

# Wheddon Cross Circular



## Fact File:

**Highlights:** Avill valley woodland, Snowdrop Valley (in February and March), views over Avill valley, Cutcombe church

**Start Grid ref:** SS923 387

**Distance:** 3 miles, circular, 3.5 including a loop around Snowdrop Valley

**Height gained/lost:** 154 metres. This walk is generally easy, with one short, sharp climb near the end.

**High Point:** 303 metres

**Low Point:** 178 metres

**Toilets:** at Wheddon Cross

**Eating places:** Pubs and tearooms at Wheddon Cross.

**Time required:** excluding stops: 1.5 hours (2hrs including additional loop)

**Public transport:** 198 bus services. Please check the current timetable on Traveline 0871 200 22 33 [www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com) before travelling.

**Route description:** This walk takes in a short section of the wooded River Avill that flows to Dunster. Part of this walk includes the famous Snowdrop Valley, a real picture in February and March each year. The walk then regains height through woodland to emerge with excellent views across the valley towards Timberscombe and Dunster. The walk concludes by passing the restored Cutcombe church.

**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, SS923 387, 0 miles

From the Wheddon Cross free car park, go out of the entrance with the bus shelter on your right and turn left to pass the Rest and Be Thankful pub. Carefully cross straight over the cross-roads to reach the War Memorial.

### 2, SS924 388, 0.1 miles

Bear right away from the main road towards Cutcombe. Bear left by the school to Cutcombe.

### 3, SS927 390, 0.3 miles

When the road bears right, turn left signed Bridleway to Dunkery Beacon down a track to a bridle gate into a field. Now follow the hedged bank on your right to a gate ahead by the road.

### 4, SS925 390, 0.5 miles

Cross straight over to a lane to Raleigh Manor. Follow this lane down and shortly go through a bridle gate signed to Drapers Way on the right, going downhill on a path that follows near the bottom of the valley with a stream down to your right. Pass through the next two bridle gates and keep on the fairly level path, ignoring any off. Soon the path loses height.

### 5, SS920 398, 1.1 miles

Just before reaching a small road you meet a path across you (Sir Robin's Path). Turn right onto it to follow it downhill, parallel with the small road on your left.

### 6, SS923 397, 1.3 miles

On reaching the track, Snowdrop Valley is across the road. Between late January and March these woods are a real picture. There is a circular easy walk through these woods (along a permissive path, courtesy of the Badgworthy Land Company – please obey local signs). If you decide to do this, it will add another half mile to this walk. Otherwise bear right to follow the track as it gently rises. Half way up ignore the path back to the right and then down to the left. Near the top bear off right up a sunken path to the main road.

### 7, SS930 397, 1.8 miles

Cross straight over to go up the forest track opposite, signed to Ashwell Lane. This is a short sharp climb up to a bridle gate. This leads into a field. Follow its left boundary to the top of the field.

### 8, SS932 394, 2.1 miles

Pass through the gate onto a track turning left to go through the next gate and then right along the small road. Go over the brow and now ignore the path to the left, continuing along the road to pass the church.

### 9, SS929 391, 2.4 miles

Shortly ignore the bridleway on the right and bear left at the fork in the road. At the next road junction follow the road round to the right, ignoring paths off ahead and left.

### 10, SS925 388, 2.9 miles

At the end by the school, bear left to the main road, continuing ahead across the cross roads to the car park by the pub.