

# Whitchurch

## stone stiles and kissing gates



This 4 mile circular walk starts in Whitchurch and heads off to Plaster Down via Middlemoor passing through 6 kissing gates on the way and over 3 granite stiles on the way back.



**With the Whitchurch Inn on your left walk up the road and turn right to go through the kissing gate opposite the church.**

**At the end of the path go through the next kissing gate and stay on the path for another 100m or so.**



**The path becomes a road**

**Go straight across at the cross roads then almost immediately fork left to go up a wide track**



**Then within just a few paces up the track you will see this kissing gate opening in the wall dead ahead which you now go through.**



**Go through another kissing gate and then follow the wall on your left...**



**... to these steps. At the bottom of the steps go left and follow the home made signs .**

**Through a gate**



**Over a shallow stream and up a slope to a wall...**



**.....with stone cantilever steps both sides. The steps on the other side are a bit better**



**Then keeping the hedge close by on the left walk through two fields to meet a road**





Through the gate and turn left then in 50m turn right by a letter box



Follow the drive around a right hand bend....

Then turn left into a small wood



**Go past some oil tanks and through a kissing gate and turn right and go through the gate ahead of you.**



**follow the fence line passing through another gate and then follow the wall on your right to reach some more steps**



**Then repeating what you found half a mile back go along a path over a stream and up a slope to some cantilever steps in the wall**





**Over the wall.....**

**...along a path over a stile and across the road.**



**Go over the ladder stile ....**

**...but be aware of the mud on the other side**





**Keeping the hedge on your left walk along the edge of the field to yet another muddy gateway**



**.....for another gateway into yet another muddy field with a stream and trees on your right**





**Keeping the trees and stream on your right head across the field to this little bridge and stile which takes you into a builders yard**



**Go straight through the yard keeping the tin clad buildings on your right and following the red arrows**



**Go over the ladder stile and out onto Plaster Down**





Having climbed over the ladder stile walk up to the road and go between the white rocks and follow a grassy track with the boundary wall on your right.

When the wall turns right fork left and when the road comes into view turn right and walk parallel with it.



Take the first right turn signposted to Fullamoor and walk down the lane for 1km (0.6miles)

On your right you will see a take-off stone that has been embedded in the wall of the farm.

You can read about it here

[https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results\\_Single.aspx?uid=MDV72079&resourceID=104](https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=MDV72079&resourceID=104)





**In about half a mile turn right and go over a stile into a field. Its easy to miss so keep a look out.**

**Walk down the edge of the field with the hedge on your right all the way to the other side of the field.**



**Go through the pedestrian gate and turn right to walk up a driveway**





**At the end of the drive turn left through another gate and follow the hedge on your right all the way....**

**...to a small stream. Go over the stream through the gate and fork left to go across a field not up the sunken track.**



**Climb the barrier. (Hopefully one day it will be a gate) and fork left to go diagonally across the field.**





To the first of the stone stiles . Keep going in the same direction to the next gate way and another stone stile



Go across the next field .....



To this gateway, then follow the hedge on your right



**To another barrier you have to climb over and through the gate behind it...**



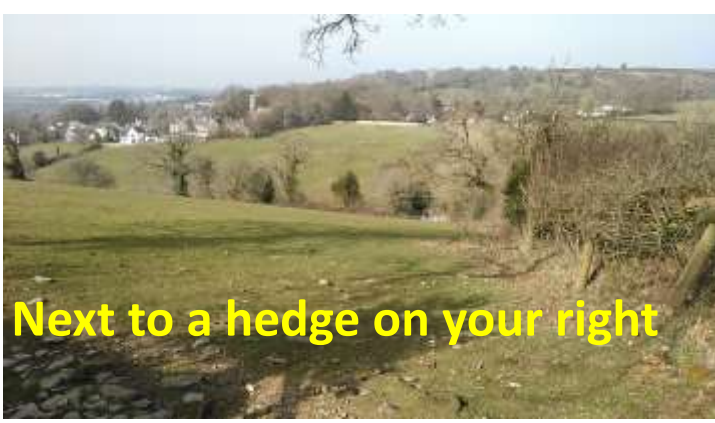
**...to again follow the hedge on your right.**



**Arriving at this gateway go diagonally across the field to the last stone stile**

**Go over the stile and with the hedge on your right walk all the way downhill.....**





**Next to a hedge on your right**



**Through some hurdles**



**Down a track**



**Down a path**



**And finally across a bridge and up the steep slope on the other side heading for the pine tree**



**Which is where the walk started from,  
and back to your car**

Words and pictures by David Simkins .

With thanks to Devon and Dartmoor HER for the historical information.