

Something a little shorter

For those not wanting to walk the entire 90 miles, the trail invites many great opportunities for circular walks. Here are some suggestions.

1. **Forde Abbey (5 miles)** The walk starts from Thorncombe, deep in rolling green countryside renowned for its rich fruit. It also offers the chance to visit the Abbey and its beautiful gardens.

50 Walks in Dorset. Published by AA Publishing.

2. **Beaminster (4½ miles)** Starting from the old market town, the walk takes you through a secluded valley, meadows rich in wild flowers, before returning by the banks of the River Brit.

Waterside Walks in Dorset. Published by Countryside Books.

3. **Hardy Monument (4½ miles)** After beginning the walk from the village of Portesham the route takes you through woods to the Monument where you are rewarded with splendid views all around.

Walks into History. Dorset. Published by Countryside Books.

4. **Bere Regis (5 miles)** Commencing at the church home of the tombs of the Turbervilles, inspiration to Thomas Hardy, the walk offers views of unspoilt heathland that surrounds the area.

Dorset Walks. Published by Jarrold Publishing.

5. **Bockerley Dyke (4½ miles)** The route follows the edge of Bokerley Ditch, a 4th century defensive earthwork that forms part of the Dorset-Hampshire boundary. The suggested starting point is the Roebuck Inn in nearby Sixpenny Handley.

Pocket Pub Walks. Published by Countryside Books.

www.westdorset.com
www.visit-dorset.com

Recommended reading

The Dorset Jubilee Trail – A Ramblers Guide
£5.50

All books available from Dorchester Tourist Information Centre.

The entire route has been marked using the logo specially designed for the Trail.



Jubilee Trail Badge

A Jubilee Trail badge, price £2.50 plus SAE is available from: The Dorset Jubilee Trail, 19 Shaston Crescent, Dorchester, DT1 2EB.



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West Dorset Walks

The Dorset Jubilee Trail



A 90 mile walk across Dorset from Forde Abbey on the Somerset border to Bokerley Dyke on the Hampshire border.

The trail winds through quiet villages, passing rural churches and offers extensive views of the rolling downs and secret valleys which make Dorset so special ... discover Dorset along the Jubilee Trail.

Created by the Dorset Area Ramblers' Association in 1995 to celebrate sixty years of its founding.

1. Forde Abbey

900 years of history and romance are encapsulated in the former Cistercian monastery and its 20 acres gardens.

2. Pilsdon Pen

Owned by the National Trust, you can enjoy one of the best views in Dorset from this Iron Age hill fort.

3. Stoke Abbott

A beautiful village nestled in an amphitheatre of hills with its Norman church and cottages of mellow Ham limestone.

4. Parnham House

The trail goes through the beautiful wooded grounds of this Tudor house, now a private residence.

5. Beaminster

Three times devastated by fire, this prosperous historic town centre is a conservation area with over 200 listed buildings.

6. Mapperton House and Gardens

The Jacobean house billed as "The nation's finest Manor House" is surrounded by elegant gardens.
www.mapperton.com

7. Lower Kingcombe

Owned by the Dorset Wildlife Trust, the reserve is still managed as a working farm.

8. Wynford Eagle

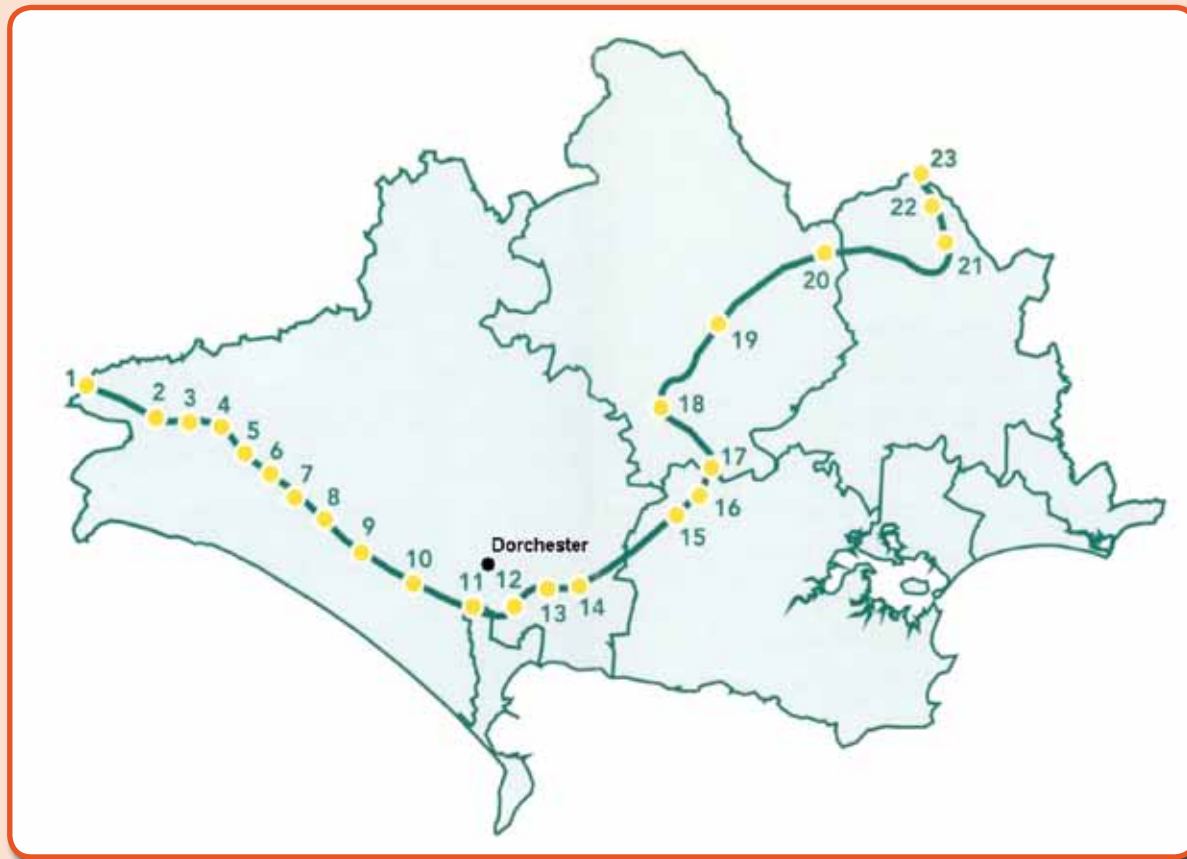
This small hamlet lies between two chalk ridges and has its Manor farm dating back from 1630.

9. Hardy Monument

Erected in memory of Admiral Sir Thomas Masterman Hardy, there are glorious views over the Dorset countryside to the sea.

10. Corton

Home to the tiny chapel of St Bartholomew with its early 13th century chancel, original stone altar and 16th century doorway.



11. Upwey

A village situated at the source of the river Wey, where the garden of the tea rooms includes the Wishing Well, said to be the largest natural spring in the British Isles.

12. Winterbourne Came

This small parish (2 miles south of Dorchester) is known for its connection with the Dorset dialect poet William Barnes, who was rector here for 24 years. His body now lies in the churchyard.

13. Whitcombe

Now home to race horses, this pretty hamlet also has a redundant church with wall paintings.

14. Moreton

The burial place of TE Lawrence, also known as Lawrence of Arabia. It is also known for the outstanding engraved church windows by Laurence Whistler and the lovely river setting complete with ford.

15. Briantspuddle

An unusual and picturesque village with cottages in styles from the 16th to the 19th century.

16. Turnerspuddle

A tiny hamlet with a charming church, now in private ownership.

17. Bere Regis

It contains a church housing the tombs of the Turbervilles whom Thomas Hardy translated into D'Urbevilles for his Tess.

18. Milton Abbas

Famous for its village street, abbey church and mansion (now Milton Abbey School)

19. Durweston

The 500 year old church contains sculptures of a man holding a three legged horse and a horseless leg. He is thought to be St Eloy, the patron saint of blacksmiths.

20. Stourpaine

Close to the village lies a hill which has traces of occupation by Ancient Britons and Romans. Tools, pottery and coins bearing the names of several Emperors have been found on the hilltop.

21. Gussage Hill

Extending for a mile are the remains of a very large Iron Age/ Romano British settlement on the northern slope of the hill. Some of this can be seen from the Trail.

22. Cranbourne

Now a small village, it was once a garrison for troops, who protected the Kings who hunted over the Chase.

23. Bokerley Dyke

A defensive ditch running for 6 miles across the north-east corner of Dorset. Originally built in the early 4th century, it was later extended to block the Roman Road.