



www.southsomersetramblers.org.uk

A local group of the Ramblers' Association promoting rambling, protecting rights of way, campaigning for access to open country and defending the beauty of the countryside.

Registered Charity No.1093577

South Somerset Ramblers December 2023 – March 2024 Walks

COVID Notice to Walkers

It is important that walkers are aware of the Government's latest guidance which may vary during the course of this programme.

If you have any COVID symptoms please do not attend the group walk.

Christmas Lunch

The South Somerset Ramblers' Christmas Lunch will take place at The Muddled Man, West Chinnock on Thursday 14 December at 1:00pm.

Bookings must be made by 6 December

Please contact Wendy Yates 01935 862340 or 07415 897510

South Somerset Ramblers

Our walks are open to everyone. If you would like to know more about the Ramblers' Association or about this programme, please ask any Committee Member. New walk leaders are always welcome. If you would like to lead a walk please contact the appropriate Programme Organiser (see page 8).

Walking Pace

We walk together and the walk leader sets a suitable pace for the party. Please do not force a faster pace. The walk categories are:

A = Fast/Strenuous

B = Brisk

C = 5-7 miles Medium pace

D = 4-5 miles Moderate pace

Clothing

Strong footwear and waterproof clothing are recommended - we cannot stop the rain nor always dodge the mud!

Dogs

Dogs are welcome on most walks although the leader may specify Registered Assistance Dogs only in the programme. Dogs must be under total control and the walk leader can insist that they are kept on leads.

Pub Car Parking

Some walks start from pubs. If parking there, it is common courtesy to patronise the pub for food or drink. Otherwise please park on nearby roads or public car parks. Where a pub is given as the starting point but it is subsequently found to be closed, please park nearby but still meet at the pub.

December 2023 - March 2024 Walks

Last Minute Changes to Walks

Occasionally walks may be cancelled or re-arranged.

It is advisable to check the South Somerset Ramblers' Website before you go:

www.southsomersetramblers.org.uk

Please note - walk starting times vary

Sun 3 Dec 10:00 B 11 miles. Picnic. Meet Odcombe Village Hall CP, Old Road. BA22 8XP (GR ST509153) Via Montacute, Ham Hill, Norton-sub-Hamdon and Chiselborough. Some hills.

Robert J 01935 423383

Thu 7 Dec 10:00 D 4.5 miles. Evercreech Junction, The Natterjack PH. BA4 6NA (GR ST840365) (on A371 north of Castle Cary Station) To Lamyatt. (Walk 1) Phil B 07432 300677
Sun 10 Dec 10:00 B 9 miles. Picnic. Meet Maiden Newton, Walkers CP, Chilfrome Lane. DT2 0AX (GR SY593979) Via Wynford Eagle and Compton Valence. Undulating. Derek L 01935 426842 <u>Registered assistance dogs only</u>
Thu 14 Dec 10:15 D 4 miles. West Chinnock. The Muddled Man.(GR ST468135) Marion P 01460 57093 Followed by the Christmas Lunch at 1:00pm Wendy Y 01935 862340 or 07415 897510
Sun 17 Dec 9:30 B 11 miles. Picnic. Meet Stourhead NT CP (charge for non-members). BA12 6QD (GR ST778339) Meet by Visitor Centre. Towards Alfred's Tower using some of the old Carriage Ride, towards Charlton Musgrove and to Penselwood for lunch, returning via White Cross. Ascents generally steady but expect some shorter, steeper sections. Jean V 01935 826089
Thu 21 Dec 10:30 D Staplehill CP (GR ST247160) To Staple Fitzpaine and return. Lunch available at The Greyhound PH. Philip B-T 01460 62060
Sun 24 Dec No Walk.
Thu 28 Dec 10:00 D 4.6 miles. Cricket St Thomas Golf Club (please use rear car park). (GR ST372094) To Avishayes and the water wheel. Hilly. Marion P 01460 57093
Sun 31 Dec No Walk.
Mon 1 Jan 10:00 B 10 miles. Picnic. Meet Hod Hill CP on minor road just west of A350 - two miles south of Iwerne Minster. (GR ST853112) Via Smugglers' Lane, Handcock's Bottom, Iwerne Minster and Shroton. Hilly. Mike P 01963 363077
Thu 4 Jan 10:00 D 5 miles. Yeovil Rec CP, Mudford Road. (GR ST553175) Sidney Gardens, Asda, Abbey Manor Park and Johnson Park. All on hard paths. Phil E 01935 429302 or 07502 492239

Sun 7 Jan 10:00 B 10 miles. Picnic. Meet A37, Clay Pigeon layby, Warden Hill. DT2 9PW (GR ST607028) Via Batcombe, Gorehill, Wessex Ridgeway, Sydling St Nicholas and Up Sydling. Some hills. Total ascent 1100 feet. Jim T 01935 321786
Thu 11 Jan 10:00 D 4.8 miles. Trull, The Winchester Arms. TA3 7LG (GR ST217221) To Chilliswood Farm, Daw's Green and return via Cannonsgrove and Staplehay. Bill T 07850 402404
Sun 14 Jan 10:00 B 10 miles. Picnic. Meet Winyard's Gap Memorial CP, Chedington Lane. DT8 3HY (GR ST491060) (CP has limited space so car sharing advised). Via Halstock. Undulating. Peter B 01935 389348
Thu 18 Jan 10:00 D 5 miles. East Chinnock, Orchardleigh near rec. (GR ST495193) All the Chinnocks. Marion P 01460 57093
Sun 21 Jan 10:00 B 11.5 miles. Picnic. Meet Churchinford Village Hall CP, Taunton Rd. TA3 7QY (GR ST214127) Via Otterford Lakes, Otterford, Yalham Farm, Trickey Warren Lane, Culm Head, Valley Heads Way, Arthayes Pig Farm and Stapley. Some hills and potentially some muddy fields and farms. Sue A 07508 849778
Thu 25 Jan 10:15 C 4.8 miles. Churchinford Village Hall CP. TA3 7QY (GR ST214127) To Otterford Lakes and Churchstanton. Lunch available at The York Inn, Churchinford. Philip B-T 01460 62060
Sun 28 Jan 10:00 B 10 miles. Picnic. Meet Maiden Castle CP. (GR SY668889) Accessed via Maiden Castle Rd from opposite cemetery on Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester. Via Martinstown and Upwey. Undulating. Derek L 01935 426842 <u>Registered assistance dogs only</u>
Thu 1 Feb 10:00 D 4.5 miles. Evercreech Junction, The Natterjack PH. BA4 6NA (GR ST 840365) To Cuttern Mill and Evercreech. (Walk 2) Phil B 07432 300677

Sun 4 Feb 10:00 B 13 miles. Picnic. Meet Street YHA CP, Ivythorne Hill. BA16 0TZ (GR ST480345) Via Collard Hill, Butleigh Wootton, Butleigh, Wickham Cross, Compton Dundon, Dundon Hayes and Walton. One steep hill and a few more gentle hills. Ian W 07478 672185
Thu 8 Feb 10:00 C 6.5 miles, Meet at Arnewood Gardens, Yeovil. BA20 2LQ (GR ST545145) Towards East Coker. Derek L 01935 426842 <u>Registered assistance dogs only</u>
Sun 11 Feb 10:00 B 11 miles. Picnic. Meet Maiden Newton, Walkers CP, Chilfrome Lane. DT2 0AX (GR SY593979) Via Chilfrome, Toller Pocorum, Toller Fratrum, Wynford Eagle, Compton Valence (lunch, view snowdrops) and Cruxton. Some hills. Peter B 01935 389348
Thu 15 Feb 10:00 C 5 miles. Curry Mallet. Meet at Village Hall CP. TA3 6SY (GR ST329219) To Beercrocombe. On the Levels (pub may be open). Sue A 07508 849778
Thu 15 Feb 10:15 D 4 miles. Cricket St Thomas. (please use large visitor car park) (GR ST374086) Exploring the estate. Lunch can be taken at the Golf Club. (no need to book) Marion P 01460 57093
Sun 18 Feb 10:00 B 12 miles. Picnic. Meet Lower Kingcombe, Kingcombe Centre Upper CP. DT2 0EQ (GR SY554990) Via Mapperton. Undulating with some hill ascent. Maureen L 01458 741880
Mon 19 Feb Details of walks for the next programme should reach the appropriate Programme Organiser (see page 8).
Thu 22 Feb 10:00 D 4 miles. Meet at Arnewood Gardens, Yeovil. BA20 2LQ (GR ST545145) Towards Burton. Derek L 01935 426842 <u>Registered assistance dogs only</u>
Sun 25 Feb 10:00 B 12 miles. Picnic. Meet Castle Neroche CP. TA20 3LA (GR ST273157) Via Curland Common, Bickenhill Plain, Thurlbear, Lime Ridge Wood, Staple Park Wood, Mount Fancy Farm and Staple Common. One steep Hill and a few more gentle hills. Ian W 07478 672185

Thu 29 Feb 10:00 C 5 miles. Fivehead. Park near church. TA3 6PQ (GR ST 352229) To Isle Brewers. On the Levels (pub may be open). Sue A 07508 849778
Sun 3 Mar 10:00 B 11.5 miles. Picnic. Meet Abbotsbury Lime Kiln CP, above village, half way up Bishop's Road, on N side. (GR SY588859) Via West Elworth, East Elworth, Portesham, Hardy Monument, Loscombe Farm, Little Bredy, Tenant Hill and Gorwell Farm. Hilly. John D 01297 678217 or 07719 528162
Thu 7 Mar 10:00 D 5 miles. Norton-sub-Hamdon, The Lord Nelson PH. TA14 6SP (GR ST472158) Towards Chiselborough. Katherine P 07794 455809
Sun 10 Mar 10:00 B 10 miles. Picnic. Meet Uplyme Village Hall overflow CP at rear of hall (£1 contribution to Village Hall) DT7 3UY (GR SY324934) {w3w compose.validated.funds} A figure of 8 walk via Lyme Regis and Harcombe with lunch at Uplyme Church. Fairly hilly with one steep descent. Martin R 07809 893747
Thu 14 Mar 10:00 C 6 miles. Curry Rivel CP next to Firehouse. TA10 0HE (GR ST391252) To Langport via Wick. On the Levels. Sue A 07508 849778
Thu 14 Mar 10:00 D 4.5 miles. Odcombe, Masons Arms PH. BA22 8TX (GR ST509158) To Hocker's Hill and Five Ashes. Marion P 01460 57093
Sun 17 Mar 10:00 B 11 miles. Picnic. Meet Maiden Castle CP. (GR SY668889) Accessed via Maiden Castle Rd from opposite cemetery, on Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester. (<u>Do not use postcode</u>). Via Higher Ashton Farm, Ridge Hill, South Dorset Ridgeway, Jubilee Trail, Upwey, Friar Waddon Hill and Martinstown. Some hills. Total ascent: 1350 feet. Jim T 01935 321786
Thu 21 Mar 10:00 D 4.7 miles. Donyatt, The George Inn. TA19 0RW (GR ST338140) To Shave Lane, across to Whitney Bottom, Crock Street and return via Hillcombe Farm and Stibbear Farm. Bill T 07850 402404

Sun 24 Mar 10:00 B 11.5 miles. Picnic. Meet South Cadbury CP. BA22 7HA (GR ST632252) (if car park full, please park on road near church) Walk around part of the castle ramparts then towards Weston Bampfylde, Rimpton (lunch), Sandford Orcas, Stafford's Green and possibly Sutton Farm. 2 ascents (up to castle ramparts and up from Stafford's Green.)

Jean V 01935 826089

Thu 28 Mar 10:00 C 6 miles. Drayton nr Langport, Drayton Crown Inn. TA10 0JY (GR ST405247) To Curry Rivel, Burton Pynsent Monument. On the Levels.

Sue A 07508 849778

Thu 28 Mar 10:00 D 4.5 miles. Evercreech Junction, The Natterjack PH. BA4 6NA (GR ST840365) To Lamyatt (on a different route). (Walk 3)

Phil B 07432 300677

Sun 31 Mar 10:00 B 11 miles. Picnic. Meet Netherbury Village Hall CP, New Inn Street signed from bus shelter at village centre cross roads. DT6 5LR (GR SY470994) (£1 contribution to Village Hall) Via Oxbridge, West Milton, North Poorton, Loscombe and Melpash. Undulating with a few short but steep ascents and descents.

Peter B 01935 389348

Walk Leaders' Guidelines

Parking

As walks can attract up to 20 cars, walk leaders should ensure that parking is available, particularly in small villages.

Risk Assessment

A risk assessment form must be completed for each walk and retained for 3 years Forms will be circulated to leaders by the Programme Organisers.

Accidents

If there is an accident requiring help, the leader should stay with the casualty until help arrives (unless a competent carer is appointed). If the leader stays behind, the backmarker or a volunteer leader should continue with the group. The leader must notify the Secretary or Chairman of any accident apart from trivial ones. Every effort should be made to ensure a first-aid kit is available.

Backmarkers

Leaders should always appoint a backmarker and count those walking. Walk leaders and designated backmarkers should exchange mobile phone numbers so that contact can be maintained in cases of emergency. Leaders and backmarkers without phones should appoint substitutes.

Gates

Gates should be left as found.

Footpath Maintenance Problems

Problems should be reported to the Somerset County Council Rights of Way Officer on 0845 345 9155 or through the SCC website. The appropriate Footpath Secretary should also be notified.

Data Protection

Walk leaders submitting walk details should accept that the information they provide will be made publicly available in the programme and on the South Somerset Ramblers' website.

Unable to Lead Walk

If a walk leader is unable to lead their walk they should either find a replacement or contact the Programme Organiser as soon as possible.

Indemnity

To ensure third party liability cover leaders **must** be registered as a Volunteer Walk Leader by emailing: volunteersupport@ramblers.zendesk.com

South Somerset Ramblers' Committee

Chairman: Jim Turner jpjimturner@gmail.com

Secretary: Katherine Pratt katherine.pratt@btinternet.com

Treasurer: Bill Pratt

Membership Secretary: Bill Tregillus
membership@southsomersetramblers.org.uk

Committee: Rosie Arampatta, Phil Bradshaw, John Day, Maureen Day, Martin Pakes and Wendy Yates.

Area Committee Representative: Jim Turner jpjimturner@gmail.com

Programme Co-ordinator: Martin Pakes mjpakes@tiscali.co.uk
01823 619887

Programme Organisers:

C and D Walks: John Day johnhday4@gmail.com

Weekend All-Day Walks: Peter Bradford pbradford93@gmail.com
01935 389348

Footpath Secretaries:

East: Phil Bradshaw philbradshaw22@gmail.com 01458 850834

North: Jean Verkroost jean_verkroost@yahoo.co.uk 01935 826089

South: Vacant

West: Vacant

Details of walks for the April - July 2024 programme should reach the appropriate Programme Organiser by Monday 19 February 2024.