

Walks around Broadmayne

Walk 5: Bramble Drove and South Drove

Time	80-90 minutes depending on pace and time taken to look at the views
Distance	3 miles
Refreshments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The village shop/post office (click here for opening times)• The Black Dog village pub on Main Street
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please leave all gates and property as you find them• Sturdy footwear is recommended as this walk can be muddy in the winter and after rain• The route is on bridleways so look out for horse riders and cyclists• If taking your dog, please act responsibly around livestock in the fields, and when passing horses on the bridleways
Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This route runs alongside hedgerows, crosses farmland, and skirts some woodland so you are likely to spot a number of our local birds, mammals, insects and flora. If you are lucky you may see—• Rabbits and pheasants in the hedgerows• Buzzards sitting on fence posts or circling the hill sides• Deer in the open fields

This walk makes use of some of the many droves in the area. These routes, many of which are now public rights of way, were used for driving livestock from pastures to villages and markets.

To avoid walking along the A352 which has no footway, this walk begins with a short walk through the streets at the western edge of the village which were developed from the 1960s onwards. In fact, the development of this area revealed signs of occupation in Iron Age and Roman times, as well as a Beaker burial from the early Bronze Age.

- From the cross roads in the centre of the village go south along Chalky Road.
 - *On your left, just in front of the children's play area is the D-Day memorial, erected in 2019 on the 75th anniversary of D-Day, to commemorate the American service-men who were camped around Broadmayne prior to their embarkation from Weymouth for the Normandy beaches in June 1944.*
- Take the second road on the right, Rectory Road. When Rectory Road changes its name to Broadmead continue in the same direction, now uphill, with a field on your left. Follow Broadmead to the top of the incline where it turns right, eventually

meeting Conway Drive. Turn left and at the end of Conway Drive turn left again up Bramble Drove.

- After a short stretch of path enclosed between hedges, pass into a field via a field gate. Walk half right across the field to a second field gate which is usually open and leans against the hedge.
- Pass through the gate and walk along a rutted track and then take a bridleway through a gate to your right, approximately 50 metres before the barn you are walking towards. The path runs diagonally across the field to a second gate but you will find that the walked route runs around the field to your left, to pass left on to a rutted track. Turn right on to this track, heading uphill towards the hedge.
- At the top turn left and follow the hedge which is on your right until you come to an opening. Pass through this gap and continue in the same direction, now with a barbed wire fence and then a hedge to your left. At the corner of the field turn right. The path is now running uphill, still with the hedge to your left. After passing a more wooded area the path turns left and eventually a path leads off to the left. Follow this route, now running more steeply uphill between hedges, to emerge on to Chalky Road.

➤ *In August and September these hedges are loaded with blackberries, elderberries and sloes*

- Turn left on to Chalky Road
 - *Take care while walking down the road, there is frequent and quite often fast traffic. Walk 'defensively', i.e. keep your eyes and ears open at all times and use the grass verge to avoid passing cars when necessary.*
- Walk downhill for 10 minutes until you reach another bridleway on your left—South Drove. Follow South Drove, a pleasant path between trees until you reach the junction with another bridleway at South Drove Farm.
- At this point there is a choice of routes for your return to the village. You can ignore the track to your right and keep ahead to re-join Bramble Drove and re-trace your steps to the village. The alternative is to turn right along the wide track (part of South Drove) which provides access to the farm and a number of dwellings. This track shortly re-joins Chalky Road. On reaching the road turn left and stay with the road which will take you back to the cross roads in the centre of the village.

- *If returning to the village via Chalky Road you will pass the Parish Council allotments on your right.*

[Broadmayne Parish Council: 2021]

Map information

The red line on the map indicates the public rights of way and other highways which form this route and which are described above. The route starts and finishes at the crossroads in the centre of the village.

© Crown copyright and database rights 2021; OS licence number 100050662.

