

East Devon Way Link Route (south to north)

Branscombe Link to East Devon Way at Farway

(Follow the Link Waymarkers)



Difficulty: moderate - hilly and wet in parts in winter

Walking time: 3 hours

Length: 11 km / 6.5 miles

Start location: South West Coast Path on Branscombe Beach (SY)

Route Summary: Mainly off-road (fields and woods) link route from South West Coast Path at Branscombe to East Devon Way at Farway via Blackbury Castle.

Description: -

[1] **Start at the Sea Shanty on Branscombe Beach** - Take the path inland past the west side of the kiosk in a northerly direction - follow the *link marker discs* along the path past the turning to the National Trust Mill (open during the season) to the Village Hall and Old Forge.

[2] **Walk through the National Trust car park and take marked path behind the Old Forge** - follow path up to the school, turn right and continue up hill along a seldom used minor road to a cattle grid - Take the higher road to the left until you come to a waymarked footpath on your right - take this path down to a very minor road again - At *Hole House* turn right and follow the road to the bottom of the valley - bridge over the stream - up the other side - take waymarked track - continue up through the woods - eventually you pass Baldash house and do a hairpin turn in the path - Next up some wooden steps, turn right, then turn left up a trackway to fields - cross these two fields and emerge at the A3052.

[3] **Take care at the A3052 Crossing** - After you've crossed the road turn right along the gritted track alongside the road and then turn left into a field - down through the field - through the farm gate and turn sharp right - Down through the field and through a small gate - Then take a small footbridge to the right - Turn left after bridge and wend your way down in front of the farmhouse and then turn left - Follow the track - At the waymarker turn right down the hill - follow the track to the bottom past the pond and up the other side for a short distance when you turn left into the woods - follow the path up through the woods to the road - turn left on the road and follow this road to *Blackbury Castle* (Blackbury Camp).

[4] **Blackbury Camp (known locally as Blackbury Castle)** - An Iron Age hillfort and worth a quick detour - after your side trip continue along the road.

[5] **Blackbury Honey Farm** - Just before the Blackbury Honey Farm turn right onto a trackway (can be muddy in winter) - After a while at a 3-way junction turn right - Continue along this bridle path across the first metaled track - Continue until you reach the next road.

[6] **Minor Road** - (*Maybe turn left and take a side trip to Farm about 800 mtrs - From the Farm you can take a short cut to the EDW at Mincombe Farm - If so, take care crossing fast main road*) - If not then cross the road and continue through fields - then down a bridleway and past some woods to a road - turn right down the hill to Farway.

[7] **Farway - The Junction with the East Devon Way by the old petrol pumps** - From here turn left and follow the East Devon Way to Church Green and beyond to Sidbury - or turn right, then immediate left and follow the East Devon Way to Colyton.

East Devon Way Link Route (north to south)

Farway to Branscombe Link

(Follow the Link Waymarkers)



Difficulty: moderate - hilly and wet in parts in winter

Walking time: 3 hours

Length: 11 km / 6.5 miles

Start location: Farway Petrol Pumps (SY)

Route Summary: fields, woods and some very minor roads) link route from Farway on the East Devon Way to Branscombe on the South West Coast Path via *Blackbury Castle*.

Description: -

[7] **Start Farway Petrol Pumps - Take the waymarked route up the hill from Farway** - Towards the top of the hill take a left turn up a trackway - Then veer to the right up a path to your right - Continue along this path till you reach a minor road (side trip to Farm 800mtrs to your right)

[6] **Minor Road - Cross the road and continue along the bridleway opposite** - Cross a metaled trackway and continue on the bridleway opposite - At the junction turn left and continue until you meet a minor road just by the Blackbury Honey Farm.

[5] **Blackbury Honey Farm - Turn left onto road** - Follow road to Blackbury Castle.

[4] **Blackbury Castle** - Worth a quick side trip to Blackbury Camp an Iron Age Hillfort locally known as *Blackbury Castle* - Afterward continue along the road taking the right-hand fork at the Y-junction - Keep a look out for a footpath crossing the road on a bend and take the waymarked footpath to your right down through the woods - When you meet a trackway turn right down the hill, past the pond and back up the other side of valley - Then turn left and follow the track to the farm - Turn right after the farmhouse up through the field - Turn right over the footbridge then left to the small gate - Up through this field to the top and turn left through the gate - Continue up to the A3052 main road

[3] **A3052 - Turn right and follow the gritted path alongside the road - Take care crossing the A3052** - Follow the signs over the stile into the field - cross this field and the next - exit the farm gate onto a track - At the end of this short track take a sharp right to the wooden steps - Down the steps and turn right - Follow the path around a hairpin and continue along the path and down through the woods - When you re-emerge onto the minor road take the right-hand fork - down to the bottom and up the other side - Turn left at Hole House and follow road - Take the next footpath on your right up through the woods - When you emerge at top onto the road turn left and follow road down to the cattle grid - over the cattle grid and continue down the hill - Take the path opposite the school to your left down to the Forge and Village Hall

[2] **Forge & Village Hall - walk though the car park and turn left onto road** - After a short distance take a right-hand turn and follow road and then path to the coast.

[1] **Branscombe Beach on the South West Coast Path** - Turn left for Beer or right for Sidmouth

Facilities at Branscombe - pubs, toilets, café, National Trust (forge, tea rooms and old mill)

