

# Explore the Ridge

## Ideas for further walks along the South Dorset Ridgeway

South Dorset Ridgeway  
Heritage Project



The whole of the South Dorset Ridgeway is included on Ordnance Survey Explorer Map OL15.

### The Whole Route

#### *West Bexington to Osmington Mills*

Start/Finish: West Bexington Car Park (SY531864)

Finish/Start: Osmington Mills (SY735817)

Distance: 17 miles/ 27 km

Route: South Dorset Ridgeway National Trail

#### Essential Information

Parking is available at each end of the walk; a public car park at West Bexington & a private (charged) car park at Smugglers Inn, Osmington.

Public Transport: The X53 bus runs frequently along the coast road from Exeter to Poole

Refreshments are available at West Bexington (Seasonal Café & Hotel with Bar) & Osmington Mills (Public House). There are Public Toilets at West Bexington & Osmington Mills

### The Northern Spur

#### *The A35 to Abbotsbury*

Start: Martin's Down Bus Stop, A35 (SY570913)

Finish: Abbotsbury (SY576853)

Approximate Distance: 4.5 Miles/ 7.3 Km

Route: Macmillan Way

#### Essential Information

There is **No Parking** at the start of this walk

Public Transport: The 31 Bus runs from Bridport, Weymouth & Dorchester to Martin's Down/Long Bredy turn. The X35 bus runs from Abbotsbury to Bridport & Weymouth

Refreshments are available in Abbotsbury (cafes & public houses). There are Public Toilets in Abbotsbury

### Abbotsbury to Hardy Monument

Start: Abbotsbury (SY576853)

Finish: Black Down (SY612875)

Or return to Abbotsbury via Portesham, Rocket Quarry (SY610859) & disused railway line (SY598854)

Approximate Distance: 3.7 Miles/6 Km (Extension 3.4 Miles/5.47 Km)

Route: Macmillan Way from Abbotsbury Village to White Hill, South Dorset Ridgeway National Trail to Black Down

#### Essential Information

Parking in Abbotsbury & at Black Down

Public Transport: X35 to Abbotsbury & Portesham from Exeter & Poole, Via Weymouth & Bridport

Refreshments available in Abbotsbury (cafes & public houses) Public Toilets in Abbotsbury  
Seasonal Catering concession at Black Down

### Upwey to Osmington

Start: Upwey, Ridgeway Hill (SY670849)

Finish: Osmington, Church Lane(SY724828)

Approximate Distance: 6 Miles/10 Km

Route: South Dorset Ridgeway National Trail

#### Essential Information

Limited Parking at Upwey & Osmington

Public Transport: Upwey, bus service from Weymouth/Dorchester; Osmington Village, X53 bus to Weymouth & Poole

Refreshments available at Upwey & Osmington (Public Houses)

#### Useful Links:

[The Official Guide to the South West Coast Path](#)

[Traveline South West](#)

[The Macmillan Way](#)