

# The Mendip Way

## Route Directions and Maps – Uphill to Wells



## **Uphill to Loxton – 6.25 miles**

### **Start: Uphill Sluice.**

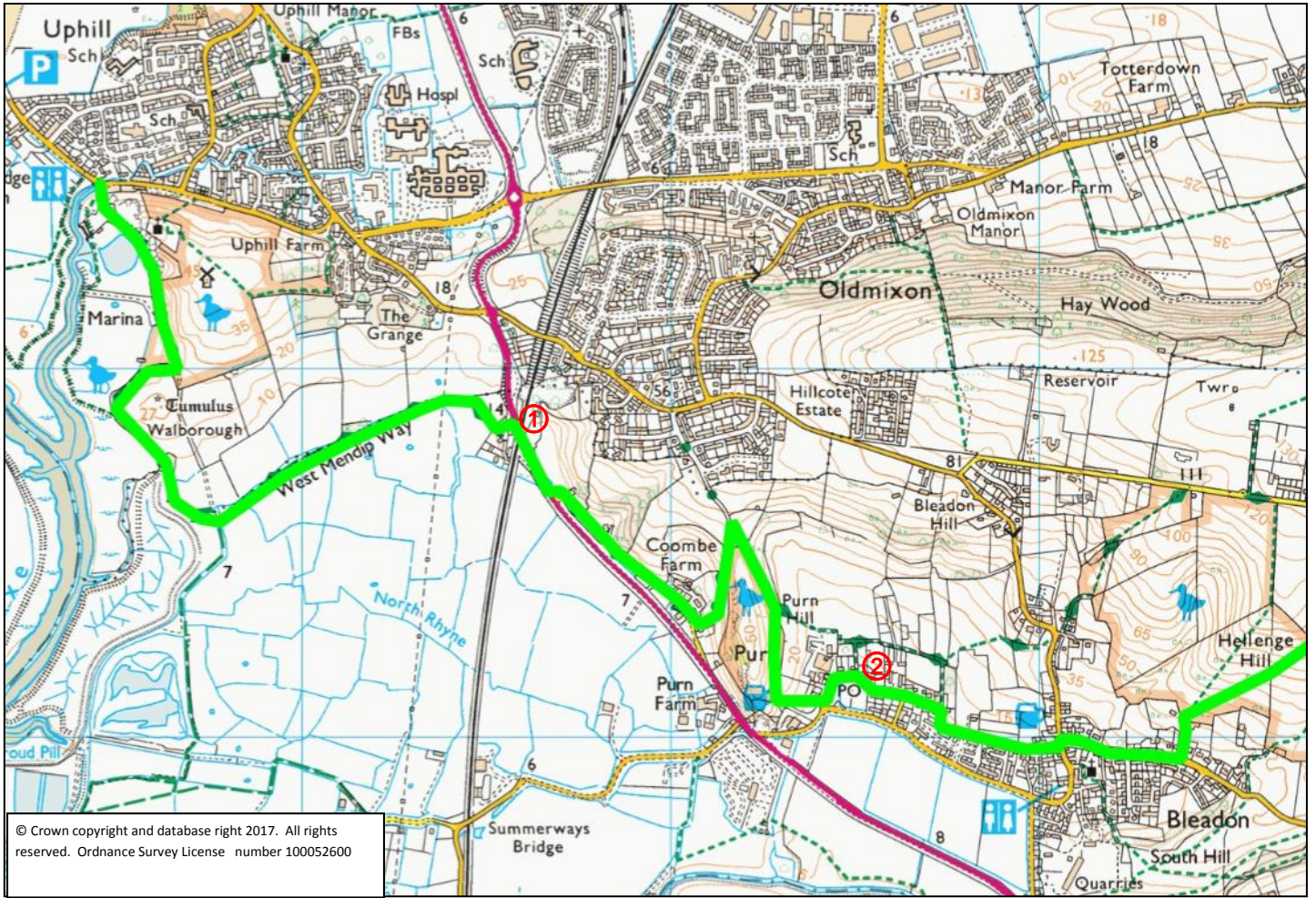
From the sluice follow the path straight ahead to Uphill and Walborough Local Nature Reserve passing the marina. This formal tarmac path eventually goes through a gate into a field. Leave the tarmac path and head straight ahead veering right off the track. Go through the gap in the wall and then through the kissing gate to enter Walborough Nature Reserve. Follow the gently rising path uphill skirting the edge of the hill in an anti-clockwise direction overlooking the low lying land to your right with Brean Down in the Distance.

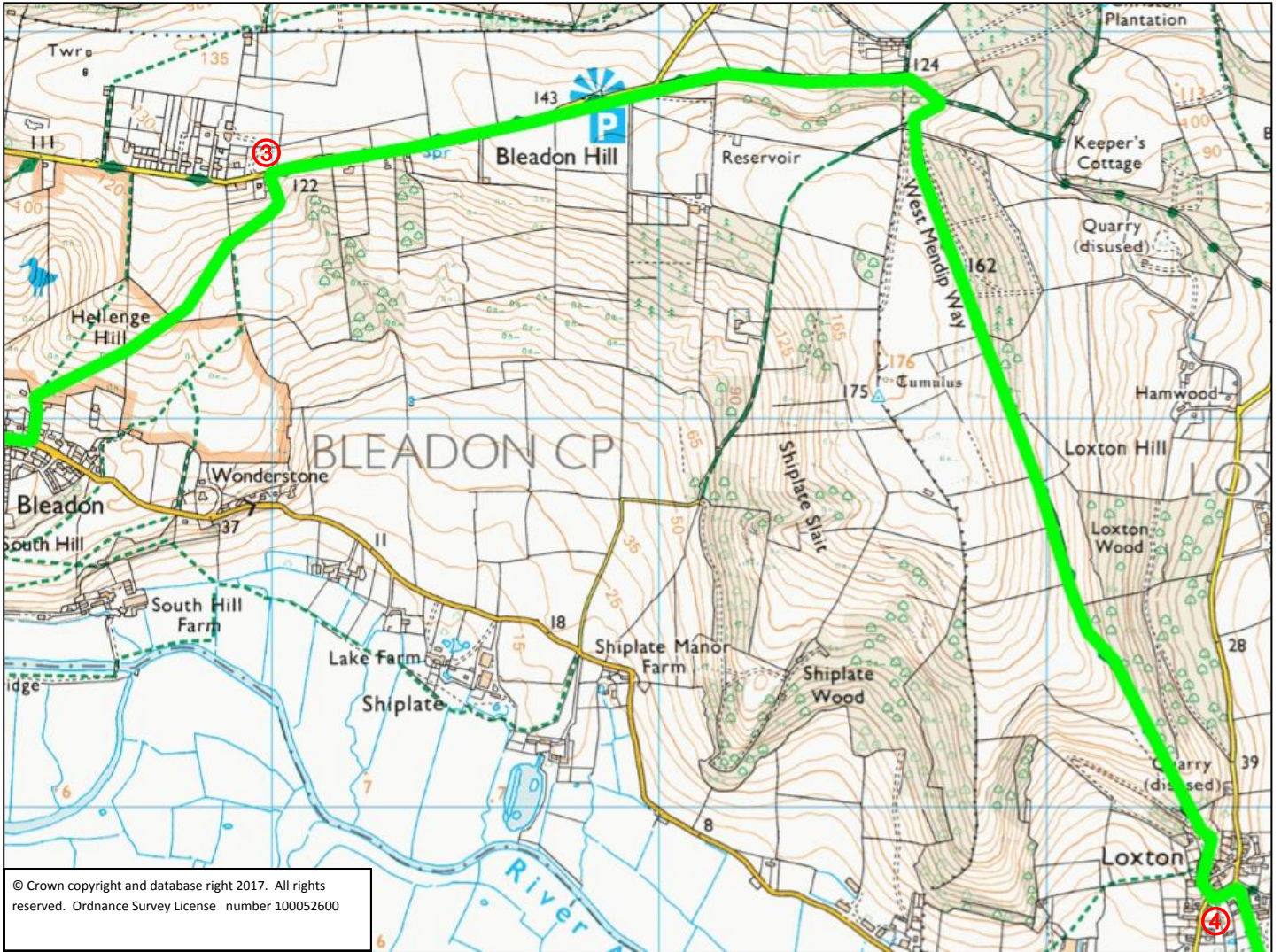
As the path bears left around the hill cross over the start of the embankment and head down the slope (do not go through gate onto Bleadon Levels) until you come to the footbridge. Bear left after the bridge to rejoin the tarmac path. Once on the tarmac, turn right and go through the gate and then immediately left through the gate onto the track. Follow this grassy track which eventually turns into a more defined track which eventually leads to a gate. Go through the gate and turn left to the main road.

1. At the main road turn right and walk along the pavement passing over a railway bridge. As the road bends left slightly, cross over and take the side road opposite. Follow this road as it bends to the right and then runs parallel to the main road. Just after the sports court you pass Coombe Farm then take a grassy path on your left between two hedges which heads directly uphill. Follow this path uphill as it bears left and becomes rocky underfoot. When you reach the stone track at the top turn right through the gate onto Purn Hill.

Follow the fence on the left heading downhill between two hedgerows. Continue down the path (ignoring the gate on the left) to the bottom of the hill and go through gate and turn left then follow path to the road. Turn left down Purn Way and go past the Farm Shop following the road round to the right. At the end of the road turn right onto the lane. On the second left hand bend keep straight ahead onto the narrow path until it meets another lane.

2. Continue to the end of the lane and turn left and immediately follow Shiplate Road round to the right. As the road starts to rise above a grassy bank on the right, turn left up a steep lane. Go through the gate ahead onto Hellenge Hill. Take the right hand path and head up the hill diagonally right. Go through a gate then over a stile further on and keep straight across the field to the hedge. Go through the hedge and head diagonally up the hill on the path going around the buildings on the right hand side to meet the road.
3. Turn right and walk along Roman Road. Just after passing a car park on the left, where the road turns left and downhill, take the bridleway straight ahead. Follow the bridleway for 600 metres to a T-junction and turn right and head uphill a short way then turn right again at the next waymarker. Continue to the next junction and take the left-hand bridleway along the side of a plantation of trees. After climbing gently the path descends steadily, passing Loxton Wood and then descends more steeply into the village of Loxton.





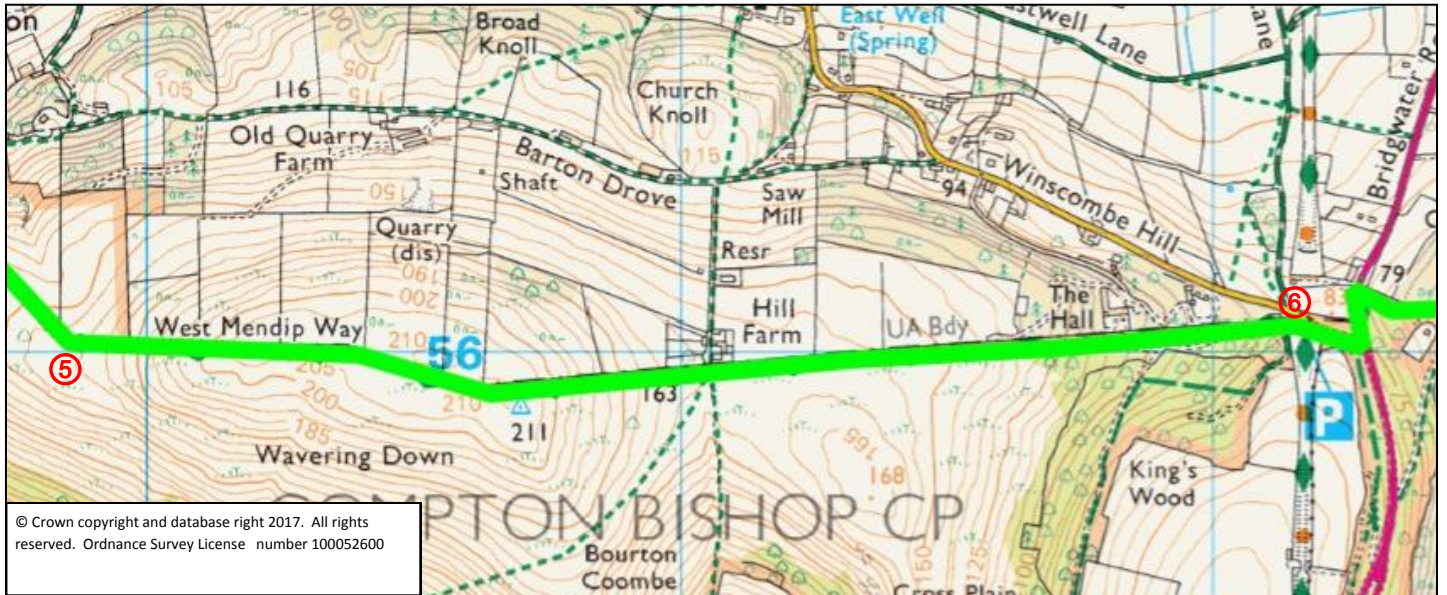
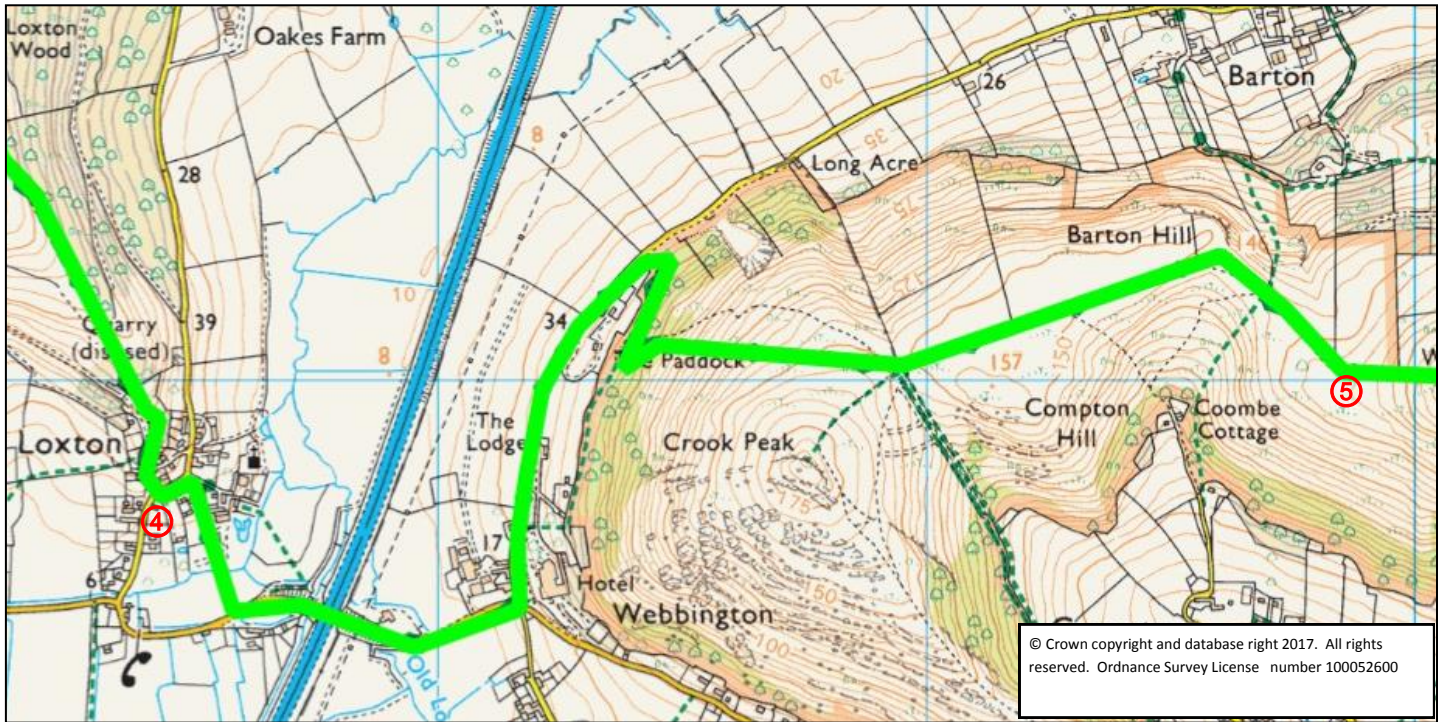
## **Loxton to Shipham – 5.51 miles**

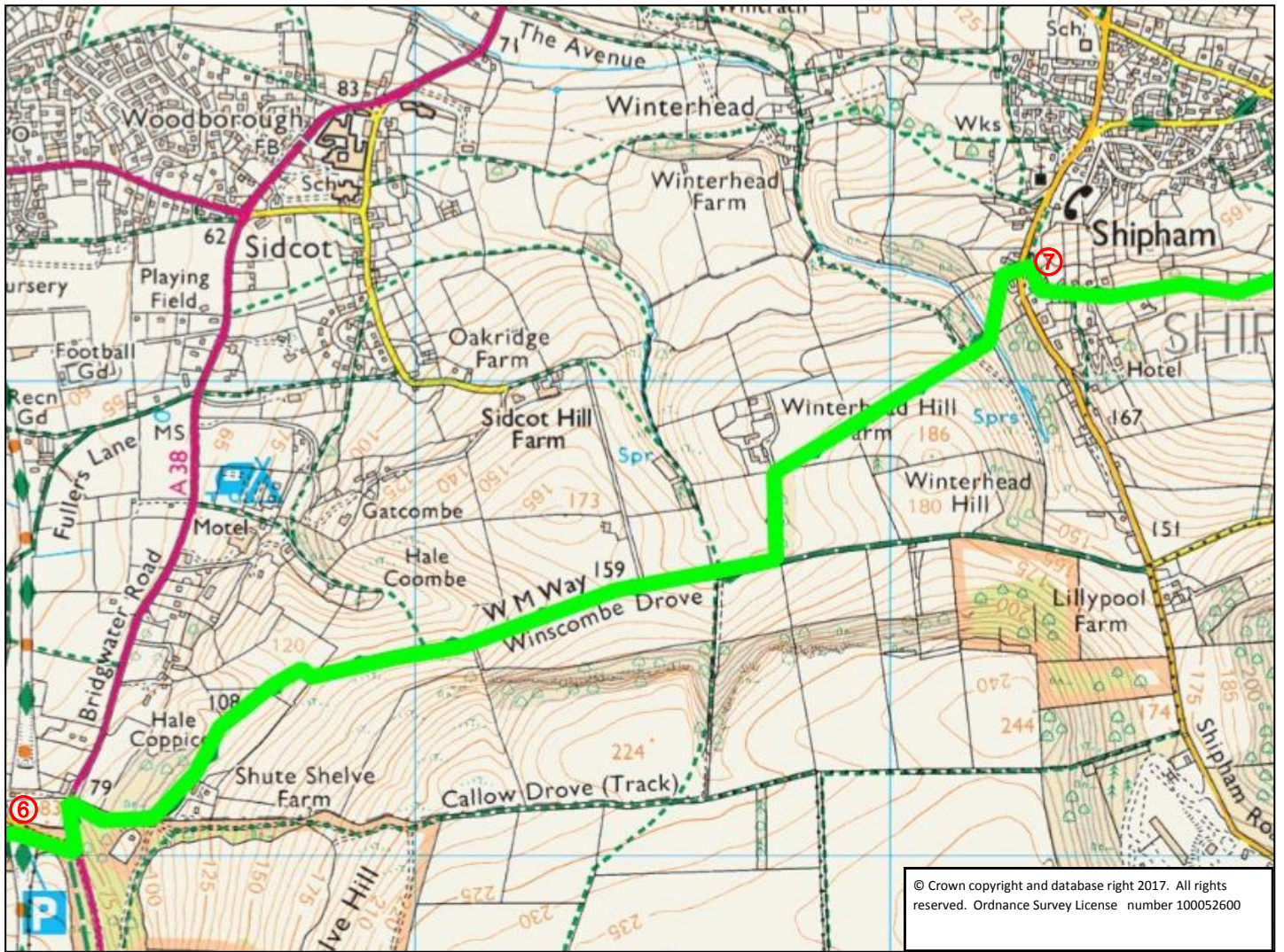
4. As the path turns into a tarmac lane you pass a house on the left before bearing gently to the left passing the old hunting lodge. Immediately after the lodge, turn sharply right down a narrow path which opens up passing a seating area opposite the old school house on your left. On reaching the road turn right and walk along until you shortly take a right turn down Church Lane on your right. Walk along the gated footpath until the bottom and then exit the gate on the right crossing the lane at the bottom. Go up the few steps opposite and turn left following the path between the farm and the outbuildings.

Go through the gate and across the field diagonally to the right heading to the gap in the trees opposite. Go through the gate beyond the trees and turn right along the lane until it reaches the main road. Turn left on the road walking over the motorway before gently rising uphill. Take the road on the left signposted Winscombe and follow this road for 0.75km passing “The Lodge” and “The Paddock” as it bends slightly to the right. Eventually you get to a small open area on your right. Turn right here up the slope and go through the gate. Go straight on following the path along the edge of the woods. Eventually you reach a path on the left which takes you up a steep hill towards Crook Peak. The path starts to bear to the right and eventually reaches the flat ridge at the top. Follow the path to the corner of the drystone wall at the top. (To your right is Crook Peak which is worth a short detour for the fine views) Turn left and follow the wall to your left. Keep walking along the wall as it first turns to the right then the left.

5. Carry along as it rises up to the trig point on Wavering Down. Continue down from the trig point following the wall as it enters the woodland. Follow the path straight down until it reaches the car park at the bottom of the hill.
6. Go straight through the car park cross over the road and turn right onto the footpath through the trees. As it reaches the main road turn left and walk along the pavement. Just before the petrol station, cross over the road using the traffic island for safety.

Walk up the lane opposite until you reach the farm entrance at the top. Turn left along the bridleway to the left following this undulating track for quite a while. Eventually the track starts to go downhill after another lane joins from the left. Keep straight on, ignoring the paths to the right and left in the dip and continue up the hill. As the track rises you quickly come across another track to your left and follow it along. Opposite the farm gate go over the stile on your right into the field. Follow the path straight across to the hedge on the far side. Go over the stile and head straight on through the next field keeping the hedge to your left. At the far end of the field take the steps down the steep hill through the woodland and cross over the bridge at the bottom. Take the path up the hill and to the left, go over the stile and along the short path to the road at Shipham.





## Shipham to Cheddar – 5.85 miles

7. Turn right along the road and then immediately left up Tempers Way. Go up the road passing the benches on your left and at the top take the tarmac drive which takes you straight on. Go through the gate and along the drive. After the house at the end, go straight ahead where the tarmac ends and continue along the narrow path into the woods.

Follow this path through the woods as it continues down and reaches the open field at the end. Turn left in the open area and head down the hill through the gruffy ground (old mineral workings). Continue down until you meet the stile made of steel poles and concrete posts. Ignore the stile and turn right in front of it following the field boundary on your left. Go through the metal kissing gate at the end of the field and along the short track beyond. At the end turn left on the lane and head down to the road at the bottom. Turn right on the road and head up the hill.

8. At the top of this road where it meets a lane crossing it, go straight ahead on to the path opposite and slightly right. Follow this path all the way down to the bottom and cross over the stream. Turn immediately right over the stream following this path keeping the stream to your right. After a short while the path starts to move away from the stream and head up the hill. Where this path meets the forest road, turn right and continue along as it gently rises up the hill.

At the crossroads go straight across onto the track opposite and follow this all the way along to Tynings Farm and riding centre. Follow the track left around the stables and then right down to the road.

9. As you leave Tynings riding stables on the corner of the road turn left and walk along the road. Take the farm road on the right over the cattle grid and then take the right hand fork following the road past the farm as it turns into a stone track. At the end of the first field past the farm turn left through the gate and walk along the edge of the field following the wall to your right. Follow the boundary all the way to the end of this very long field. At the far corner go through the gate and follow the wide rocky path to the left down through the woods.

10. At the bottom of the hill go through the right hand kissing gate straight ahead. Continue along the rocky track and at the bottom follow the path as it turns to the right. Continue downhill passing the limestone cliffs on the right. After the cliffs the path bends to the right and turns into a more defined track

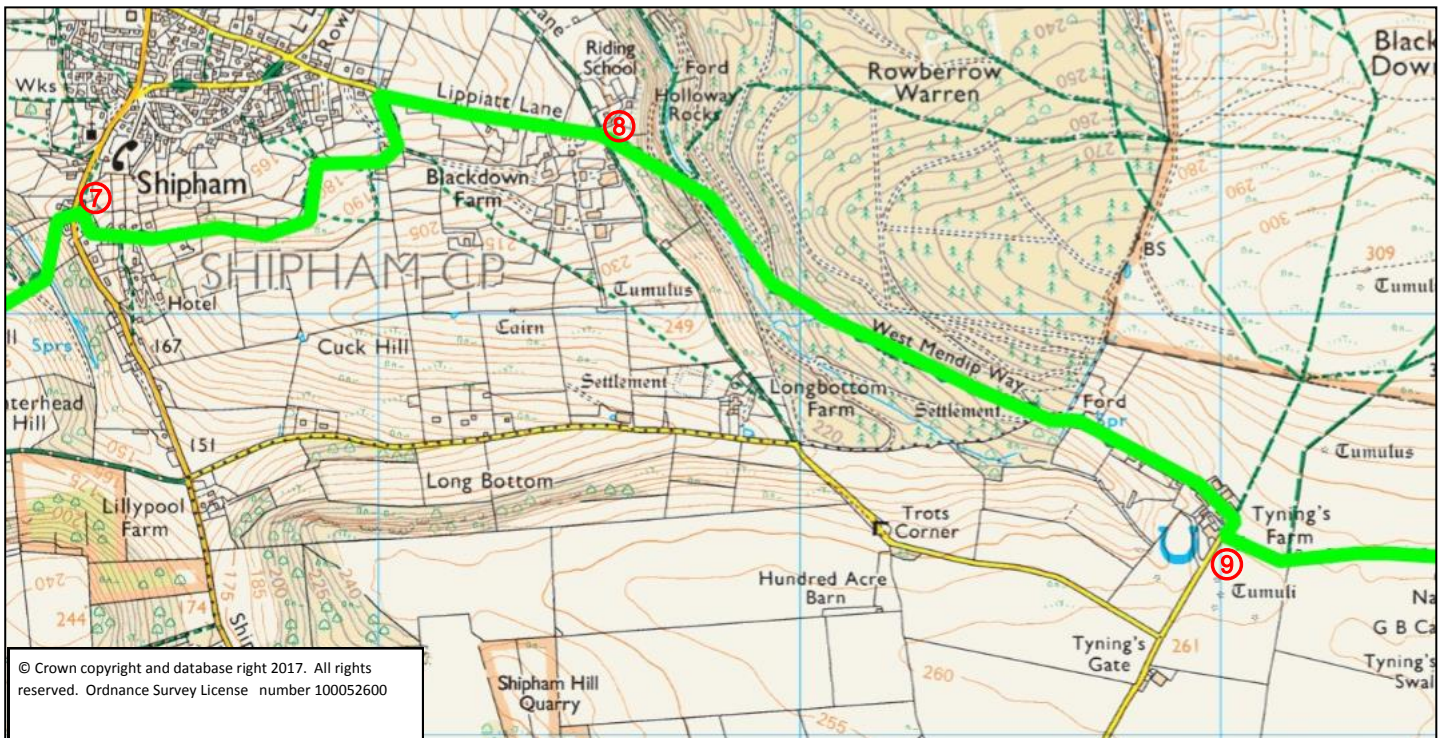
On reaching a field gate on the track turn right go up a rocky path leading through woodland, go through a kissing gate and then downhill to a drystone wall. Go through a kissing gate in the wall and continue straight ahead up a series of steps and then continue ahead along the gorge walk route.

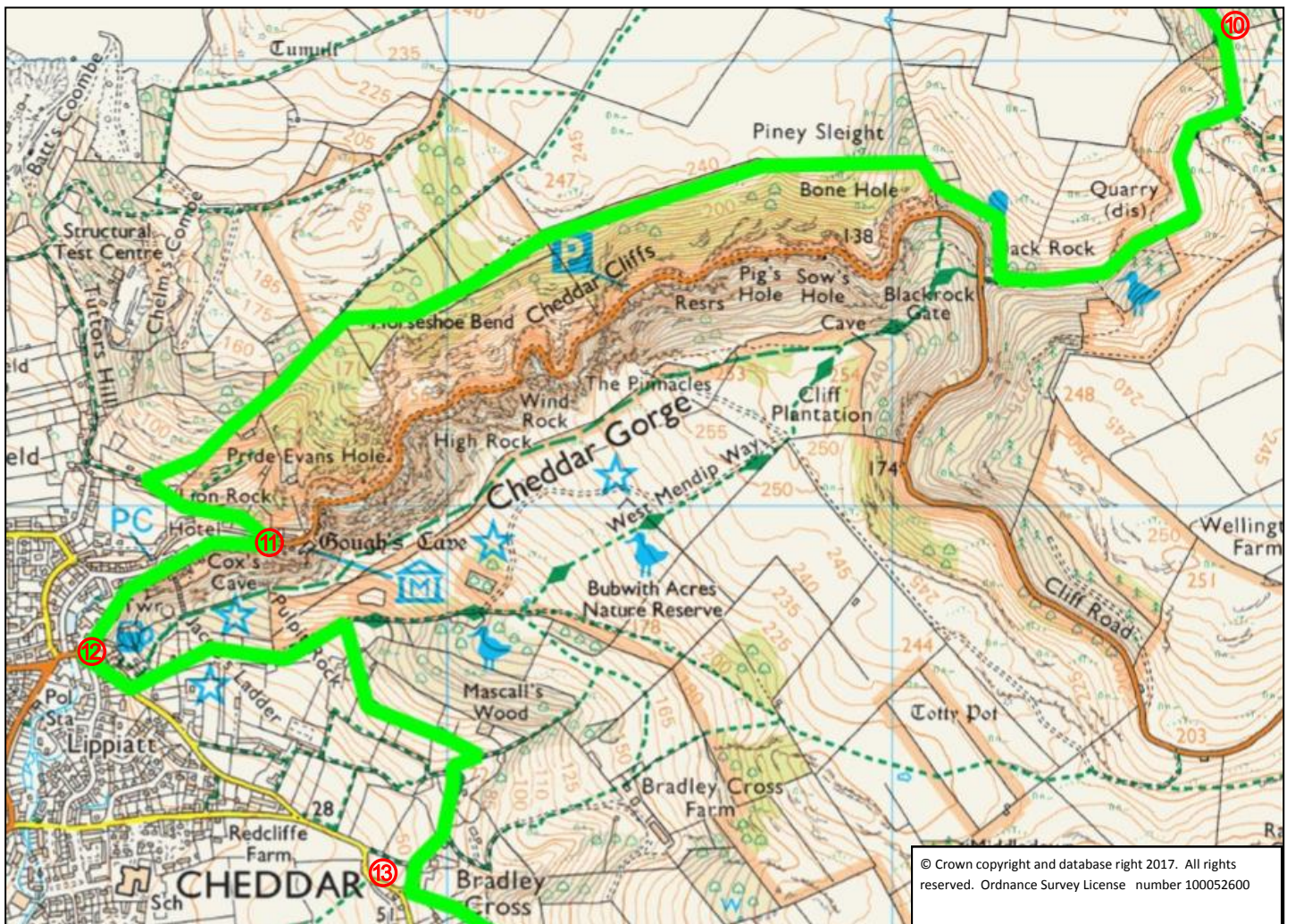
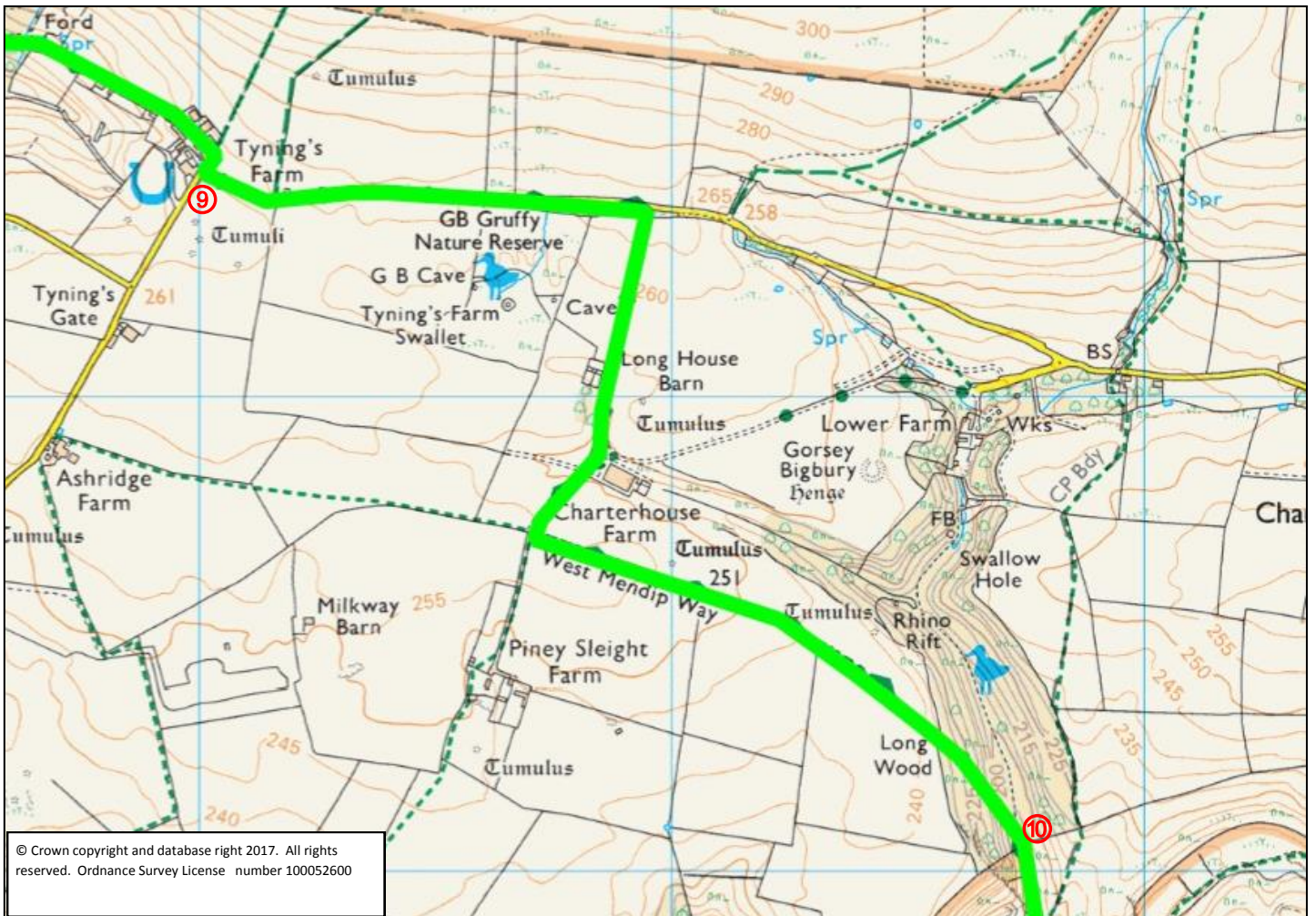
Go through a kissing gate next to a dry stone wall and continue ahead downhill. As the path enters an open grassy field bear right away from the gorge, go past a field gate to go through a gap in the dry stone wall in the corner of the field. Turn immediately sharp left to go over a wooden stile, then after a few metres bear right and downhill through woods. Go through a kissing gate in a dry stone wall and turn



left, then through another kissing gate leaving the woods and continue downhill until the path joins a tarmac lane. Just before the tarmac turn sharp left onto a narrow path between walls and behind a cottage. Where the path emerges onto a tarmac lane turn left and follow the lane downhill to join a road.

11. Turn right onto the road and walk downhill through the lower gorge leading to Cheddar Village.

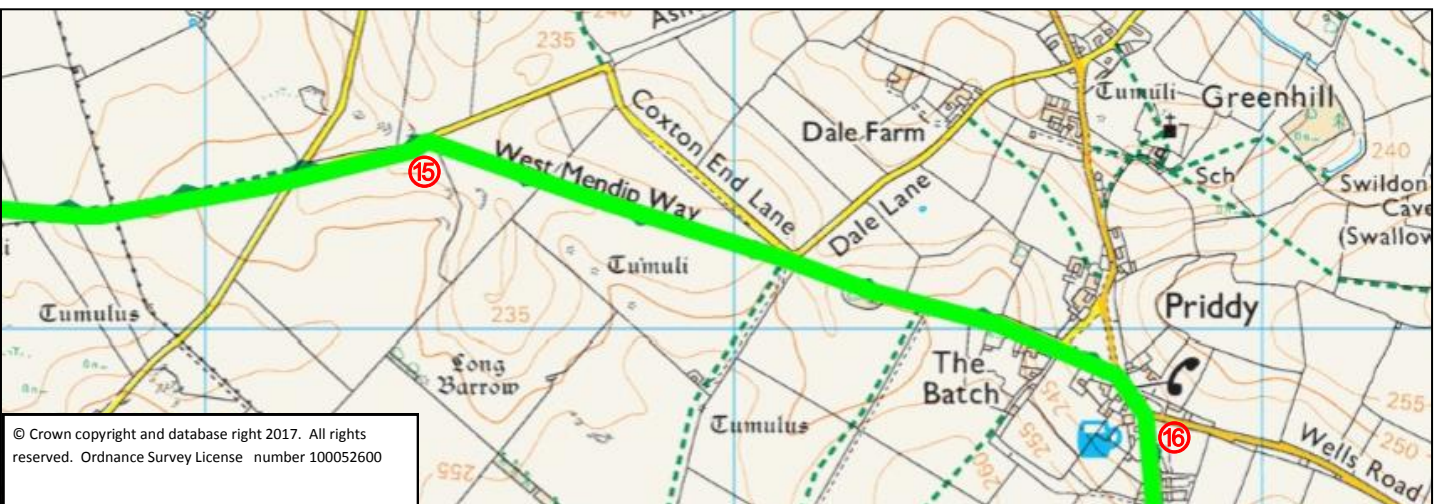
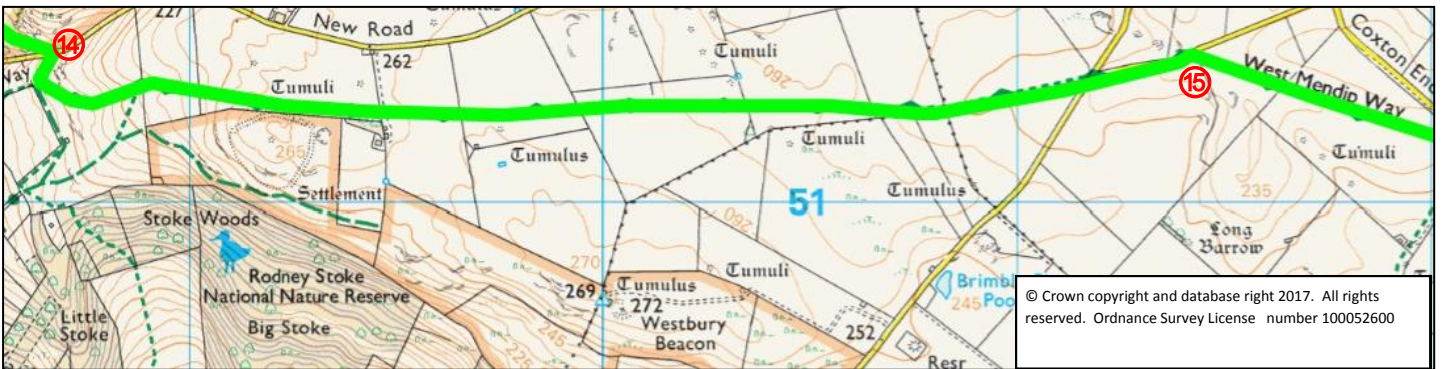
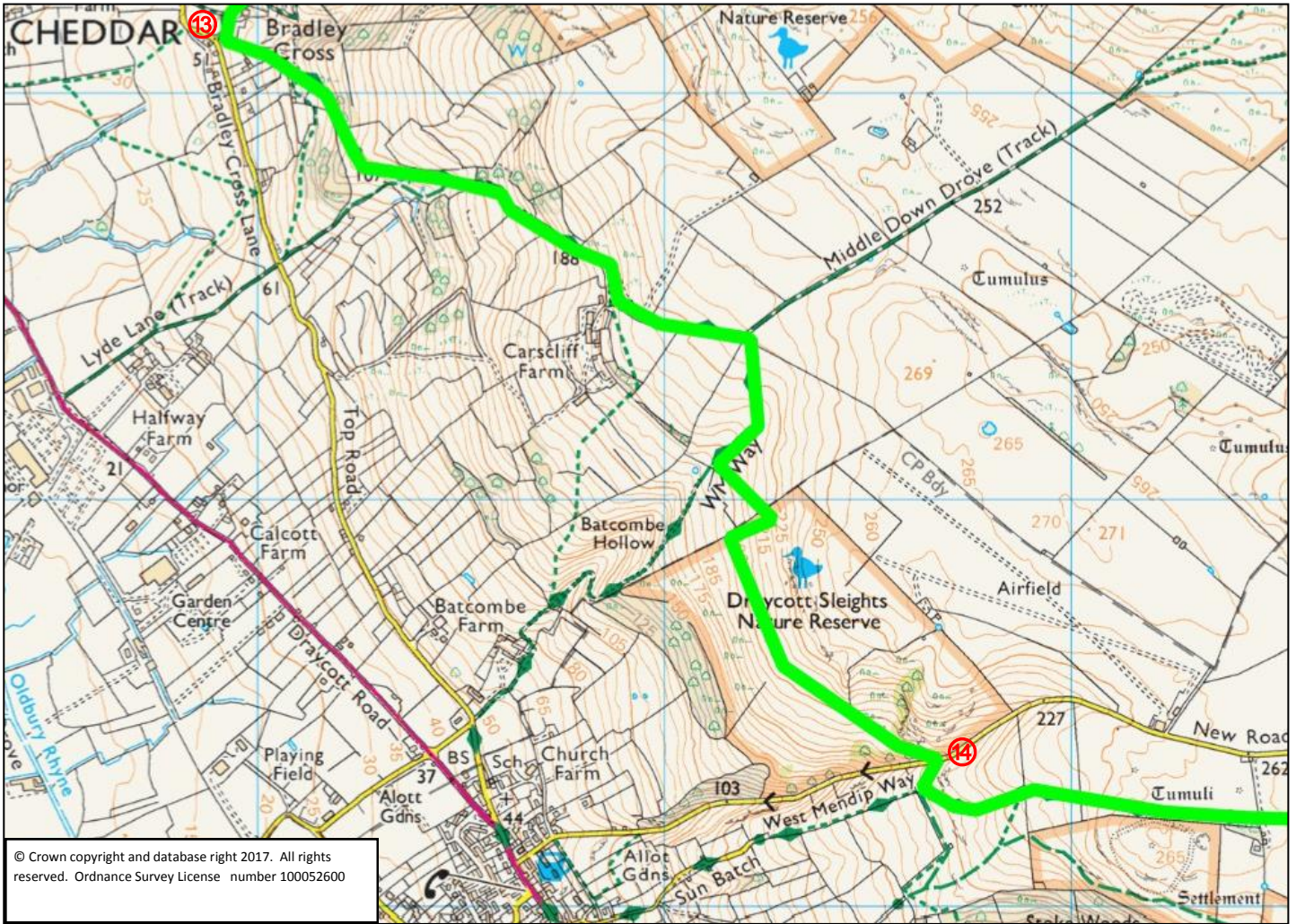




## **Cheddar to Priddy – 5.49 miles**

12. Just before the road bridge crossing the River Yeo turn left at the Black Dog Bar to head up the narrow Lippiatt Lane with cottages on the left. Turn left into Lynch Lane and follow this track to a “public bridleway” signpost and bear right. Follow the path uphill, through a pedestrian gate next to a field gate and continue ahead then turn right through a gate and follow a narrow lane. Turn right at the T-Junction at the end of this lane and then first left to go past a house called “Owley” and then along the track.
  
13. Just before reaching the road turn left and head up the lane. Follow the lane up the hill through a gate and on to a grassy track. Go through the next gate and continue up to the left before bearing right between two grassy banks. Go through the gate and up the track through the woods. At the top go through the gate and take the track directly opposite heading up the hill going through another gate and continuing on the track. As the track bears left take the small gate on the right. Follow the path across the field to a gate on the far side. Enter Draycott Sleights Nature Reserve and turn immediately right down the hill. At the bottom turn left through the gate and follow the track all the way along to the road.
  
14. Go straight across the road over the stile and bear right on the path. When you reach the stile on your right turn left and take the path up the hill. Head up to the stile on the left at the top, cross and head diagonally right across the field to the stile. Head diagonally uphill to the right until the path meets the wall on the right and follow it along. Cross the next stone stile by the copse next to the farm house and cross straight crossing the stile and the following field over the next field. Go over the far stile then head diagonally right to meet the wall on the right and follow it along over two more stiles onto a road. Cross over the road and take the side road opposite until it bends to the left.
  
15. After the bend take the path on the right and cross the field heading diagonally to the left to the stile at the far side. Cross the stile and follow the path straight on up the shallow valley. Follow it to the left of the depressions and up to the stile at the top left hand side of the field.

Go through the gate and stile onto the road and turn right walking along the road into Priddy. As you enter Priddy keep to the right hand side of the village green.



## Priddy to Wells – 5.55 miles

16. At the end of the village green turn right and then immediately right again down the side road leading past the Queen Victoria Inn. Keep going on the road past the houses and then just as you leave Priddy through the parish gateway take the path on the left before the road bears to the right. Walk down the left hand side of the field and then at the end turn right and walk along the top of the field. Go over the stile and continue straight on until you come to a stile on the left. Go over the stile and turn right and follow path as it winds along until you come to a track. Turn left on the track and follow it until another track comes in from the left.
17. Just after this junction turn onto the track on the right. At the farm take the right hand track passing between two buildings, Follow the path ahead round to the left and then turn right through the gate at the end. Go through the left hand gate and follow the hedge on your right until you reach a stile. Go over the stile and follow the path round to the right which takes you to the kissing gate at Ebbor Gorge Nature Reserve. Take the path down the hill through the reserve. Go through the woods crossing a path and then turn left just before the path to the viewing point. Go down the path and the steps until you reach a flat path at the bottom. Turn left at this path and leave the woods by the stile and follow the path down the small valley to the road.
18. Turn Left on the road and follow it along and past the Wookey Hole Caves. As the road bends to the right by School Hill go through the gap in the wall opposite and up the narrow path. Go over two stiles and then turn right in the field and follow the hedge on the right. Go over the stile and keep straight ahead until you come to the road. Turn right down the road until the junction at the bottom.
19. Turn left and take the path on the left. Go straight up the hill following the hedge then go through the kissing gate and follow the path. At the end of the path take the gate on your left just before the end. Turn diagonally left in the field and follow the path up the spur on the left. Go through the gate and continue up to the top of the hill.

At the top of the hill bear right and go down through the woods to the gate in the corner. Go through the gate and follow the narrow path on the left hand side of the field. At the far end go through the kissing gate and straight ahead passing the lime kilns on your left. Turn left on the lane and follow it along to the end. Turn right on the road it meets and go through the gate and continue along. Where the road bends left take the path on the right and follow the track until it bears right into a field. At this point go straight ahead down the path to the right of the house and follow it down the hill. Cross over the road and keep on the path opposite until you reach another road. Take the path opposite and slightly left into the field behind the houses and head over to the school grounds straight ahead. Go through the school gate and cross straight over the school grounds in a straight line. Follow the tarmac path until you reach the footbridge over the road. After the bridge turn left after the skateboard park and go past the sports pitches on the left to where the path joins the road. Continue along road and as it bends to the left take the lane on your right. Turn left immediately down another lane and follow to the end. Turn right onto the street and down to the mini roundabout. Turn right at the roundabout and head down to the traffic lights. Turn left down Sadler Street and then left through the archway into

cathedral Green. Keep along the left hand side until you reach the Museum and the end of the West Mendip way.

