



Beautiful views over Barrow Gurney

Stretch your legs with a vigorous walk up Dundry Hill and be rewarded for your efforts with glorious views of Barrow tanks and the beautiful countryside for miles around.



Walk information

Distance:
Just over 4 miles

Difficulty:
medium-difficult depending on fitness, as there is a long uphill section up Dundry Hill. Some parts can get quite muddy so wellies are recommended, especially in winter.

Duration:
2-3 hours at a leisurely pace

Map:
OS Explorer 154

How to get there

Start at map ref: ST 531678

Car:
Very narrow lanes run through Barrow Gurney so there is no on-street parking. Instead, you can park at The Prince's Motto pub if you pop in for refreshments. It is open all day for food and drink.

Barrow Gurney is a pretty village close to Barrow tanks, three artificial reservoirs which supply drinking water for Bristol.

Public footpaths near the tanks have recently been restored and stiles have been replaced with kissing gates so access to this area is now easier.

From Barrow Street, next to the Prince's Motto pub, take the first right, a small lane which veers uphill. This joins Hobbs Lane.

Follow the Sustrans route 334 sign through the gate onto the traffic-free section of Hobbs Lane.

Follow it all the way to the end and you will come out on the A38. Turn left onto this and cross the road carefully.

The public footpath starts on your right-hand side, opposite Lakeside Spas.

Go through the kissing gate into the field, and veer to the right-hand corner, between the hedgerows.

Keep the hedge on your left and follow the edge of the field. The reservoir is just the other side.

Go through the gate and follow the yellow waymarker directly ahead through the field, keeping the hedgerow on your left.

Ignore the gate you pass on your left and continue ahead, past the trees, to the far left-hand corner of this field.

Continue on into the next field to the far end, and through a kissing gate which exits onto Elwell Lane.



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Keep dogs on leads if livestock is present but do not hang onto your dog if you are threatened by cattle. Let it go and allow the dog to run to safety.



Turn left onto the small lane (not to be confused with the busy Barrow Lane).

Elwell Lane becomes a gravel track. Follow it all the way through the trees as it winds up the hill, becoming muddier and rockier underfoot.

After exiting the wooded area, go through a gate on your left signposted 'Dundry hilltop walk'.

Walk straight over the field, heading towards the gate in front of the farmhouse. Here, on the brow of the hill, you can see the reservoirs, Clifton Suspension Bridge and the Severn bridges in the distance.

Go through the gate into the courtyard of Castle Farm. Go straight ahead and exit by the barn.

Turn left just behind the barn and the gate is in the fence on your right.

Go downhill across the field, towards the gap in the fence, then head towards the gate in the far right-hand corner. Continue downhill towards the cottage.

There is a stile just after the cottage. Go over this stile, into the field, and then exit over another stile into the lane.

Go past Greenditch Farm, then turn left into the farmyard, following the public footpath sign.

Go through the gate by the cream-coloured bungalow and go across the field, keeping to the right-hand side. Continue ahead into the next field.



On the right-hand side there is a stile just after the metal gate. Exit here to get onto the A38.

From here, you can walk all the way back up Hobbs Lane to retrace your steps back to Barrow Gurney.

Or you could turn left at the next public footpath sign and follow the paths around the southern side of the reservoirs. These have had many improvements, with routes cleared and broken stiles replaced with new gates.