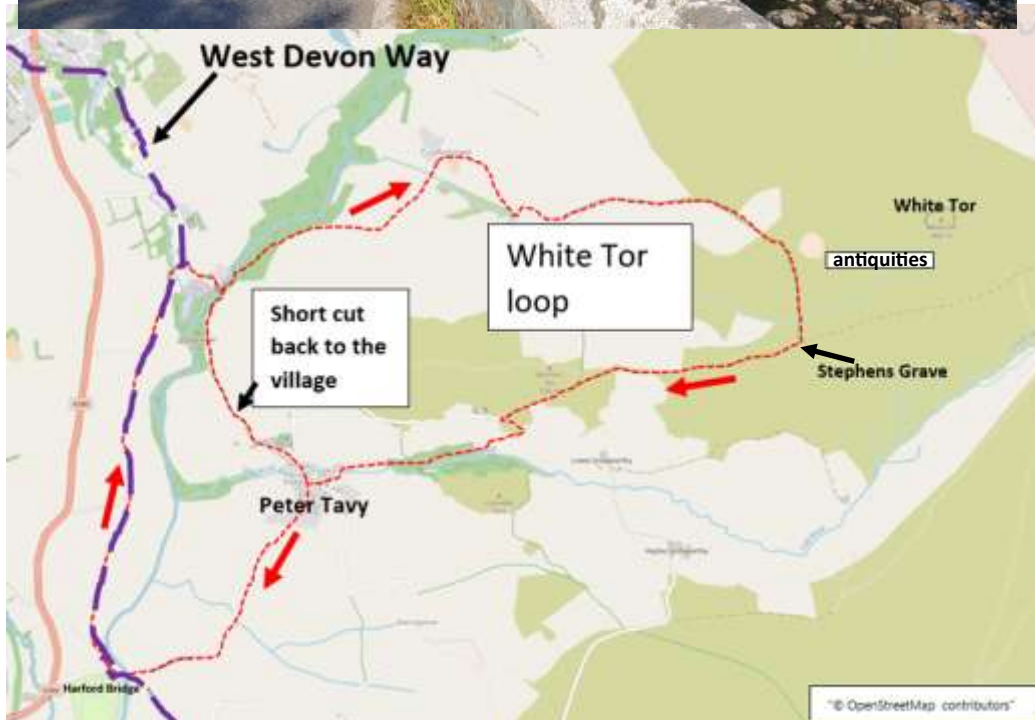


Walking the West Devon Way

Walk 10

Harford Bridge to Mary Tavy



There is not a lot of parking opportunity at Harford Bridge so we are going to start this circular walk from Peter Tavy and walk on down the road to Harford Bridge and the West Devon Way. If you only want to walk the West Devon Way there is a short cut back that is just under 3 miles that will take you right past the Peter Tavy Inn. The longer walk will take you up to White Tor to see the amazing Bronze age settlements cairns and hill fort and is about 6 miles.

Park where you can in the village at the church end. This is not a dog friendly walk as there are ladder stiles.



With the church behind you walk down through the village and out the way you drove in. It's not a busy road and there is pavement along part of it.



Passing Langsford cottages on your right.



Go over Harford Bridge (16th Century) and the River Tavy. You are now back on the West Devon Way.



**Just a few yards on the other side of the bridge
turn right to walk along a driveway.**



**At the end of the driveway go through the gate and fork right. In the
skyline hedgerow there is a ladder stile which is shown by the arrow
in the photo. Go over the ladder stile and follow the path behind.**



**The well defined way marked path will take you
to a field gate. Go through and then keep the
hedge/fence /wall on your left all the way to a
stile. It will take you about 20 mins from here.**



Look to your right as you approach the stile and you will see Mary Tavy Hydro electric power station. It produces over 2000 KW enough to supply 1700 homes in the area with minimal pollution and noise.



Go over the stile and turn right



Go over the bridge and walk on up to a road.



This is where we leave the West Devon Way which goes left to go past the church which is just around the bend.

To continue the walk and return to Peter Tavy turn right and walk on down to a bridge over the river Tavy.



Go over the bridge, but before you do there is a bench on your right overlooking the river which is a good place to stop for a snack. This is where you can decide either to do the full walk to see White Tor or return to the village.





As you come off the bridge immediately on your left is this path through Devon United Mine and is the one you take if you are doing the full 6 mile walk.

If you are wanting to go straight back to the village for the 3 mile walk stay on the wide well used path in front of you and in 15 mins you will be walking past the Peter Tavy Inn. (If you are doing the short walk before you continue have a short excursion into the abandoned Devon United mine workings. Its well worth it.)



For the long walk stay on the well used path going through two gates, passing this hefty piece of iron work some overgrown buildings various leats and a massive open, fortunately fenced in, mine shaft.



When you reach this fork in the path having passed through the second gate keep right.



Go through the gate and keep the hedge on your right. When you reach the road turn left.



Walk on up to this junction and turn right to start a long but gentle ascent up to the edge of the moor.



150m past a sharp bend turn left on to this track and stay on it all the way to the edge of the open moor.



Go through the gate and keep the stone wall on your right.



Soon you will walk through this narrow section at the end of which is the open moor leading up to White Tor.

If you have decided to view the antiquities the first feature you might want to look at is the huge oval enclosure which is 150m in front of you and up the hill a bit. This is Broadmoor Pound Hut Circle settlement with 7 hut circles located inside its walls. Go up the hill a bit more heading towards the top of White tor and you will pass on your right another settlement of at least 10 hut circles. When you reach the top of White Tor go and stand in the middle of the fort and imagine what it would have been like 4000 years ago when people were living here.



When it turns sharply right you will see a small stone in the distance with the path leading straight towards it. This is Stephens Grave and is where we are going. If you are coming down from the top of White tor this is where you want to head for as well. The stone is the grave of a suicide George Stephens believed to have been buried here in 1802 just outside the parish.



When you reach the grave walk down hill.



When you reach the road turn left for about 50m then



...turn right to walk down to a gate and go through it.



On the other side there is no clear path so just head for the large tree at the end of a field boundary on your left.



When you reach it fork left slightly to go through a small pedestrian gate in the hedge line in front of you.



Then follow the path behind the gate which may not be quite so clear of bracken. Stay on the path all the way through the wood.



When you reach this footpath junction go right to follow the finger post pointing to Peter Tavy.



Having passed next to some houses on your right and gone over the bridge turn immediately right and follow the Dartmoor Way signs and path all the way back into the village...



..and back to your car or perhaps a drink in the pub before you go home.