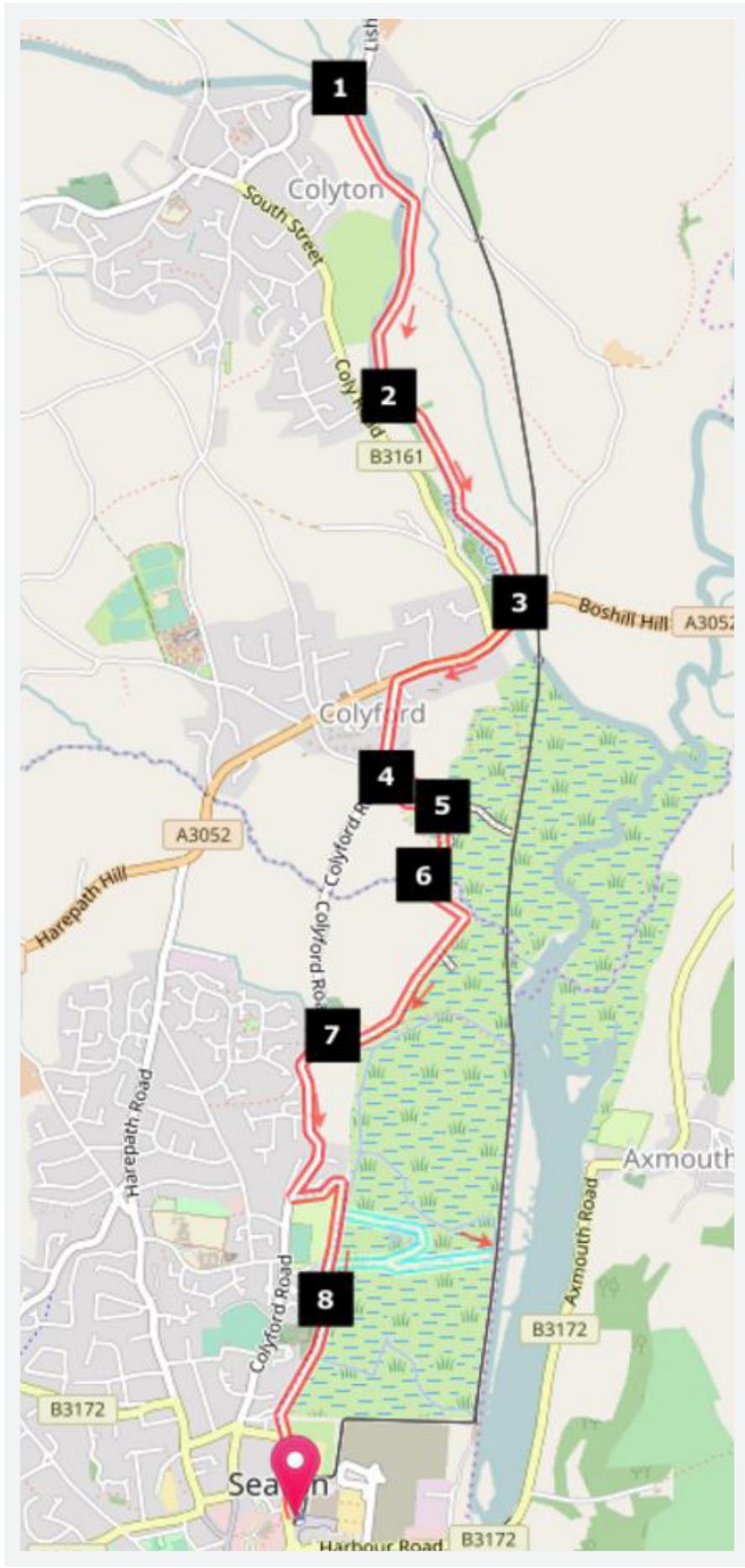
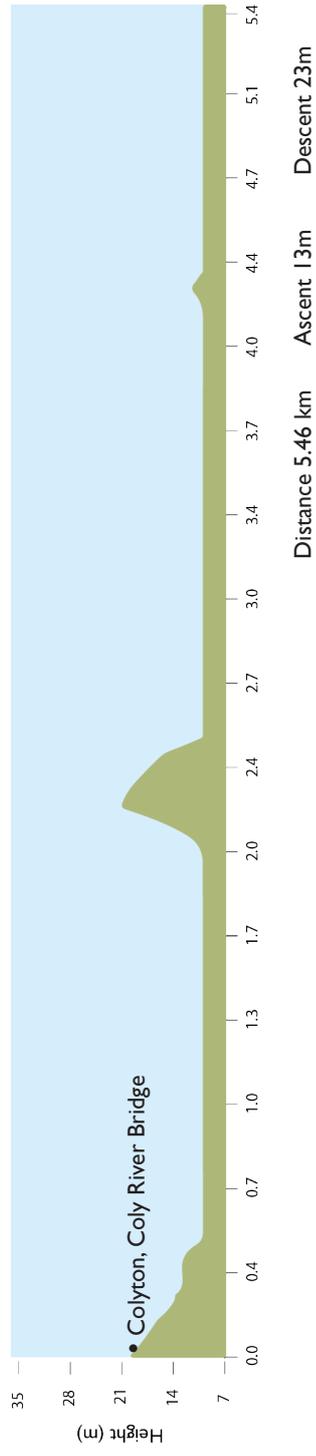


Linear 1 Colyton to the Sea Linear



Difficulty: Leisurely
Walking time: 2 hrs
Length: 5.5km / 3.4mi



Linear Route 1

Colyton to the Sea Linear



Difficulty: Leisurely

Walking time: 2 hours

Length: 5.5km / 3.4mi

Start location: Colyton, Coly River bridge (SY248912)

Route Summary: A walk along the Coly River through the Axe Estuary Wetlands to Seaton and the sea. Return by tram, bus or on foot.

Description

[1] Take the East Devon Way from just before the east bridge over the Coly River. Follow the East Devon Way signs crossing the Ham Bridge to the east bank of the river. The East Devon Way forks left but our route goes straight on, south.

If you have started the walk from the Colyton Tram Station walk down the road, under the railway bridge and turn left. Follow the road until you see a footpath sign on your right. Follow this path and join the East Devon Way.

[2] Keep straight on past a footpath that comes from the road on the right, walk on along the river side until you reach Colyford.

Look out on your right for a weir; this is a very picturesque part of the route with open views across the Axe Estuary to the cliffs at Axmouth. Mind your head on the large pipe

[3] At the road turn sharp right. Follow along the main road, crossing the road to Colyton and take the next left signposted to Seaton.

The Colford Tram stop is straight across the road. There are two Inns in Colford. Look for the Colford Filling Station on the left. It was built in 1928 and frequently used by Aircraftsman Shaw better known as Lawrence Of Arabia.

Take care on the road as the footpath is missing as the road narrows to cross the Coly River Bridge and along the Seaton Road. Watch out for the level crossing lights when trams cross the road.

[4] As you walk down the Seaton Road look for Popes Lane on your right, opposite is the entrance to the Colyford Common Nature Reserve. Go through the gate and down the track to the Reserve.

[5] As you enter the Nature Reserve take a narrow board walk to the right. The route is mainly boarded until you reach the Stafford Brook where a narrow bridge brings you to the Black Hole Marsh.

[6] After crossing the bridge the path opens up into a multi user track. On the left is the Field Studies base and Wetlands classrooms. Carry on along the main track, passing the Black Hole Marsh bird hides, until you reach the Colyford to Seaton road. A car park on the right serves the Axe Valley Wetlands and is reached by driving through the Seaton Cemetery.

The Axe Estuary Wetlands Centre is worth a visit. Coffee and tea is available and there are toilets on site.

[7] Cross the road and walk left towards Seaton. There is no pavement to begin with but after a short distance it returns. Follow the road until you come to the St. John's Ambulance Hall. Cross the road and go down a narrow track just before the hall.

At the bottom of a gentle slope you will come out onto the path to Seaton with great views across the marshes to the Axe Cliffs. Follow the path due south.

An off road alternative route is being considered along with the link to Colyford so if when you walk the route the work has been completed follow the new signs to Seaton.

Take care on the short road section without a pavement. A loop around takes you to the bird hide with excellent views of the estuary.

[8] Follow the path towards Seaton with St Gregory's Parish Church on the right.

Carry on into Seaton. A children's play area and large car park are on the left but carry straight on until you reach the entrance to the new Seaton Jurassic Centre and Seaton Tram Station. Before returning to Colyton carry straight on a short distance to look at the sea and cliffs to either side of the bay.

Map: OS Explorer 116 Lyme Regis and Bridport