

Whitework walk

A walk along Devonport Leat with an excursion
across Foxtor Mire



This high moorland walk starts near Whiteworks an old tin mine high up on the moor but one that you can drive to from Princetown. The 3.5 mile walk follows the leat but you can if you wish extend it by nearly a mile by attempting a crossing of the notorious Foxtor mire.



**Park at this little car park next to a wide track
There is another car parking area a little bit further
on if this one is full**



**Set off along the bridleway on the other side
of the road towards Peat Cott.**



**Keep going towards the farm
passing through a gate on the way**



Go through the next gate passing the Wesleyan chapel on your left.



20m past this second gate turn right through a gate and walk next to Devonport leat. (*You can walk right next to the leat but you have to climb down off the wall.*)



Taking the moorland route you may find it a little drier under-foot if you keep away from the wall. Go through the next gate and keep following the leat.

**Follow the leat wall.
Marvel at the effort
involved in building
it.**



**When you reach a wall blocking your way turn left
and walk down hill to a gate**



**Go through the
gate... (Can be
challenging as it
sometimes floods
around the gate)**

**... and follow the
track towards the
buildings and trees**





Excursion to Foxtor mire starts here. Scroll to the end for instructions

The track becomes a road which you now follow up hill to rejoin the leat where it crosses the road

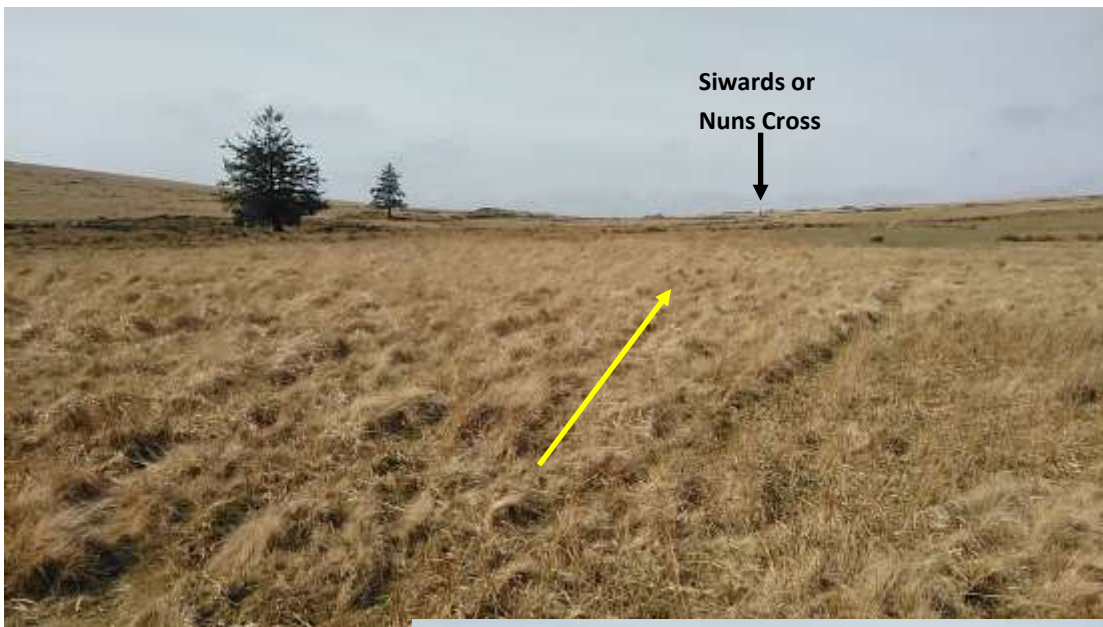
Turn left on to the path by the leat.



As you walk along the path you will be looking over Foxtor mire on your left

A little bit further on from this bridge the leat goes into a tunnel but we turn right and head towards the house and tree.





After passing the house head towards the cross and ...

...walk past it towards the miners spoil heaps



(At this point you can take a short cut back to the car park turning right when you reach the top of the hill.)

Using the sheep tracks walk through the spoil heaps passing a large mound on either the left or right to arrive at the coffee stop tree.





With the coffee stop tree behind you on your right walk on down to see the leat emerge from the tunnel

Instead of walking next to the leat it is easier to take a shortcut so follow the path that goes over the hill on your right ...



and rejoin the leat at a bridge close to this modern memorial cross

Walk on down to the little bridge and turn right to follow the leat. It doesn't matter which side you walk on.





**When you reach
Older Bridge turn
right and walk up
the wide rocky
track.**

**It's nicer underfoot if
you take a route
parallel to the track on
the left**



**Straight across the
junction and back to
your car**

***Or if you took
the shortcut
back from
Siwards Cross
you now turn
right to get
back to your
car.***



Excursion across Foxtor mire

This excursion must only be attempted if it has been dry for at least a week. The first challenge is getting to a bridge so if it is very wet with wobbly bog then you must turn around and try another day. Having managed to get to the bridge it is still going to be wet and as the path is not entirely obvious keep checking behind you so you know how to get back if needs be.

Be prepared to come back but off we go.



First turn left off the main track...

...and follow the walled grassy track





**Ignore the left turn
and keep straight on**

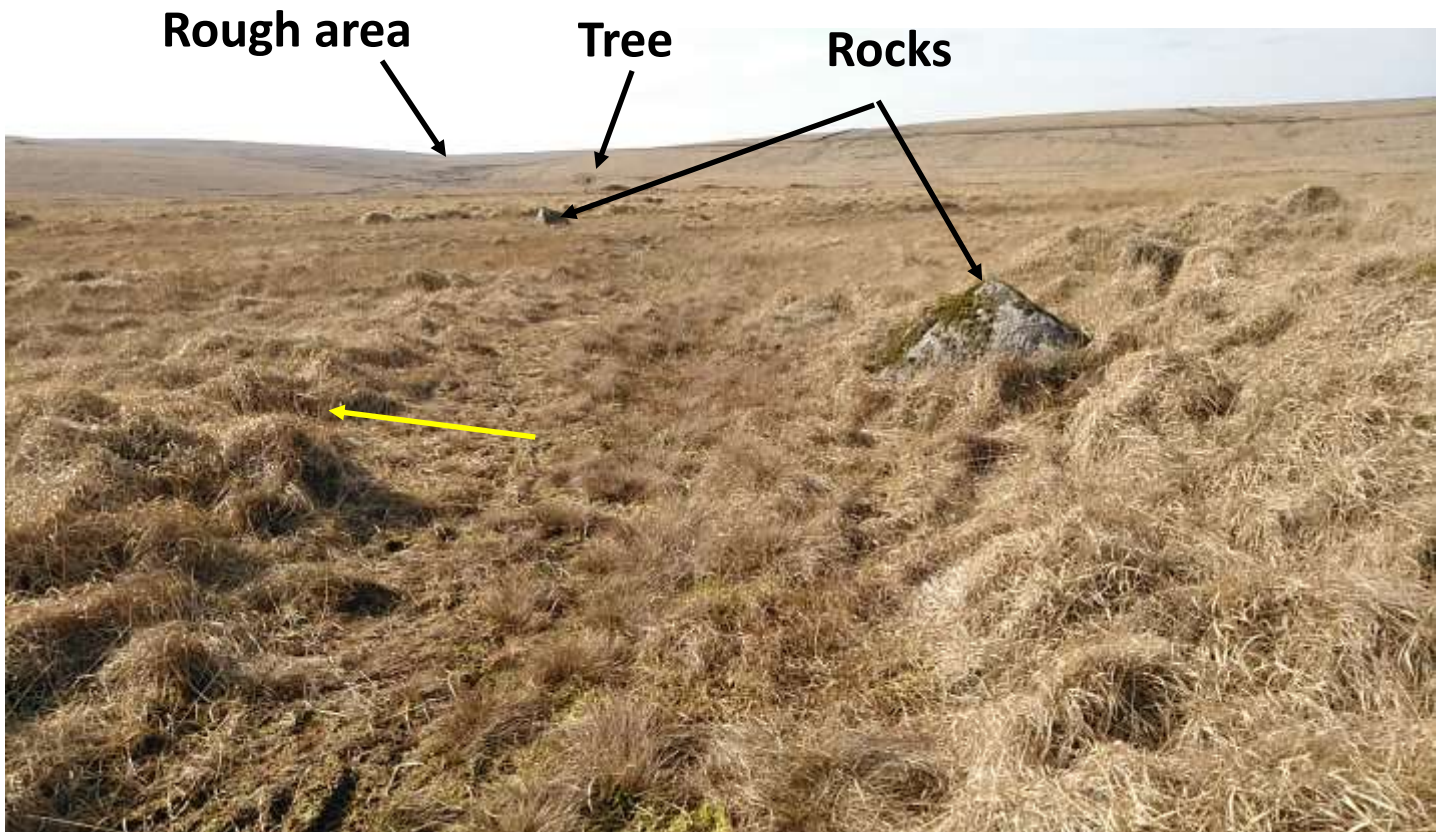
**When the wall on
the right gives out
keep following the
wall on the left**



Rough area on hillside



Veer right slightly when you reach the unenclosed moor and look for the rough area of hillside in the middle distance and head towards it. There is a path that varies between unseen and very obvious. The hardest part is finding the left turn off this path.



When you arrive at this scene turn left onto a narrow sheep track that joins this path at 90 degrees. The arrow in the picture below is pointing at the approximate location of a small wooden plank bridge over a stream which you must walk over. The ground between the rock and the bridge is very soggy so take the driest route you can and find the bridge.





You are aiming to cross this stream which you can jump across but if you do you may not find the right path.

It is essential that you cross over the bridge. Once across look for the spoil heap and follow a path towards it that is not very distinct but nevertheless can generally be seen. Keep to the left of the spoil heap still heading towards the rough area in the middle distance.

Spoil heap



Rough area





If the path becomes indistinct remember to look up to see the rough area

In places the path is really well worn



Rough area



When you see a cross on a rock head towards it but still use a sheep track don't wade through the tussocks





You have now crossed Foxtor Mire. To continue go past the cross and take the shortest route to a wall a few hundred meters ahead



Its very tussocky so use the sheep tracks to get there.

On reaching the wall turn right crossing the stream next to the wall.





Keep the wall on your left until you reach a stream which is easy to cross using the bridge set in the wall. 20m further on go over the ladder stile and stay next to the wall now on your right. Turn left when you reach Devonport Leat and that completes the excursion.

**I hope you enjoyed this short walk and found your way across
Fox Tor mire if you dared to try.**

