



EXMOOR WALKING HOLIDAYS March 2018

Future Dates

Walking Group Weekend

Friday, 4th - Sunday, 6th May 2018

As this is the May Bank Holiday Weekend there is an option to stay over on Sunday night and walk on Monday before going home.

As previously I will be at the hotel by 12.00 noon on Friday should anyone wish to join me for a walk/lunch. Please let reception staff know when you arrive if you would like to join me and they will let me know.

The May Bank Holiday weekend will be a busy time for the Yarn Market Hotel and so you are advised to book early.

Normal booking at the Yarn Market Hotel for the Walking Group Weekend is required. Please contact the hotel staff on either 01643 821425 or enquiries@yarnmarkethotel.co.uk

South West Coast Path Walking Break

Tuesday, 3rd April – Sunday, 8th April 2018

Join us to walk the first section of the South West Coast Path from Minehead to Combe Martin over 4 days (35 miles). This lovely section of the coast path leads us from Minehead over North Hill with lovely views to Wales and on to Porlock Weir. On day two we enter lovely old woodland to walk to Countisbury via Culbone Church. The next day is from Countisbury to Hunter's Inn passing through Lynmouth, Valley of the Rocks and Woody Bay. The last day has spectacular coastal scenery walking from Hunter's Inn to Combe Martin.

Four days walking, five nights dinner, bed and breakfast. Packed lunches, all local transport and a leader are all included.

For further information and to book this fabulous break contact the Yarn Market Hotel staff on either 01643 821425 or enquiries@yarnmarkethotel.co.uk Early booking is advised.

Past Walking Group Weekend

Friday, 2nd – Sunday, 4th February

Friday, 2nd February

Four of us met for a circular walk to the Tall Trees. We walked through the Deer Park and on up through the woods to the Bonniton Road and across to the Tall Trees. We then walked up through the woods to Bat's Castle where we saw Exmoor ponies and deer. We continued our walk back down toward Dunster where we met the later arrivals John, Joyce and Janet. At the end of our walk we all enjoyed a welcome cuppa at The Mill Tea Shop. Our walk was cold but dry 5.5 miles.



Exmoor ponies at Bat's Castle



..... and deer too

Saturday, 3rd February

With transport from Antony we were dropped off at Wheddon Cross to visit Snowdrop Valley and walk back to the hotel. Heavy rain had been forecast for this day but we stayed dry except for a short hailstorm at our highest point – Spangate Lane. We had lunch inside Wootton Courtenay Church as it was so cold, from Wootton Courtenay we climbed up on to Grabbist Hill via Roadway Lane. We took the opportunity to stop off at the river to clean our boot off prior to a stop for tea. The ground was very muddy and the air cold but we were all wrapped up and had a really good day 10.5 miles



The woodland path down into Snowdrop Valley



We made it and no-one slipped in the mud!



The snowdrops made a beautiful sight



Walking the trail



Still smiling in Snowdrop Valley



Negotiating the very muddy bridge



The mud at the top – Spangate Lane



It was so cold some of us ate our lunch in the church



Wootton Courtenay Church



Climbing up Roadway Lane



Nearly at the top!



Walking back along Grabbist Hill. What a sky!!



The ceremonial washing of the boots in the river!!

Sunday, 4th February

We walked from the hotel through the Deer Park and on the same route as Friday until we reached Nutcombe Bottom Car Park. We planned to walk the Black Hill Circuit so were surprised to see that the Forestry Commission had taken down all the Black Hill Circuit signposts. This walk is not easy to follow on the map as it is on forest tracks but we decided to carry on relying on our memories of the route. The route takes us up through the woods, around Black Hill, up to Withycombe Hill and on to Withycombe Hill Gate, over Bat's Castle and back to Dunster. Once again we had no rain but it was very cold 9 miles



The bear in the woods



Climbing up through the woods



Sculptures on the Black Hill Circuit



We were joined by horse riders at tea break



The trig point at Black Hill-we were very cold



Boot washing at the end of the walk

Our weekend was very successful with three very good walks. Although the weather was very cold and the mud quite difficult to cope with (especially on Saturday) we stayed dry. Each of our days walking ended with cups of tea (and cake).

Kathy