

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

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.

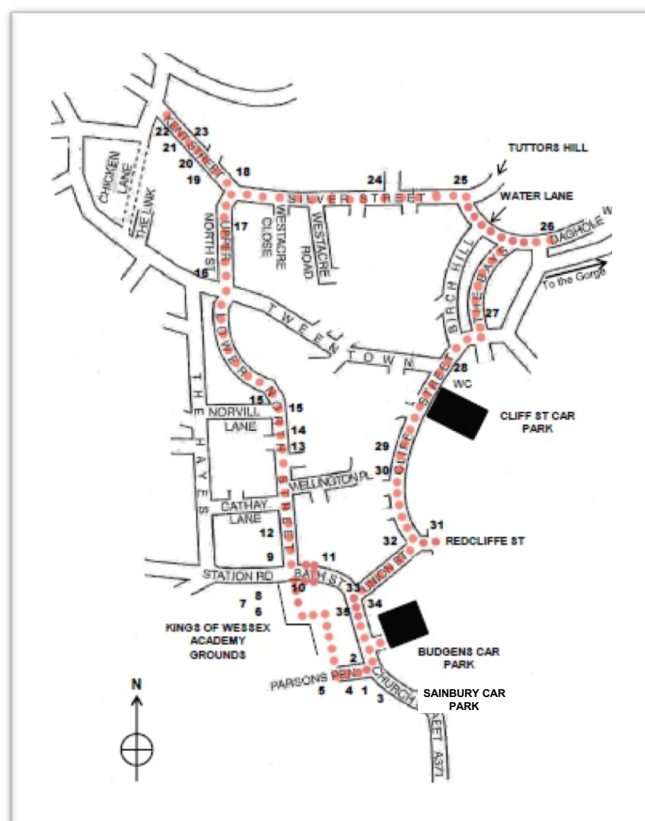


1. Historic Cheddar Village Walk

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

Services 26 and 126 Weston-super-Mare to Wells stop at the Market Cross or at Tweentown.

BY CAR

There are pay-and-display car parks next to Sainsburys in Roynan Way (pff 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 Tutton'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.

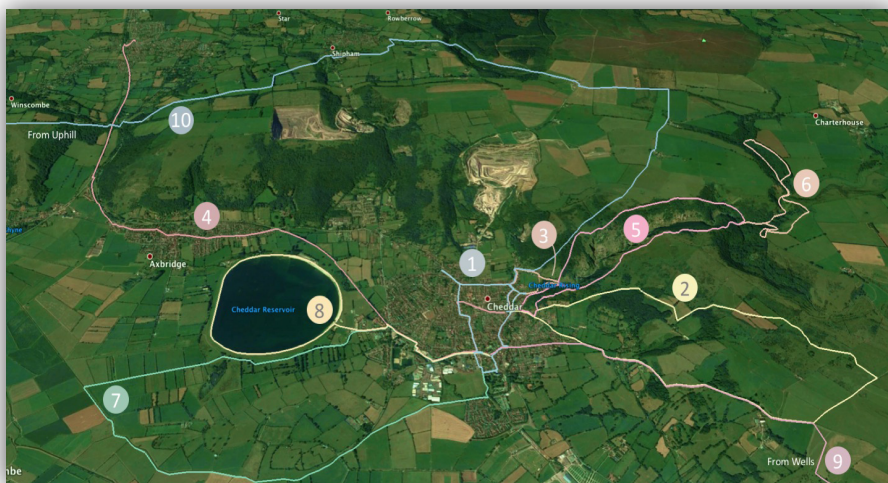
www.cheddarwalking.org.uk
contact@cheddarwalking.org.uk



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, or for a donation as a printed sheet at the National Trust Shop near Cheddar Caves. The full set is:



- 1 – Historic Cheddar Walk (2.1 miles)
- 2 – Middledown (4.2 miles)
- 3 – Cufic Lane Loop Walk (1.1 mile)
- 4 – Strawberry Line [Bus-Walk] (5.2 miles)
- 5 – Gorge Circular Walk (3.4 miles)
- 6 – Black Rock Nature Walk (2.6 miles)
- 7 – River Yeo Loop Walk 4.9 miles)
- 8 – Reservoir [wheelchair-friendly walk] (2.2 miles, or 4 from village centre)
- 9 – West Mendip Way from Wells [Bus-Walk] (12.2 miles)
- 10 – West Mendip Way from Uphill [Bus-Walk] (16 miles) [in two parts]



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

Restaurants and cafés

Café Gorge
 Cheddar Fish Bar
 Edelweiss
 Fortes Ice Cream Parlour
 Franks Restaurant
 Holly House Tea Rooms
 Ice Dreams
 Kebab Kitchen
 Lao Thai Restaurant
 Lion Rock Tea Rooms
 Mousehole Café
 Simply Gorgeous Tea Room
 Tuckers
 The Café

Pubs

Bath Arms
 Black Dog Saloon
 Galleries Inn
 Gardeners Arms
 Riverside Inn
 White Hart

Accommodation and camping

Bradley Cross Farm
 Bramblewood B&B
 Bucklegrove Holiday Park
 Gorge View Cottage
 Nyland Manor
 Petruith Paddocks
 Webbington Farm Holiday Cottages

Stores / other

A Special Occasion
 Cheddar Cycle Store
 Cheddar Library
 Cheddar Sweet Kitchen
 CJ Hole
 Edinburgh Woollen Mill
 Hansford's Deli and Food Store
 National Trust Shop
 Old Rowlands Gift and Christmas Shop
 Post Office
 The Gorge Outdoors