

About this walk

The full Castles & Coast Way is 13 miles or 21km, but we have divided it into two loops that can be walked together or separately and join in Stogursey.

The Coast loop takes in the England Coast Path between Lillstock and Hinkley Point with stunning views of the Severn Estuary. Turning inland it passes through the old Acland-Hood Estate to Stogursey before returning to the coast through the village of Shurton.

There is a great deal of history associated with this walk, which can be accessed using the QR code and link in this leaflet.

Photo credits

© Cover image Isobel Pring, walk image Rachael Mead.

Useful websites

nationaltrail.co.uk/england-coast-path-sw
somerset.gov.uk/england-coast-path
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/

ENGLAND COAST PATH Castles & Coast Way: Coast

NATIONAL TRAIL

8 miles / 13km | 4 hours | Moderate



On your walk...



The Castles & Coast Way is well waymarked and easy to follow. The castle symbol for the route is found on waymarks and fingerposts along the route and the England Coast Path section is marked with the Acorn.

Other standard waymarks are 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.



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/castles-coast



All information correct at the time of publication

WALK KEY INFORMATION & FACILITIES



Distance: 8 miles/13km

Duration: 4 hours

Map: OS Explorer 140: Quantock Hills & Bridgwater

Grade: Easy to Moderate



Access:

This route is described as Easy to Moderate for its length and terrain, though it is mostly flat. It includes a mix of stiles and gates with footpaths, farmland and tracks, country lanes and an optional section of rocky shore.



Getting here:

By car to Lillstock Beach, Bridgwater TA5 1SU There is a small private car park that the public may use with permission, but please be considerate of residents and other users; currently use of the car park is free.



Facilities:

There are shops and pubs in Shurton and Stogursey, which you pass through on your walk. The nearest public toilets are at the car parks in Kilve and Nether Stowey, which also have more refreshment options.

Castles & Coast Way: Coast



© Crown copyright. All rights reserved (Somerset County Council) (100038382) (2022)

England Coast Path  Castles & Coast Way 

DIRECTIONS

Leave the car park going towards the beach but take the first right on to the England Coast Path. Go through the gate and turn left onto the cliff top path. At the end of this field turn inland to the Knapp Plantation **1**. Continue straight on until you see signs on the left taking you along the northern edge of Honibere Wood **2**.

At the end of this field go through the gate and continue to a second gate and a junction of paths. Take the far right path and continue to a kissing gate on your left, with steps down to Culver Street Lane **3**. Turn left and then right through a kissing gate and continue straight on across several fields to Knighton Lane **4**. Cross the lane and go through the gate opposite. Turn right and follow the field edge, passing through any gates, to reach a kissing gate in the hedge leading on to Shurton Road **5**.

Cross the road with care and turn left, then right onto the access road to the fishing lakes. Continue straight on, and through any gates, and over the culvert **6**. Turn right to a field gate **7**, and then keep right and walk along the hedge. At the next boundary go through two gates and continue along the hedge, ignore the unmarked kissing gate, and turn left in the corner of the field to reach a kissing gate on your right. Go through this gate and across the field to a gate into the recreation ground **8**. Follow the path around the ground to a kissing gate onto an access

road and then on to Tower Hill where you turn left.

Continue until you reach Town Close where you turn left and then take the footpath between numbers 37 and 39. Go through the kissing gate and continue to the stile. Once over the stile turn right and walk along the hedge and across three fields to return to the field gate **7**. Walk to the culvert **6** but take the kissing gate to the right onto a track which later joins Shurton Lane. Turn left and follow the lane through Shurton **9**, crossing the bridge over the stream, until you reach the junction with Shurton Road.

Cross the road with care and turn right to reach Benhole Cottage **10**. Take the footpath on the left and after a short distance leave the path using the steps on your right. Turn left at the top and continue north until you reach the coast with Hinkley Point **11** on your right. Turn left here and follow the England Coast Path along the cliff tops to re-join your earlier route and return to the car park.

It is worth exploring the beach and the remains of Lilstock Harbour at the start or end of your walk. To do this head to the coast and turn right at the beach. On your right is the site of what was once Lilstock Harbour **12** and on your left the remains of the slipway running through the beach. In the woods to your right are the ruins of old houses, limekilns and quayside warehouses hidden in the trees.