

Lynton Circular



Fact File:

Highlights: Cliff Railway, Valley of Rocks, Lee Abbey, views across Lee Bay, Flood Disaster cemetery, Poets shelter, views from Hollerday Hill, South West Coast Path

Start Grid ref: SS 720 494

Distance: 6.0 miles, circular

Height gained/lost: 478 metres. A moderate to strenuous walk, taking in the hills and valleys surrounding Lynton, including a stretch of the coast path.

High Point: 313 metres

Low Point: 64 metres

Toilets: at start car park and by the picnic car park in the Valley of Rocks

Eating places: in Lynton only

Time required: excluding stops: 3 hours

Public transport: 300, 309, 310 bus services. Please check the current timetable on Traveline 0871 200 22 33 www.travelinesw.com before travelling.

Route description: A picturesque circular walk from Lynton, taking in a small section of the coast path, the Valley of Rocks, a lovely path through an old farmstead, returning through attractive woodland and passing the 1952 flood disaster cemetery.

Route directions: The grid references are given should you like to follow the route on an Ordnance Survey map. They are not needed to follow the route which is described very accurately in the text.

1, SS 720 494

From Lynton High Street go to the Valley of Rocks Hotel and then take the road between it and the church called North Walk. Ignore the road that goes hard back right and follow the coast path, Valley of Rocks signpost, following the road over the railway and on towards the Valley of Rocks. Continue along this path and when a path goes up to the left by a sheltered seat, ignore this and continue along the coast path.

2, SS 705 497, 1.2 miles

On reaching the roundabout in the middle of the Valley of Rocks, go ahead over the roundabout to follow this road for a short distance, taking the footpath that then bears off to the right. This path gives good views over the beach below and back along the valley. Near the end of this path it climbs to the left back to the road and the old toll house.

3, SS 701 494, 1.5 miles

Turn right on to the road and follow it to the main entrance to the Lee Abbey. Opposite the main entrance take the track that goes off to the left, through the bridle gate. Lovely views are over to on the right to Lee Bay and Woody Bay.

4, SS 696 489, 2.0 miles

Follow this track until you reach a track going hard back left with it also going ahead into the woods. Turn hard left to follow this track as it slowly climbs.

5, SS 700 491, 2.3 miles

At the next hairpin bend follow it round to the right. Continue up hill to the gate and on through the gorse ahead.

6, SS 700 482, 3.1 miles

Soon you reach Sixacre Farm. Pass through the gates and on up the farm drive, through the gate to the road.

7, SS 703 479, 3.4 miles

At the road turn left to pass the caravan site, keeping on this small road. When it starts to drop down hill keep on it until it bears right.

8, SS 714 491, 4.5 miles

Take the footpath off to the left towards the Valley of Rocks and Southcliffe. Follow it over the stream and ignore the path that bears off to the left to Southcliffe, instead continuing down to pass the 1952 flood cemetery on the right.

9, SS 710 496, 4.9 miles

As the path opens up into the Valley of Rocks, notice the picnic area on the right and pass through the gap to go through to this area. Toilets are now over to the left. Cross straight over the picnic area to its upper entrance and cross straight over to the gate by the Poets Shelter.

10, SS 711 497, 5.0 miles

At this shelter now take the path that goes up to the right zigzagging up the hill on to Hollerday Hill. Great views open up as you climb.

11, SS 712 498, 5.2 miles

At the top follow the path that goes through the woods towards Lynton, dropping through rock cuttings and down to come out beside the Lynton Town Hall.

12, SS 719 495, 5.8 miles

Turn left to return to the start point.