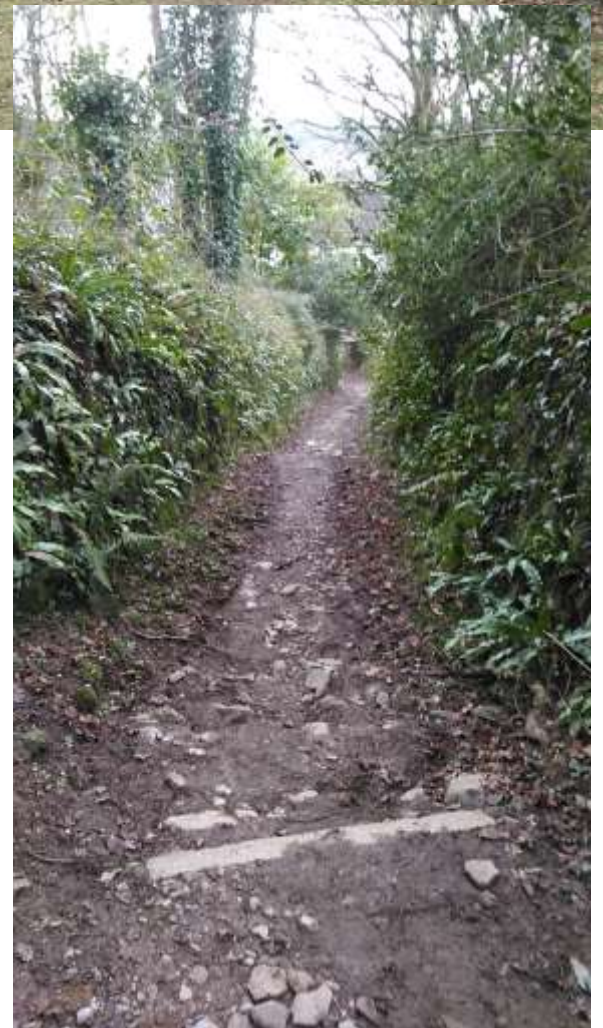
Across a track in the parkland

When you reach this gate go straight across the track and through the next gate





You are following a well used footpath that takes you down through the fields and gates and along a sunken path that come out in....



...the car park of the Leaping Salmon.

Go out to the road and turn left.





Horrabridge bridge a 14th century grade 1 listed bridge



Cross over the bridge and walk back to your car.