

## Walks around Broadmayne

### Walk 6: A walk to the west

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

*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 75<sup>th</sup> 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. (Ignore the road half way up the hill which is also called Broadmead but which is a cul-de-sac.) 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 for approximately 50m until you come to a gap. Pass through this gap, still on the rough track which turns left and then curves right towards a hedge. Head for that hedge and continue with it on your left until you reach a gap in the hedge ahead. The path slopes down through this gap and in muddy conditions it can be slippery. This is a T-junction with a bridleway; turn right on to the bridleway and follow it north-eastwards. Eventually it climbs slightly uphill. Ignore a bridleway to your left, and carry on until you reach the A352 at a property called Sunnymead.
- Cross the A352 with extreme care as the traffic can be very fast moving here, and take the footpath over the stile in the hedge opposite, near the 'reduce speed' sign. The path runs across a field, towards some cottages and through a gate (there is also a stile should be gate be closed), just to the left of the cottages at Little Mayne Farm.
- Cross the next field, heading for a stile in the far right hand corner. Cross this stile and another in quick succession then continue ahead through the next field. On reaching a gap in the hedge pass through and turn immediately right.
- Walk along the hedge line with the hedge on your right. On reaching the road in West Knighton turn right and sharp right again to take the footpath across the field. Pass through a gap in a hedge and continue in the same direction back towards Broadmayne. The path drops down the field eventually reaching a further hedge. Turn left and after about 15m cross the stile and head across the field towards the church. Go through the kissing gate and continue ahead with the church hall on your left and the church on your right.
  - *St Martin's Church - The oldest part of the church is the chancel, where the choir now sits, which dates from the early part of the 13th century. The windows are original, although with Victorian glass, and the original door, now blocked up, can be seen on the south side. There is a Thomas Hardy connection here—the church was restored in 1865 by architect John Hicks of Dorchester for whom Hardy worked and copies of the plans which he drew up for Mr Hicks can be seen in the church*

- On reaching the A352 turn left, back towards the cross-roads in the centre of the village.

### 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 walk starts and finishes at the crossroads in the centre of the village.

[Version 2; Broadmayne Parish Council: 2022]

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