

Wheal Jewell Reservoir Walk



The walk, which is about 6 miles with no steep hills to climb, starts in Mary Tavy. To reach the start take the A386 from Tavistock towards Okehampton and turn right next to the Mary Tavy Inn. Go down the hill and over the bridge and after you have passed the school on your left find a convenient place to park.

Set off the way you are facing along the road walking away from the school soon arriving at a bridge over the Cholwell Brook.





Go over the bridge and take the next right turn by Brookside cottage to walk up Roundsleys Lane.

Over the bridge and up the field..



...then veer left before you reach the fence line.



Go through the gate just down from the fence line in the top corner of the field.



It's a well used path that can be a bit muddy particularly in January

Over a stone stile

Across a field (ignore the gateway)



Over a wooden stile



Stay by the fence



Then go over another stile

Finally go over the last wall which has stone steps and on to the road. Turn left to go up the lane.





**The
tarmac
road
becomes a
dirt track
that
becomes a
moorland
track**



Go through the right-hand-side gate and on to Kingsett Down and follow the hedge on your right for half a mile, (about 800m) until it makes a sharp right hand turn.



Dead ahead in the far distance you will see a building on the edge of Wheal Jewell reservoir a good place to stop for a coffee.





With the building and reservoir behind you set of down the track and when you reach Zoar turn left to walk along the road



Stay on the road for about 150m and then take the first right turn signposted to Creason that soon becomes an unmade up track.

Stay on this track all the way down hill through gates and passing several houses and a farm finally emerging on a lane just past the Old School House.



Walk on down hill but for only about 50m and then go right through the pedestrian gate and take the steps down to Hill Bridge.



You have now reached Hill Bridge a popular spot for picnics by the river.



We are now going to follow the leat for just over a mile first going over the metal bridge





**Turn right when
the leat goes
under a lane**

**Walk up the lane
and after you have
passed a few
houses keep left...**



**...and then go
left again at the
phone box.**

**Walk down the road for
150m towards the
Elephants nest pub (now
closed) but before you
reach the old pub fork left
along a wet track called
Brimhill Lane.**





When the track bends left go right over a stile. (If you look over the metal gate on your left you will see another small reservoir.)

Cross the field go over a ladder stile and turn left on to a wide track



You are now on a well signposted route that takes you across the fields to Mary Tavy Church. To get there go....



Through a gate



Across a field



Then another



Then another

There are quite a number of stiles and gates some of which can be a bit challenging for dog walkers



Stay next to the hedge to



go over the ladder stile.



Diagonally across the field



to go through this gate



Go past the chimney. This building which is known as a Dry is where the miners dried their clothes and is the only surviving example on Dartmoor.

At this footpath junction go straight ahead over the stile and keep the hedge on your right





The miners track that leads to the Dry



When you reach the barrier go left along the edge of the field to a gateway



Turn right and walk on down the edge of the field to the church

Over the stile and into the church yard. At present this is a very challenging stile for those with short legs !





**Turn left and walk
around the church yard**



**When you reach the
road turn right and
walk back to your car.**



Useful links

Wheal Friendship Mine

https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=MDV4185&resourceID=104

Hill Bridge Leat

https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=MDV26314&resourceID=104

Wheal Jewell

https://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/wm16KY_Wheal_Jewell_Reservoir



Words and pictures by David Simkins
With thanks to the Heritage Gateway and Waymarking.com