

# Bounding around Blagdon, Butcombe and the border country

A circular walk around the villages of Blagdon and Butcombe and the countryside bordering our neighbours at Bath and North East Somerset.

**B**lagdon is a bustling village in the south east of the district and overlooks the tranquil Blagdon Lake. From the car park near the fire station head downhill along Station Road. As you walk downwards you can glimpse the lake between the houses.



When you reach the bottom of Station Road you can see the remains of the old railway line

on your left. A house now sits on the old platform.

Walk along the road and across the dam passing the Bristol Water pumping station and the visitor centre on your right. Unfortunately the visitor centre is only open to pre-booked schools parties or groups. More details about the centre can be found at [www.bristolwater.co.uk](http://www.bristolwater.co.uk)

The pumping station is an imposing red brick structure that looks like a stately home rather than a utilities building.



Carry on along the dam, cross over the bridge and go through the metal circular gate on the right. Follow the path by the lakeside with a lovely view across Blagdon Lake with woods to your left.

Take a break at one of the lakeside benches where you can sit and watch the ducks on the water.

As the path winds around the lake look back to take in Blagdon

# Walk information

**Distance:** about 4.5 miles

**Difficulty:** medium. A few stiles and gates. Muddy tracks so wear wellies or stout boots

**Duration:** 2.5 – 3 hours

**Map:** OS Explorer 151 and 141

**Refreshments:** There's a number of pubs in Blagdon and Fanny Adams Vintage sells tea and coffee too



village perched on the hillside in the distance. Cross the footbridge and follow the path as it veers into a wooded area, leaving the lake behind you.

When you come to a fence across the path turn left, don't cross the footbridge which is on your right. You'll see a stile with public footpath signs indicating go right.



Climb the stile and turn right following the slight path at the edge of the field and cross another stile. Keep to the edge of the field with the wood and stream to your right. Go through the gate and across the field to another stile – you'll see two chimneys of a cottage on the horizon. At the gate

cross over the stile and back into the wooded area. Follow the path in the woods which follows the fence line. The path meanders amongst the trees with the stream below you on the right.

Cross the stream at a small footbridge. Carry on the path until it meets the road. Turn right and walk into the village of Butcombe. Follow the road around to the left as it steadily rises before you. Follow the road signs indicating Winford and Bristol.

The road curves to the right and climbs once again. As you walk up the road glance to your right to see the church on the other hillside.

Keep your eyes peeled for a public footpath on the left. There's a small footpath sign on a gate post. Go through the gate and walk across the field



veering a little to the right as you head for a series of tall trees on the horizon. Aim for the small gate on the right of the hedge line. Go through the gate and please remember to close it behind you.

Then turn left and go along the muddy track of Sutton Lane, with its high hedges. This is the highest point of the walk so from now on it's downhill until

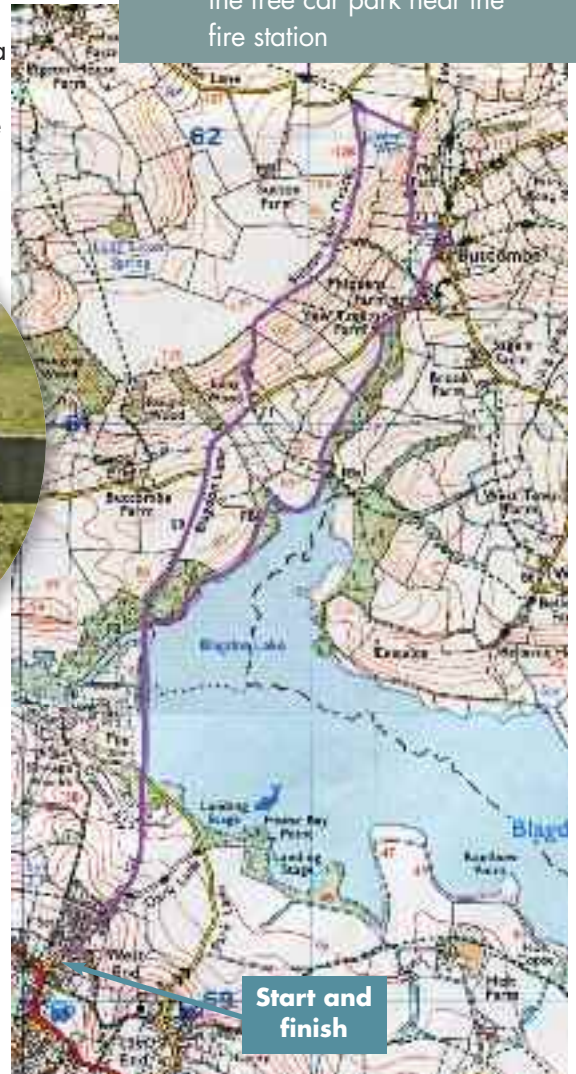
you reach the lake. Just keep to the track, which eventually runs into Blagdon Lane. Upon reaching the causeway you're back on familiar territory and it's a walk across the causeway and back up the hill to the car park.



## How to get there

Start at map reference ST 501590 (OS 141) or post code BS40 7TA

**Car:** The village of Blagdon is on the A368 between Weston-super-Mare and Bath. Park in the free car park near the fire station



**Start and finish**

Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. (North Somerset Council, 100023397, 2011)