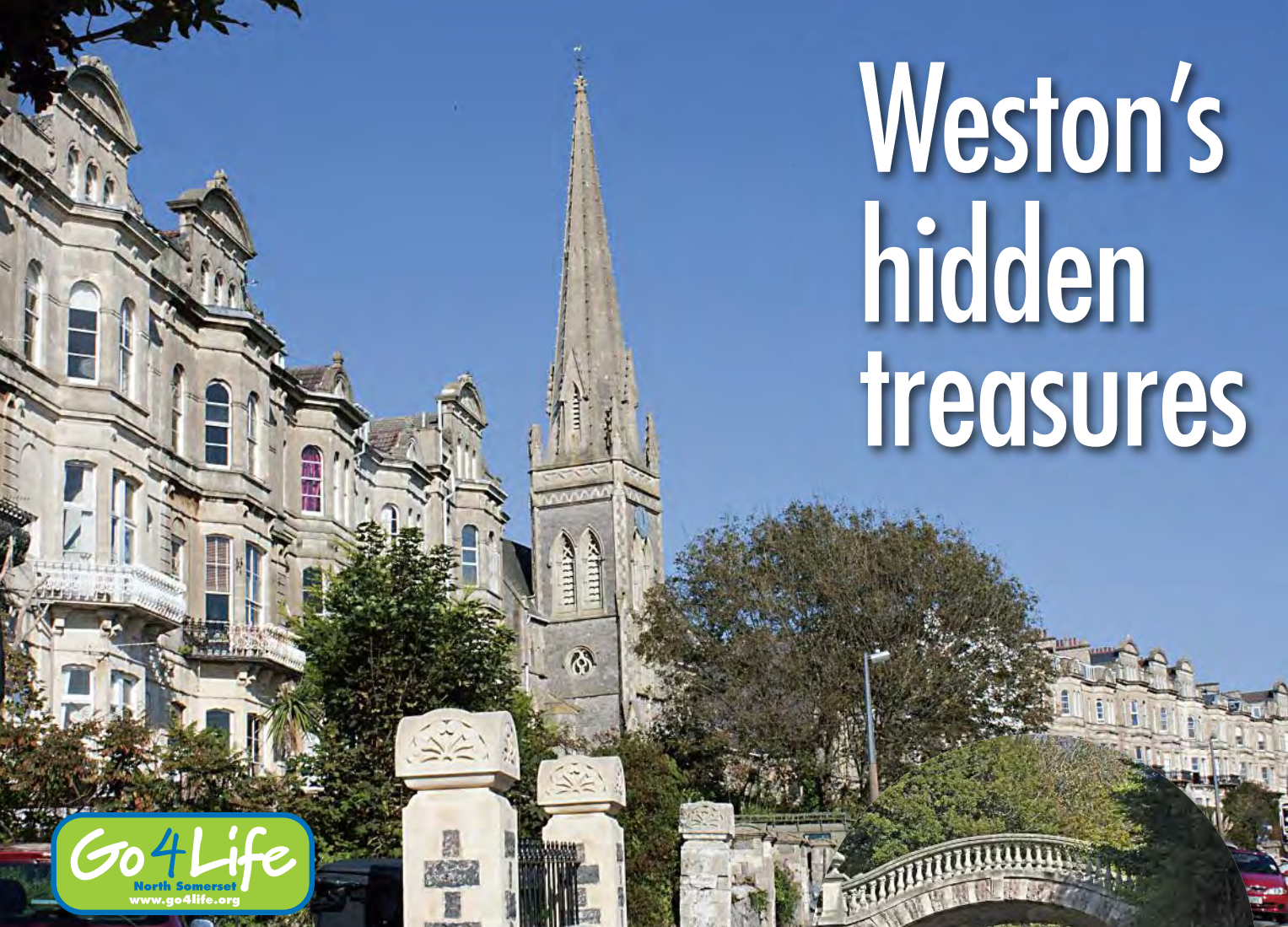


Weston's hidden treasures



Take a short walk around Weston's hillside area to discover traditional Victorian architecture, far-reaching views across Weston bay, a leafy park and the peaceful tranquillity of the Old Town Quarry.

This walk is suitable for buggies and small children, and allows time to visit the park so children can stretch their legs, as well as stop at the quarry's cafe so you can enjoy a well-earned cup of tea!



Start from Holy Trinity Church, which sits on the junction of Trinity Place, and Atlantic Road. Walk east along Atlantic Road, past the impressive row of Victorian houses and the old school house on the corner of Highbury Road.

Cross Highbury Road into Shrubbery Avenue then turn right into Shrubbery Terrace. As you round the corner you'll see Shrubbery Park up ahead, a lovely leafy park with a play area for young children and a football goal with plenty of space for older children to run around. On the far side of the park is an old water tower which has now been converted for residential use.

The Shrubbery area of Weston was traditionally where the town's most well-off residents lived and features many large detached Victorian villas, most of which have now been converted to flats.

Turn right into Shrubbery Road and walk towards the beautiful ornamental footbridge, Villa Rosa Bridge. The Grade Two Listed structure was built to re-connect the parts of the Villa Rosa gardens severed by the building of Shrubbery Road. Walk with care as the pavement narrows here and the road slopes downhill quite steeply.

Walk information

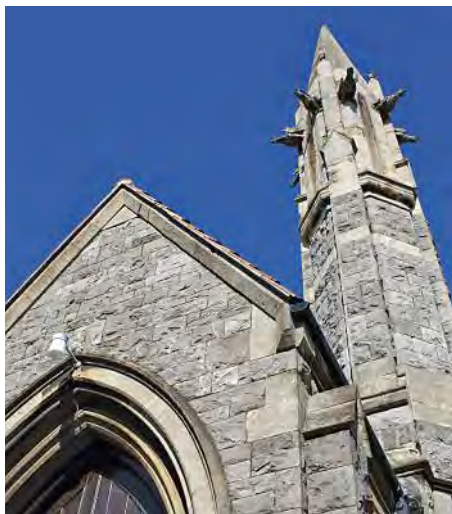
Distance: approx 1.5 miles

Difficulty: easy with no stiles, pavements all the way round, though there is one steep downhill section

Duration: allow 1.5 hours if visiting the park and quarry

Map: OS Explorer 153

Follow the road to the bottom of the hill, where it joins Upper Church Road. On the left is Church Road Methodist Church, look out for the intricately carved gargoyles on the spire. Upper Church Road is mainly residential now but used to feature lots of local shops – you can still see some of the old store signs on the side of the buildings.



Head east on Upper Church Road. At the end of the road on your right you'll see Weston's Grade Two Listed Royal Crescent, a grand sweeping terrace reminiscent of Bath's famous crescent, though on a smaller scale!



Turn left to continue travelling up Upper Church Road. On the corner is St John the Baptist Church, Weston's original parish church, which was built in 1824 on the site of a medieval church. The road has quite a steep incline and follows the boundary of Grove Park, which also has a play area for young children if you have time to stop.

At the end of the park, turn left into Queens Road and walk towards the woods. Where the road meets South Road is one of Weston's true hidden gems: the Old Town Quarry.

A peaceful haven away from the hustle and bustle of the town centre and seafront, with a café serving hot drinks and homemade cakes, the quarry is now a nature reserve. There are information boards to help you spot birds including buzzards, kestrels and jays, which live in the cliffs.

Stone from the quarry was extensively

mined throughout the 19th century for many of the town's new buildings and villas. There is a small exhibition with more information about the quarry's history opposite the coffee shop.

From the quarry it is a level walk along South Road back to the church, with stunning views across Weston to Uphill, Brean Down, Brent Knoll, Somerset and even North Devon on a very clear day!

How to get there

Start at map ref: 313 623 (OS 153)

Car: Park at Madeira public car park, accessed from South Road close to Prince Consort Gardens

Public transport: The number 4 service operates between Weston town centre the hillside areas and Hutton, and stops outside Holy Trinity Church on Atlantic Road



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