

# Cheddar Walking



## TRAIL TYPE

Walking

## GRADE

Easy

## DISTANCE

3.5 km (approx 2 miles)

## TIME

About 2 hours

## OS MAP

Explorer 141

Landranger 182

## CONTACT

[contact@cheddarwalking.org.uk](mailto:contact@cheddarwalking.org.uk)

## FACILITIES

Passes shops, banks, most of the pubs, cafes and teashops and WCs.

## TERRAIN

Level except for the short steep walk down Water Lane into the Gorge. The walking surface is pavement throughout although some of the footpaths are narrow.

## WHAT TO SEE

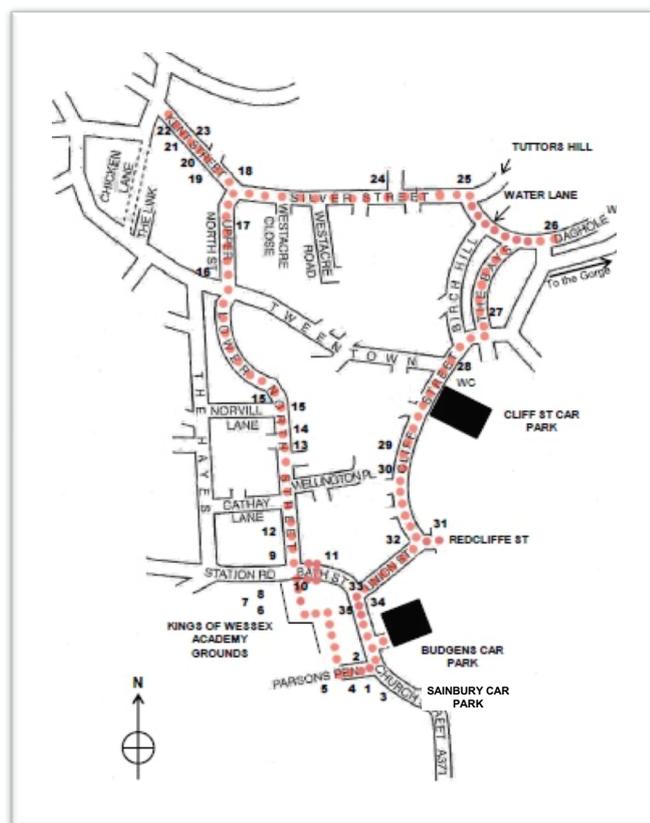
The medieval St Andrew's Church with its spectacular West Mendip Tower, Hanam Manor House, site of the Anglo Saxon palace, Hannah More cottage, the King's Head and 17th century houses, the Gorge from Birch Hill, the mill sites at Daghole and the White Hart, the Bays millpond and the medieval market cross.

# 1. Historic Cheddar Village Walk

This is a circular walk and links the centre of the historic village of Cheddar with Cheddar Gorge. A detailed pamphlet accompanies the walk which provides information on each of 35 numbered sites of historic or special interest.



## Map



# Cheddar Walking



## START/END

The walk can be started from any of the numbered sites on the pamphlet map or at one of the two pay-and-display car parks. OS Grid Ref for Church St car park: ST 460 531

## HOW TO GET THERE

### BY BIKE

The walk is on Cycle Route 26 (the Strawberry Line) and cycle parking can be found outside Tesco and Sainsbury's stores.

### BY BUS

Service 126 Weston-super-Mare to Wells stop at the Market Cross or at Tweentown.

Services are changing so check the latest timetables.

### BY CAR

There are pay-and-display car parks next to Sainsburys in Roynan Way (off Church Street) and in Cliff Street next to the Riverside Inn.

## Directions

St Andrew's Church [1], and Churchyard are worth visiting. Walk around the outside of the Church to see The Church House, Church Farm and the Vicarage [2-4].

From the front of the Church walk left down Parson's Pen [5] to its end, onto the footpath through the wall where it meets the footpath/cycle path around the King's of Wessex Academy playing fields.

Turn right onto the path but watch out for cyclists. As you continue along this path, in the Academy grounds is the site of the Cheddar Saxon/medieval Palace [6] and the ruins of the medieval chapel of St Columbanus [7]. At the end of the footpath turn left onto the Station Road footpath, cross the driveway to the Academy and on your left is the walled medieval Hanam manor house [8].

Cross the road by the pedestrian crossing and turn right towards the Lloyd's Bank Building. You are now walking through the original cattle market area and "green" of Cheddar [9]. Stop at the corner of Lower North Street just before the Bank. Looking ahead is the 18th and 19th century facade of old Cheddar High Street (now Bath Street) including two interesting buildings, the Post Office [10] and the Bath Arms [11]. Feel free to visit these and then retrace your steps to Lower North Street corner.

Turn into Lower North Street and walk up to its intersection with Tweentown. North Street was the major medieval route into Cheddar from the north and west. Along the way are interesting 17th and 18th century houses interspersed with some large Victorian buildings including the Baptist Church [12], Hannah More Cottage and garden [13], the Old National School [14] and the cottages around Norville Lane.

At the top of Lower North Street, cross Tweentown with care and follow Upper North Street. This street becomes increasingly narrow and lined with older cottages. There are also two more churches/chapels [16], [17] reflecting the varied religious background of the village. At the top of Upper North Street is the 17th century King's Head pub [18].

From the King's Head continue straight ahead along Silver Street which was the old approach to the Gorge from the west. The first buildings you pass were part of a bustling hamlet with 18th and 19th century shops and a smithy. After leaving the hamlet, Silver Street originally ran through rich open fields. A



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## WALKING ADVICE

### Please observe the Countryside Code:

- Wear sensible clothing and footwear, and sun or rain protection if needed
- Take a drink or snack if on a longer walk
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and wildlife and take litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Be considerate of other users

If you find any animal in distress please contact the RSPCA help line:  
0300 1234 999

reminder of those days is the 17th century Gardener's Arms [24], once an alehouse.

Continue along Silver Street passing the intersection with Tuttur's Hill Road [25] on your left. Walk a short distance to the end of Silver Street at the right angled bend overlooking the Gorge. A short distance to your right (Birch Hill) there are excellent views.

Silver Street runs into a narrow steep path (Water Lane) down to The Bays below. Walk down and bear left to the 18th century White Hart Inn and the remains of the water powered paper mill and textile factory at Daghole [26].

From the White Hart, walk back past the entrance to Water Lane and along The Bays by the millpond to the bridge over the Cheddar Yeo river. Here the mill pond still feeds through the sluices into the ruins of another water mill used for paper and then clothing manufacture [27]. At the bridge, turn right onto Cliff Street and past the Riverside Inn and Restaurant [28]. Next door on the left is the Cliff Street pay-and-display car park. Continue to walk down Cliff Street which was mostly fields, orchards and farmhouses [29] until the Victorian period when the land was subdivided for residential development and the Methodist church was built [30].

At the junction of Cliff and Redcliffe Streets veer left to walk over Bray's Bridge [31]. The river here was originally negotiated by a ford and later used as a cart washing site. Returning to the road junction, straight ahead of you is a large three-storey house which housed an exclusive school for young ladies in the Victorian period [32].

Continue along Union Street to the busy medieval Market Cross [30], the site of medieval fairs and the stocks. Stop at the bus stop. There are some interesting buildings [34] around the Cross. These include the early 16th century Bath Arms Cottage, two 18th century houses which were part of a 18th century brewing and malting business and the Victorian Literary and Scientific Institute. Veer left into Church Street and on the right is the Victorian Court House [35] replacing a much earlier manorial centre. Continue down Church Street to return to St Andrew's Church or turn left at Royan Way to the pay-and-display car park.



# Cheddar Walking



Cheddar Walking is a voluntary group promoting the wonderful walking to be had in and around Cheddar, Somerset.

Our walks are designed for all types of people from those looking for a short simple walk, through those wanting something a bit more stretching up on to the Mendips or out on to the levels. We also have historic walks, bus walks (bus out, walk back) and walks suitable for buggies and wheelchairs.

We have met the strict criteria that allows us to be a certified member of the national **Walkers are Welcome** association.

We get great ongoing support from several key groups in the area, without which we could not function:

**Mendip Hills AONB**  
Sedgemoor District Council  
Cheddar Parish Council

And we partner with other non-profit groups including the National Trust, Somerset Wildlife Trust, the Mendip Society and Mendip Ramblers.

[www.cheddarwalking.org.uk](http://www.cheddarwalking.org.uk)  
[contact@cheddarwalking.org.uk](mailto:contact@cheddarwalking.org.uk)



If you liked this walk you might be interested in the others we have checked and written up. All of them are downloadable from our website, [www.cheddarwalking.org.uk](http://www.cheddarwalking.org.uk), or pre-printed for a modest cost at the Visitor Information Centre near Cheddar Caves. The full set is:

1. **Historic Cheddar** (2.1 miles) [Grade: Easy]
2. **Middledown** (4.2 miles) [Grade: Moderate, strenuous in places]
3. **Cufic Lane Loop** (1.1 miles) [Grade: Easy]
4. **Strawberry Line** [Bus-Walk] (5.2 miles) [Grade: Moderate]
5. **Gorge Circular** (3.4 miles) [Grade: Hard, strenuous in places]
6. **Black Rock** [Nature Reserves] (2.6 miles) [Grade: Easy/Moderate]
7. **River Yeo Loop** (4.9 miles) [Grade: Moderate]
8. **Reservoir** [wheelchair/buggy friendly] (2.2 miles, or 4 miles to/from village) [Grade: Easy]
9. **West Mendip Way from Wells** [Bus-Walk] (12 miles) [Grade: Moderate, one steep incline]
10. **West Mendip Way from Uphill** [Bus-Walk] (20 miles) [Grade: Hard, Strenuous]  
Can be split in to two separate stages 10a (11 miles) and 10b (8.5 miles)
11. **Four Pubs** (11 miles) [Grade: Hard, strenuous in places]
12. **Quarry Loop** (4 miles) [Grade: Moderate, long continuous climb for first half]
13. **Shute Shelve** (7.5 miles) [Grade: Hard, strenuous in places]
14. **Cheddar Moor Loop** (9.5 miles) [Grade: Easy. One optional steep climb]
15. **Wedmore via Nyland Hill** [Bus-Walk] (6 miles) [Grade: Easy. One optional steep climb]
16. **Strawberry Special (Draycott)** (3 miles) (Grade: Easy)
17. **Labourham Drove Loop** (2 miles) [Grade: Easy]
18. **Blackdown and Burrington Combe** (10 miles) [Grade Moderate to Hard]

**Cheddar has many businesses supporting us and all ensure 'Walkers are Welcome'**

#### Restaurants and cafés

Café Gorge  
Deep Blue Fish & Chips  
Edelweiss  
Holly House Tea Rooms  
Kebab Kitchen  
Lao Thai Restaurant  
Lion Rock Tea Rooms  
Mousehole Café  
Simply Gorgeous Tea Room  
Tucker's Fish & Chips

#### Pubs

Bath Arms  
Gardeners Arms  
Kings Head  
On the Rocks  
Riverside Inn  
White Hart

#### Accommodation and camping

Bradley Cross Farm  
Bucklegrove Holiday Park  
Gorge View Cottage  
Nyland Manor  
Petruith Paddocks  
Velo Loft  
Webbington Farm Holiday Cottages

#### Stores / other

A Special Occasion  
Cheddar Library  
Hansford's Deli and Food Store  
Old Rowlands Gift and Christmas Shop  
Post Office  
The Gorge Outdoors  
Visitor Information Centre