

Cheddar Walking



TRAIL TYPE

Walking / bus

GRADE

Strenuous climbs, some stiles.

DISTANCE

Part a: 11.5 miles

Part b: 8.5 miles

TIME

Part a: 6-7 hours' walking

Part b: 4-5 hours' walking

OS MAP

Explorer: 141

Landranger: 182

CONTACT

contact@cheddarwalking.org.uk

FACILITIES

Shops, toilets and refreshments in Cheddar and Weston-Super-Mare. Wharfside Café in Uphill, Catherine's Inn and The Queen Arms Bleadon. Bleadon Farm Shop/Café. Frankie Howerd Café and also the Webbington in Loxton. Sidcot Arms, Shute Shelve (Nr Winscombe).

TERRAIN

Very varied from woodland, open fields and heathland to steep hills. Open areas especially on top of the Mendips. Can be exposed. Rocky in places. Can be muddy in places when wet. Correct walking attire essential. Due to the walk distance adequate provisions, especially water, required.



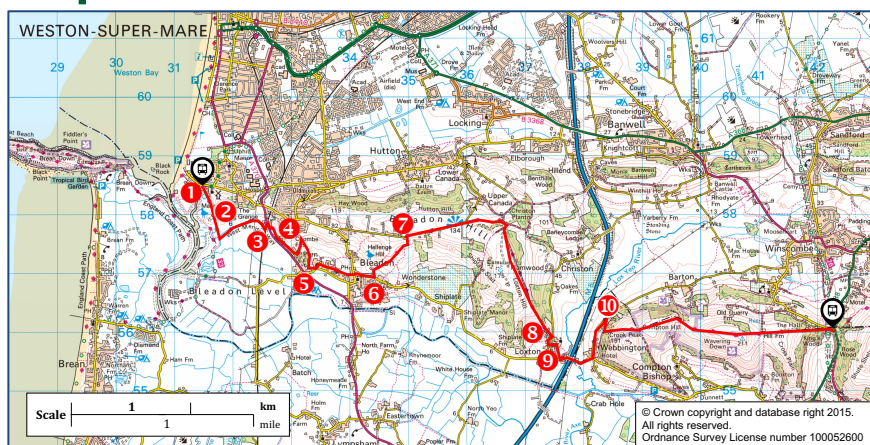
10a. West Mendip Way Weston-Super-Mare (Uphill) to Shute Shelve

A long, varied, sometimes strenuous but rewarding walk along the newly waymarked West Mendip Way (WMW). The walk has been broken into two sections (10a and 10b) at Shute Shelve.



Photo: Mendip Hills AONB

Map



This walk starts in Uphill, a village near Weston-Super-Mare. To start the walk, catch the 126 bus from either the Market Cross or Tweentown bus stops in Cheddar, towards Weston-Super-Mare. Bus times should be checked first, and we recommend bustimes.org which can show you the timetable and has a live map of where the bus is at any time.

Cheddar Walking



WHAT TO SEE

Spectacular 360 views.
Walking through two Avon
Wildlife Reserves offers a
huge variety of wild
flowers and animals
including deer and birds

START/END

Tweentown (ST463537) or
Market Cross (ST459532)
bus stops.

West Mendip Way Start

GPS N 51 16.813'
W 002 46.576'

///grace.latest.hungry

Kings Wood Car Park

GPS N 51 18.046'
W 002 49.873'

///uproot.scanty.daring

HOW TO GET THERE

BY BIKE

From the Strawberry Line
(National Cycle Route 26)

BY BUS

Service 126 Wells towards
Weston-super-Mare,
alighting at Uphill

BY CAR

Pay & display car parks in
Cliff St and Church St,
Cheddar. NT Car Park at
Kings Wood. Limited on-
road parking in Uphill

CREDITS

The West Mendip Way is a
joint project from: Mendip
Hills NL, Rotary Club, the
Mendip Society & Ramblers



Directions

- 1 Get off the bus at the Wharf bus stop at the junction of Uphill Way and Link Road. You are now immediately beside Uphill Boat Yard.
- 2 Follow the brown sign through the boatyard and head for the signposted path to Uphill Hill and Walborough Lake Nature Reserve. The gate ahead at Uphill Hill, marks the start of the West Mendip Way. Follow the blue waymarks along the tarmac path, through several kissing gates until you reach the Wildlife Trust Information boards for Walborough. Immediately after a further gate where a new cycle path starts, follow the WMW-waymarked left turn to follow a grassy track towards Bleadon.
- 3 Follow the track until you reach a lane leading up to the main A370 road. Go up to the main road, turn right, and follow the pavement along the road railway bridge. Shortly after the railway bridge very carefully cross the busy road at a waymarked post (on your side of the road).
- 4 Follow the track opposite along to the right past Coombe Farm and some tennis courts. Near the end of this track, by Coombe Cottage, turn left up hill on a rocky path, then after the woodland finishes, turn sharp right at the gate into the Purn Hill reserve. After the next kissing gate take the left-hand track downhill all the way to Bleadon village.
- 5 Turn left along Purn Way towards Bleadon Farm shop and café. Follow the road around to the right with Weston-Super-Mare croquet club to your right. Bear right at the end, by Westdown Cottage, and shortly afterwards carry straight on along the footpath where the road turns left, towards a kissing gate. Continue out along Rectory Lane, turn left into Coronation Road then right into Shiplate Road.
- 6 Follow the road upwards past houses, taking care as there are no pavements in places. Stay on the higher road and turn left just after Beech Field House (just before bus stop, at waymark post for Loxton) and head left along a tarmac track. At the gates of a property bear right onto Hellenge Hill (Avon Wildlife). At the information board take the right-hand path and where the path later forks take the left path continuing uphill. Continue through a metal gate (cautionary sign for clay pigeon shooting) leave the reserve and continue uphill on a grassy path, over an old stone stile. Head diagonally across the next field, through a metal gate in the fence line and again head diagonally left and up across the field heading for end of the row of houses on the horizon. After you reach the houses follow the path around to the left through the yard to join the main road.

Cheddar Walking



BUS TRAVEL INFORMATION

Visit firstbus.co.uk for the 126 timetables and fares.

Bustimes.org also has timetables and a live map showing the current bus position.

Allow 60 minutes from leaving Cheddar, to getting to the start of the WMW.

WALKING ADVICE

Please observe the Countryside Code.

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

CREDITS

The West Mendip Way is a joint project from:



- 7 Turn right along the road and continue until Hilltop Farm, and where the road bends down to the left take the bridleway to your right. After a while turn right uphill along the track, at the top turning right, way marked Loxton. Follow the track around to the left through a metal farm gate. Avoid the next field but go left, slightly uphill for a short while, and then a long gentle descent.
- 8 After about 1.5 miles the stony track meets a tarmac drive at Barley Firth house, continue downhill to your left. Just after North Lodge take a sharp right turn downhill past the old School house on your left, before coming to a road where you turn left. (There is an option to turn right here for Frankie Howerd's Café, 200 metres")
Turn right down Church Lane towards the 13th century church. The
- 9 footpath continues on the right, opposite to the Church, via a wooden farm gate. Cut diagonally across the field towards a wood with the sound of the M5 beyond. After passing through another farm gate turn right by the small building. At the road take a left to cross the M5 bridge. Follow the road into Compton Bishop (no pavement) until shortly after a post box set in the wall you turn left along Barton Road signposted Winscombe.
- 10 Follow Barton Road (no pavements) for almost a mile before you reach a mobile phone mast on your left and shortly after, turn right at a green area with haphazard boulders. Take the path upwards at this point through the woods on the steeply inclined bridleway waymarked Shute Shelve. Continue up the bridleway until the path flattens and opens out, you can take a path off right for a few hundred yards to the rocky outcrop of Crook Peak and enjoy the views.



Photo: GreenTraveller

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 National Landscape
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
contact@cheddarwalking.org.uk



Back down on the main wide path, continue following the dry-stone wall on your left, over Wavering Down and past the trig point, then bear downhill to the NT Cross Plain and on through NT Kings Wood to a car park. Continue on the WMW across the car park and the adjoining road and take the waymarked path to join the main A38 at the Winscombe Hill bus stop. There is a petrol station shop nearby, if you need drinks or snacks.

This marks the end of the first section of Walk 10.

Your options here are:

- a) Continue with **Walk 10b** (8.5 miles back to Cheddar)
- b) Catch a **126 bus to Cheddar (direction to Wells)** bus stop in lay-by on the opposite side of the road.
- c) Turn right and follow the A38 pavement downhill for a few hundred yards to a central barriered pedestrian reservation, then follow **Cheddar Walking route 4** (at step 4) back to Cheddar along the Strawberry Line path (3 miles, via Axbridge)
- d) For more substantial refreshment, turn left, carry on past the petrol station for 500 yards, to the **Sidcot Arms** (Brewers Fayre / Premier Inn) pub, set back up the hillside on the right – cross over the A38 opposite the pub for best visibility. The 126 bus back to Cheddar also stops here, by the Netherdale camping sign.

