



North Devon Ramblers' Dartmoor Way Challenge

The Dartmoor Way is a waymarked 108-mile (173km) circular route which winds its way through the foothills of Dartmoor, passing through the varying landscape surrounding the High Moor. The route explores wooded valleys & sparkling streams, as well as farmland & open moorland. The waymarked route travels along quiet footpaths, bridleways, ancient drove roads & little-used byways, linking the villages & moorland towns that nestle on the edge of Dartmoor. The High Moor Link (22.5 miles/36km) crosses the moor from Tavistock to Buckfastleigh which provides a route across the middle of the moor with far reaching views across Dartmoor & beyond, as well as evidence of ancient settlement & land use.

The revised Dartmoor Way walking route was officially launched in late April 2022 after a delay caused by Covid. Over the Bank Holiday weekend, different Devon Area Ramblers' groups led walks to attract people to walk the route & support the towns & villages along the way. North Devon Ramblers led one from Castle Drogo.

This led to a four-year project by North Devon Ramblers to walk the Dartmoor Way. Using the High Moor Link we have completed a circuit of the northern part of the moor. Most of the stages have been circular routes which have led to some interesting & varied walks.

Walk the Dartmoor Way using the links below to all the routes on OS Maps that we have taken. Click on the link to find details of each walk which you can follow at your leisure:

Dartmoor Way 1 – Castle Drogo to Butterdon Down - c.10.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/11324031/dartmoor-way-from-castle-drogo-v2?lat=50.68990&lon=-3.80595&zoom=12.9029&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way 2 – Chagford to Providence Place & Dogmarsh Bridge – c.10.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/14899182/dartmoor-way-2--chagford-to-providence-place--dogmarsh-bridge?lat=50.68377&lon=-3.86311&zoom=12.6777&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way 3 – South Zeal to Cosdon Hill & Wonson – c.9.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/16255447/dartmoor-way-3--south-zeal-to-wonson-v2?lat=50.71117&lon=-3.93317&zoom=12.0893&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way 4 – South Zeal to Belstone & Cosdon Hill – c.9.5 miles or **South Zeal to Belstone & Higher Tor** – c.10 miles – 2 routes in case the ford is impassable:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/15640882/dartmoor-way-4--south-zeal-to-belstone--cosdon-hill?lat=50.71768&lon=-3.96622&zoom=12.3220&style=Leisure&type=2d>

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/18044396/dartmoor-way-4--south-zeal-to-belstone-and-higher-tor?lat=50.725&lon=-3.93338&zoom=13.5839&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way 5 – Okehampton to Belstone & Cullever Steps – 7.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/17905370/dartmoor-way-5--okehampton-to-belstone-common-and-cullever-steps?lat=50.72641&lon=-4.00468&zoom=12.6173&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way 6 – Okehampton to Meldon & Prewley Waterworks & Granite Way – c. 10.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/17906634/dartmoor-way-6--okehampton-to-meldon-and-prewley-water-works-and-granite-way?lat=50.72021&lon=-4.06696&zoom=11.8052&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way 7 – Mary Tavy to Prewley Waterworks - Linear - c.11 miles. Take the Dartline Bus 118 from Sourton to Mary Tavy:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/20377814/dartmoor-way-7--mary-tavy-to-prewley-moor?lat=50.65790&lon=-4.18503&zoom=10.5159&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way 8 – Mary Tavy to Merrivale – c.10.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/20329488/dartmoor-way-8--mary-tavy-to-merrivale?lat=50.57129&lon=-4.11823&zoom=11.7820&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way 9 – Whitchurch Common to Foggintor Quarries & Merrivale – c.10.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/22892160/dartmoor-way-9-final?lat=50.55205&lon=-4.07262&zoom=13.7816&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way 10 – Princetown to Hexworthy – c.11miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/26582115/dw10--princetown-to-hexworthy-final?lat=50.53542&lon=-3.97246&zoom=12.3571&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way 11 – Dartmeet to New Bridge – c.11 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/26362788/dartmoor-way-11--dartmeet-to-new-bridge-final?lat=50.53717&lon=-3.86983&zoom=12.2626&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way A/C 4 - Buckfastleigh to Holne & New Bridge – c.10.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/27315575/dartmoor-way-ac-4--buckfastleigh-to-holne--new-bridge?lat=50.50751&lon=-3.83152&zoom=11.963&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way A/C 5 - Trendlebere Down to Ashburton Linear – c. 12.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/27689634/dartmoor-way-ac-5--trendlebere-down-to-ashburton?lat=50.56571&lon=-3.80698&zoom=10.8121&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way A/C 3 – Parke to Water via Trendlebere Down & Becky Falls – c.10.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/28122987/dartmoor-way-ac-3--parke-to-water--becky-falls-final?lat=50.60539&lon=-3.74287&zoom=12.6356&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way A/C 2 – North Bovey to Sharpitor & Water – c.9.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/23839611/dartmoor-way-ac-2--north-bovey-to-sharpitor--water?lat=50.62977&lon=-3.78196&zoom=12.4618&style=Leisure&type=2d>

Dartmoor Way A/C 1 – Moretonhampstead to Butterdon & North Bovey – c.8.5 miles:

<https://explore.osmaps.com/route/23481915/dartmoor-way-ac-1--moretonhampstead-to-butterdon--north-bovey?lat=50.66253&lon=-3.80517&zoom=11.9673&style=Leisure&type=2d>

NB All the walks are circular unless otherwise stated. For walks 8 - 10 miles, you need to add about a mile to the OS distance & for walks 10 -12 miles add about 1.5 miles. If you click on the 3D Fly-through link, you can see the terrain that the route traverses. The routes provide approximately 164 miles of walking in total.

Some sections were walked in an anticlockwise direction as we were doing routes suitable for the Winter. This is also why some walks were shorter. Take care that you have enough daylight to do the longer walks & don't attempt the High Moor Link in Winter.

More details can be found in 'Walking the Dartmoor Way' by Sue Viccars. Lots of the places visited along the way also feature in 'Dartmoor 365' by John Hayward which is an exploration of the 365 square miles in Dartmoor National Park and gives some fascinating details.

