

# Cheddar Walking



## TRAIL TYPE

Walking

## GRADE

Moderate: mostly easy with one gentle but long 220m climb up the Mendip scarp.

## DISTANCE

7 Miles (11 km)

## TIME

3 hours approx.  
(each way)

## OS MAP

Explorer: 141  
Landranger: 182

## CONTACT

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

## FACILITIES

Full facilities in Cheddar with public toilets in car park by Riverside Inn (start/end). In Draycott there is the pub and also a community village store.

## TERRAIN

Mostly level but with one long gradient up the Mendip scarp with a steeper descent. Wear good walking shoes – the route can be muddy in places.

## WHAT TO SEE

Views to Glastonbury Tor, Blackdown Hills and the Bristol channel from the top. Views to the Mendips from the return half on the levels.

## #16. Strawberry Special Bradley Cross and Draycott

A relatively simple walk-through Cheddar and out via the hamlet of Bradley Cross and then gently up along part of the Mendip Way to Draycott Sleights Nature Reserve before dropping down to Draycott village and the Strawberry Special pub. The pub named after the special trains that took famous Cheddar strawberries to London and beyond. The flat route back follows one of the many drives across the levels beside the drainage “rhynes”



# Cheddar Walking



## START/END

**Riverside Inn**

Grid ref. ST 4593 5319

N 51.16.45

W 02.46.25

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## HOW TO GET THERE

### BY BIKE

To Cheddar via  
Strawberry Line (NCR 26)

### BY BUS

Cheddar: #126 service  
Weston-Super-Mare to  
Wells 126 service stop at  
Tweentown.

### BY CAR

Council parking at Cliff  
Street Car Park next door  
to Riverside Pub.

## Directions

Start from the roundabout outside the Riverside Inn in Cliff Street, **1** Cheddar. Walk towards the gorge, over the river bridge and then immediately right and right again down St. Andrews Road, past the Edelweiss, and continue along this winding road of houses for 400m. This road is built over the ornamental grounds of the former 18th century Hall which you pass on your right, followed by a repurposed ornamental bridge between numbers 29 and 31. Continue all the way to the end, cross the road and turn left then immediately right into Penn Road **2**. At the end of Penn Road cut across the end of the green, to continue into Millbourne Road.

At the end of the road go through the gap between the rows of maisonettes and turn left along a track which slopes gently up through trees behind back gardens, to a gate. Continue straight ahead along the edge of the field to where a footpath sign points off to the right. Pop through to the other side of the hedge and carry straight on in the same direction you were going, keeping the hedge on your left. This section can be wet. In 250m go through a gate and head gently uphill across the field, heading left of the small copse of trees, to come to a stone stile and out on to Bradley Cross Lane.

Climb the tarmac road for 50m and at the post box **3**, leave the road and follow the track leading uphill, to the right of the house. Quickly you come to a gate, go through and keep following this stony wide path (the Mendip Way) uphill for ever-improving views across the Cheddar Valley towards Glastonbury Tor and also behind you, across the reservoir and out towards the Bristol Channel. Keep climbing the track, after another gate with a farm building just ahead to your right follow the path around a hillside for approximately 400m climbing to a gate which leads to a rocky path section through woodland. There is also a natural spring close to the path here, so the surface is often wet or muddy. Continue climbing the path through the wood for another 400m to another gate by Carscliff farm, go through and keep following the farm track which is bearing left up the hill ahead of you.

Follow the track for another 400m and come to a metal gate, signed West Mendip Way. After a short while the track turns left, here go right through another metal gate to stay on the West Mendip Way **4** and gently head downhill to another gate 400m across the field into the Draycott Sleights nature reserve. Go through and then continue more steeply downhill for 100m, round to the left through a gate. Continue along the side of the hill with views to your right, after 400m coming to a line of trees which you follow on your right. Carry on along the track to leave the nature reserve and cross over New Road, and then over the stone stile opposite.





# Cheddar Walking



## 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



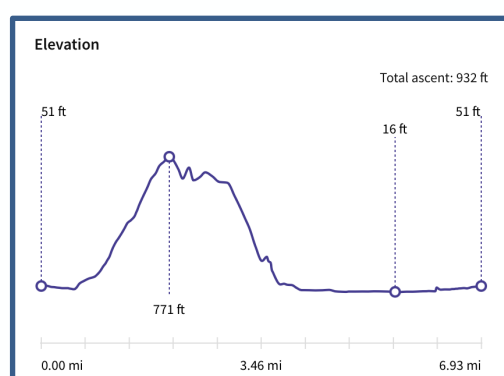
**5** Bear right on path. Climb over a bank and within 100m go over the stile on your right. Continue straight ahead downhill, over another stile by a gate and on to a track (Sun Batch). Follow Sun Batch for 500m down to the junction of Swans Lane on your left, and turn left here, along the lane for 100m to Cucumber Cottage, and follow the path through the stone barriers, which goes downhill on your right. This path forks after 30m, take the left fork, descending behind back gardens to another stone barrier, the path then bends right and takes you quickly out to cross the A371. **6 EXTREME CARE NEEDED HERE!** The path ends at the main road which has no pavements, look both ways and cross over to the path you can see opposite and slightly to your right. Follow this path downhill and into Bay Lane. After 200m turn right into Moor Lane, then after 70m bear left round into Wet Lane, and after a further 70m follow the road round to the right into Station Road. The "Strawberry Special" pub is just ahead on your right. **7**

From the pub, continue in this same direction, passing the old station buildings and turn left downhill into Milking Lane. After 200m this lane bears right into a farm track (Dolemead Lane). After 700m come to a road and turn left, then after 100m turn right into Cheddar Moor Drove. **8**

*Signage may indicate otherwise, but this relates to vehicular access - these droves are in regular use by pedestrians, cyclists, and horse riders. However these are working droves so please ensure that farming activity is not obstructed. Very large farm machinery may appear at any time, and cattle may be driven along, so please stay alert and be prepared to step aside or be helpful if asked. Help us to work with landowners to ensure "walkers are welcome"!*

Follow this drove more or less straight with a couple of kinks, for 1.5km to a junction with farm buildings on your left. Turn right here and continue for 400m to the end, by Petruth Paddocks. Turn left, heading across the road towards the post box. **9** Follow this split cycle/footpath all the way into Cheddar, for about 700m. After passing the school playing fields on your left, take the path on the right signed to Church street which leads out to Parsons Pen, and continue to the end by the church house (village hall). Turn left here, cross over at the zebra crossing, and head down Roynon Way to the supermarket. Turn towards the store front then head towards the covered trolley park, then into the pathway behind, and across the bridge which leads into Felsberg Way. This housing estate is built on the site of old paper mills. Felsberg is a German twin town of Cheddar.

To continue, turn left and follow the road around to the right noticing a small waterfall over the bridge on your left. At the end of the road left into Redcliffe Street. Continue for 100m over the river footbridge and turn right at the main road junction. Cross over and follow this road (Cliff St) up past the Methodist Church for 400m back to the Riverside Inn (take care with narrow pavements in places).



# 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.

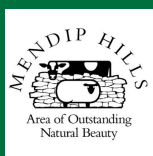
We have met the strict criteria that allows us to be a certified member of the national **Walkers are Welcome** association.

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

Mendip Hills AONB  
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  
Petruth Paddocks  
Webbington Farm Holiday Cottages

## Stores / other

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