

OKEHAMPTON & BELSTONE WALK (PT145)



- CONTACT:** Di Renton – 10 Fernside Park, Tremar, Coombe, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 5HY
Telephone – 01579 344281 E-mail – k9r@btinternet.com
- DISTANCE:** 12km
- ENTRY FEE:** £1.00 per walker (Cheques made payable to Thames Valley Walking Club)
- AWARD:** Cloth badge at £2.50 each
- START VENUE:** Belstone Car Park, Devon, EX20 1RB (OS Map: LR 191 GR: SX621938)
Alternative start - Okehampton Station or Post Office.
- DIRECTIONS:** Take A30 from Exeter and leave at Okehampton junction, sign posted 'Okehampton B3260'.
At T-Junction Turn Left sign posted 'Belstone', passing services on left. Take second turning
on right sign posted 'Belstone ¾'. Cross cattle grid and continue to reach Belstone where car
park can be found on Left opposite Village Hall.
- CAR PARKING:** At start venue.
- TRANSPORT:** Train service to Okehampton Station. Bus service to Okehampton Post Office.
- FACILITIES:** There are a couple of pubs & cafe's along the route.
- TERRAIN:** Urban areas, minor roads, woods and riverside paths.

The organisers are not liable for accidents, thefts and/or damage to property. Every effort will be made by the organisers to make this a safe, enjoyable and memorable event.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

(Updated 20th June 2020)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE GREAT CARE ON ALL ROAD SECTIONS OF THIS TRAIL

Leave car park and turn left on road. Follow road ignoring left hand turn and bear right through village. At village green take right hand fork passing Defibrillator Box on your right.

Question 1: To your left, what is the name of the Pub?

At fork bear right passing The Brackens on right and in 350m turn first left onto Bridle path sign posted to West Cleave. Go through a set of three gates (one wooden and two metal) and ahead for 350m to wooden gate with waymarker on it. Go through into field and ahead to gap in boundary by corner of wall. Ahead to wooden gate (slightly to right).

Go through gate and bear slightly right follow wide grassy track ahead for approx 150m. Where the bracken ends, turn left downhill for 35m to grass track, turn left then right to take narrow grassy path to right down hill to river.

Cross bridge, turn right and follow riverside path taking care on slippery rocks. Follow path to fork with yellow way marker, take left hand fork uphill away from river to reach wooden gate. Go through gate & continue on this path for approx 500m, ignoring right fork to reach Public Footpath sign on left. Ahead through next wooden gate and a metal gate, ahead on bridlepath between farm buildings onto tarmac road over river bridge.

Question 2: On Footpath sign on right - where does the Footpath avoid?

Continue up hill to cattle grid & continue ahead to road junction. Turn right downhill pass 16% road sign. At corner of bend ahead to go through left hand gate (Public Bridleway) with trees on right, down hill. When trees bear right continue straight on path to bottom corner, turn right with gorse hedge on left to reach Public Footpath sign. Turn left through kissing gate to cross foot bridge over A30.

Ahead downhill signed Permitted Path to Okehampton. Follow path around to left to reach gate on to lane. Turn right on lane and continue downhill under railway bridge. (Railway Station on your right - Cafe & Toilets).

Turn left, pass faded 20mph signs to road. Cross road to kissing gate, through gate, down hill with fence on left to road by metal seat. Ahead for Approx 75m to footpath sign. Turn right signed Castle Okehampton, down hill to reach wide grassy, area. Bear right passing Old Town Park Information Board on left to boardwalk and gate to path. Follow to pass Victorian pumps on left and wooden seats on right. Continue ahead to reach Workhouse Cell Door on left.

Question 3: When was the workhouse demolished?

Continue to road, straight ahead to reach Post Office on left. (Straight on across road into Red Lion Yard to Coffee at Grants comfy seats and Dogs allowed in and Licensed.) Use crossing on your right, turn left follow road round to right to cross Station Road.

Continue ahead and go through gates into Simmons Park. Follow the main path (ignoring all side turnings) and passing large white house on your right.

Question 4: What is the name of the house (look on stone at left corner)?

Continue on path to reach bridge at end of path with steps to right.

Turn left across bridge and turn right onto path, through a gap in the hedge (Platt Meadows sign on left). In approx 400m the path turns left at the end of the playing field to reach a wooden bridge (Kempley Bridge). Cross the bridge and turn right to join track to Ball Hill Footpath. Through gate and follow for approx 900m to reach Pumping Station and gate.

Turn Left on road to junction, ahead for 30m. Turn Right under two bridges and follow for approx 750m to pass riding stables on left.

Question 5: Who owns the riding stables?

Ahead up hill and just before second telegraph pole. Turn left through gate into field (note Footpath sign in hedge). Ahead through metal gate and continue to corner of hedge to reach stile in far left corner.

Cross stile, follow waymarker to top left corner with Bristol gate and road. Turn Left on road to reach Higher Priestacott on right. Turn right through gate on footpath signed Belstone. Ahead, take left hand gate and follow footpath through the following: gate, stile, 2 gates, stile, 5 bar gate.

Follow path on left hand side of field to gate continue to reach 2 gates to road. Turn left, passing Stocks on right and retrace your steps back to Car Park.

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To claim your IVV stamp, please use the 'Permanent Trail Completion & IVV Stamp Claim Form' which is downloadable from the BWF website and send with your record books to the walk contact.