

Blackdown Hills

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

6 Circular Walks in the south western Blackdown Hills

Walk 1

Up into the hills to a spot that belongs to Canada

This walk starts on a lovely valley road and climbs into the hills, before returning on a scenic bridle path. Approx 10 kilometres. 6 miles.

Park just off the A373 at Godford Cross, just west of Awliscombe.

Map ref: ST 131023

From Godford Cross walk away from the main road on the lane signed for Wolverstone. You will see the Blackdown Hills up ahead and to both sides of this delightful and quiet road. As you gently gain height, ignore signs for anything other than Wolverstone. Beyond farm buildings the gradient increases (good for the heart!). The views are lovely. Near the top, look back over your left shoulder along the ridge which ends with Hembury Fort.

Turn right at the T-junction, and walk to Turbury Cross. Here you turn right for a less scenic final road mile or so to Wolford Chapel. Turn right at Wolford Cross and take extra care on this road as it is busier than those you have walked already. Wolford Chapel is along here, clearly signposted on your right. As you walk along the track it's good to see the maple leaf flag flying.

When you have finished at the Chapel, return to the road and turn right. Walk for about 300 yards, then take the bridleway on your right. After a bend or two, you leave the tarmac road at Old Wolford Farm entrance and descend down the stony track, with woods on your right. This path is well (blue) waymarked, through a gate (lovely view) and down a field with the hedge on your left, and later, another with the hedge on the right. Bear right, on to a stony track, down to Grange Farm. Go through the farm gates and cross the farmyard with the farmhouse on your left. After the bottom gate, turn left along the track.

Enjoy the views of St. Cyres Hill on your left and Hembury Fort, further away on your right. When you meet the road, turn left to return to your starting point at Godford Cross. You have set foot in a little bit of Canada en route.

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Walk 1 map

