

Going uphill in Uphill

Enjoy d



Walk information

Distance: about 3 miles

Difficulty: medium/hard – some steep uphill sections. Loose stones and muddy paths. Wear wellies in winter

Accessibility: 1 stile (kissing gates at other fences). Path through Uphill Nature Reserve is wheelchair-friendly

Duration: about 2.5 hrs

Map: OS Explorer 153

Refreshments: Pubs and restaurants in Uphill

Public toilets: Links Road

How to get there

Car

From the A370, turn into Uphill Road South. On-road parking

Bus

Service 5 runs from Weston-super-Mare town centre to Uphill



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Dramatic views across both land and sea during this energetic walk

From Uphill Road South, near the junction with the A370, there is a gate into the Woodland Trust's Plantation and Bluebell Field. A number of paths lead through the woodland but head away from the road towards the top right, where a little wooden bridge leads back out onto Coldharbour Lane, a stone track.

Turn left out of the woods and walk straight ahead, across the golf course. The public footpath continues straight ahead, up a little dirt track behind the stone wall. Go up and over the mound, taking care on the steep descent onto the beach.

Turn left at the beach, heading towards the car park. Join Links Road and follow this until you get to Uphill Sluice. Uphill lies below the high tide level so a sluice, which prevents high tide flooding, has existed here since 1606.

Turn into the car park here and follow the road past Uphill Boat Centre. Further on the left you will see a preserved lime kiln, which was built between 1780 and 1850 to provide lime to make the Mendip soils less acidic, for mortar, and to whiten houses.

Go through the kissing gate into Uphill Nature Reserve, which currently has a Green Flag award, making it one of the best green spaces in the country.

Follow the path through the reserve, with the quarry (which was used from the 1800s to 1940s) on your



left. On your left you will also pass a 19th century powder house, used to store explosives for blasting the quarry stone.

Continue through a gate, towards the brow of the hill, with views across Brean Down behind you. Go through another gate to leave the nature reserve and follow the path downhill. Before going through the next gate, veer back round to your right to join the West Mendip Way footpath.

Cross the field, go through kissing gates to cross a little wooden bridge, and keep to the left edge of the field. The path veers uphill but a smaller path

veers downhill on the left. Cross a stile and follow this path, which runs alongside the River Axe, back towards Uphill Boat Centre.

Cut through the boat yard to rejoin Links Road and turn right. The public footpath continues on the right, just past the turning for Old Church Road. This is a steep climb to the top of the hill and St Nicholas Church but the views are worth it.

Walk through the graveyard and turn left at the end of the path through another gate. Walk straight ahead, across the brow of the hill, past the tower. The tower stands on the site of an old windmill and was built as a beacon.

Climb to the top to enjoy views across the Mendips, Quantocks, and Glastonbury Tor.

Continue ahead and at the woodland, keep to the right edge of the field, which then joins Folly Lane. Bear right and a quick left onto Uphill Road South. Here you can walk back to the starting point, with a short public footpath behind the church to cut the corner off.



Did you know?

Walks previously published in *Life* can be downloaded in PDF format from the council's website. Visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/lifewalks