

# Beautiful views in Banwell



This circular route starts with a short, steep walk which takes you up to Banwell Hill for breathtaking views across the Mendips.

## Walk information

**Distance:** approx 3 miles

**Difficulty:** medium – the walk starts with a very steep climb. Nine stiles. Not suitable for very large dogs

**Duration:** allow 2 - 2.5 hrs

**Map:** OS Explorer 153

**Refreshments:** Shops and pubs in Banwell

From the car park, turn left onto the main road (A371/West Street) and walk past the shops to the junction. You need to cross the road here and head into High Street but it is a very busy junction so take extreme care.

High Street is a pretty lane which veers up the hill. There is no pavement so watch out for cars.

At the junction with Hill Path, take the route on your left (Rocky Lane), up the steps towards Pear Tree House.

The footpath continues uphill alongside the house. It is a fairly short but very steep, rocky path so take care underfoot.

The footpath continues straight ahead, alongside the fence and through the woodland.

Eventually you will come out into a meadow. Continue straight ahead, watching out for nettles.

At the top of the meadow you will come to a farm and horse paddock. The stile and public footpath continues to the right of this, next to the edge of the stone wall.

Follow the yellow waymarker straight ahead, keeping to the left-hand edge of the field. Please keep dogs on leads and stay on the path.



Continue over another stile. Keep dogs under control if there are cattle in the field. Leave the field over the stone wall in the bottom left corner. Cross the lane and go over the stone stile in front of you, into the next field.



# How to get there

Start at map ref: (CP398590)

Car: Drive into the centre of Banwell along the A371. Park for free in West Street car park, opposite Banwell Primary School

Bus: Routes 121 and 126 serve Banwell. Mon-Sat every 30mins from Weston (less frequent on Sun)

This field veers downhill sharply but stop for a moment to take in the wonderful views. Continue straight down the hill, veering towards Winthill Farm. Climb over the stile, to the left of the farmhouse, and continue ahead out of the field onto Christon Road.

Turn right onto the lane and follow it to the end, past Hunters Lodge Stables. You will come to a t-junction and the public footpath continues straight ahead, next to the metal gate.

Continue ahead along the edge of the field but watch out for nettles and thistles.

At the end of the field climb over the wooden gate and then continue straight ahead across the next field. Exit this field over the wooden stile and follow the yellow waymarker uphill between the fences.

Follow this path as it goes to the left, then leave the field through the metal gate and out onto the lane.

Follow the road uphill, past Wild Orchard, and then take the next turning on your right, a rocky track. Pass some old farm buildings and then continue along here until you reach a pretty cream-coloured house.

The public footpath continues just past the house. Follow the yellow waymarker on the left through the wooden gate and then over the stile into the field. Continue straight ahead, to the far left corner. Go over the stile in the corner and continue along the edge of the next field, with the stone wall on your right.

Go through the wooden gate but from here, don't take the track leading to your right. Instead, take the path which cuts across the grass, diagonally downhill towards the trees.

This leads you onto a track, through a metal gate, and out onto Hill Path, High Street, and back to your starting point.



Start and finish

## Banwell Caves

Banwell caves will be open from 10.30am - 4.30pm on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 September, as part of Heritage Open Days. Explore the caves and enjoy games. Free entry but donations welcome. [www.banwellcaves.org](http://www.banwellcaves.org)

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