

# About this walk

This walk takes you through Kilve and East Quantoxhead on the borders of the Quantock Hills with lots of geological interest, local history and fantastic views. The walk takes in the churches at Kilve and East Quantoxhead and the ruins of an old chantry in Kilve. This dates to 1329 and has been used for prayer and as a home for farm animals and a store for smugglers!

The coast here is in the Lilstock to Blue Anchor Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI); the same Jurassic Blue Lias rock that runs under West Dorset re-emerges on Somerset's coast and the limestone deposits here are rich in fossils.

## Photo credits

© Isobel Pring coastal and walk images

## Useful websites

[nationaltrail.co.uk/england-coast-path-sw](http://nationaltrail.co.uk/england-coast-path-sw)  
[somerset.gov.uk/england-coast-path](http://somerset.gov.uk/england-coast-path)  
[visitsomerset.co.uk](http://visitsomerset.co.uk)



To report any problems on the footpaths during your walk visit:  
[somerset.gov.uk/report-a-problem-with-a-public-right-of-way/](http://somerset.gov.uk/report-a-problem-with-a-public-right-of-way/)

# Kilve Circular

4 miles / 6.5km | 2.5 hours | Easy

ENGLAND  
COAST PATH  
NATIONAL TRAIL



# On your walk...

The England Coast Path is well waymarked and easy to follow. The acorn symbol of the National Trails is found on waymarks and fingerposts along the route.



Where your walk takes you away from the Coast Path it will be signed with the standard waymarks shown here:

Footpath Bridleway Permissive path

Stay safe and follow the Countryside Code on your walk and always follow guidance on local advisory signs. You can see the Countryside Code at [www.gov.uk/countryside-code](http://www.gov.uk/countryside-code).



Dogs are welcome on these walks but always keep your dog under close control near livestock and wildlife, especially ground nesting birds, and always clean up after your dog and dispose of dog waste in an appropriate bin.

For more information about this walk or to download a .gpx file, scan the QR code or visit [nationaltrail.co.uk/short-routes/kilve-circular](http://nationaltrail.co.uk/short-routes/kilve-circular)



All information correct at the time of publication

## WALK KEY INFORMATION & FACILITIES



**Distance:** 4 miles/6.5km

**Duration:** 2.5 hours

**Map:** OS Explorer 140: Quantock Hills & Bridgwater

**Grade:** Easy



### Access:

This is an easy walk on footpaths through local farmland, with some short sections on paved tracks and country lanes, and through a mix of 2-in-1 and kissing gates. There are also two routes, providing a shorter or longer option.



### Getting here:

By car to Kilve Beach, Bridgwater TA5 1EG or East Quantoxhead, Bridgwater TA5 1EJ. Kilve has a pay and display car park (pay by cash, phone or the RingGo app). East Quantoxhead has an honesty box for the upkeep of the church. Please contribute and help keep this car park available for everyone.



### Facilities:

There are public toilets at Kilve car park and a Tea Room, pub and shop in Kilve village. There is an Honesty stall for light refreshments at East Quantoxhead, as with the parking please respect the honesty system.

# Kilve Circular



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England Coast Path

Kilve Circular

## DIRECTIONS

For these directions we start at the car park in Kilve, but if you are starting in East Quantoxhead pick up the route from the bold text below.

Walk towards the coast passing to the left of the oil retort - a brick building built to extract oil from shale in the 1920s. Go through the gate and over the bridge where you can either bear left and take the paved path or right to the beach and then turn left to join the England Coast Path to head to the cliff top.

Go through the kissing gate and enjoy the stunning views of West Somerset, the Quantock Hills and Exmoor. The house on the hill ahead of you is Court House **1** in East Quantoxhead and has been the home of the Luttrell family for more than 900 years. Follow the path along the cliff until it turns inland **2**. To your right is a set of steps to the beach for those wishing to look for fossils.

For the shorter walk turn left here and continue through the fields until the path ends, where you turn right into the village of East Quantoxhead coming out by the duckpond **3**. To continue pick up the route after the bold print below.

For the longer walk stay on the Coast Path and walk along the cliff top and through a kissing gate at the top of the hill where you turn left and head inland through a metal 2-in-1 gate. Follow the field edge path through another three gates to reach a junction of paths.

Take the left path, known as Underway Lane, until you come to the road. Bear left and follow the road to the T-junction where you turn left and after a short distance reach the East Quantoxhead duckpond **3**.

This is the starting point in **East Quantoxhead**. At the far corner of the car park take the footpath to visit the Church of St Mary **4**. Returning to the duckpond take the path to the right of the pond (re-tracing your steps if you are on the short walk) and continue past the cottage on your left to the end of the track.

Go straight on following the signpost for Kilve Church and follow the field edge footpath until you reach a metal 2-in-1 gate. Stay on the track through a second gate then bear left over a small bridge and continue to the stream where you use the sleeper bridge to cross. Turn right and head for the gate into St Mary's Church in Kilve **5**. Follow the path through the churchyard and onto Sea Lane.

Turn left and walk along the track passing the ruins of an old chantry **6** and the Chantry Tearooms and then on to Kilve car park. Return to the start of the text to continue your walk if you started in East Quantoxhead.

It is also possible to complete the walk as a figure of eight, repeating the section between East Quantoxhead village and the coast.