

174 YHA Okehampton Belstone Tor

Moorland and tor walk

Distance: 7.7 miles (12.4km) **Ascent:** 381m (1,250ft)

Time: Allow 3h 45m to 6h

Map: OS Explorer 1:25L (OL28) Dartmoor

Start/Finish: OS Locate SX 592 944 **what3words** ///shape.foreheads.luxury

A great walk to open moorland hilltops. From the hostel turn right, then turn left to follow the pedestrian route to Dartmoor. Take the path to the right past Heathfield House. Cross the bridge over the A30, turn left and walk parallel to the A30. Turn right to follow the river upstream. Cross a footbridge and continue to the ford. Cross using the wooden bridge and turn left. Continue up the zig zag then follow the track. Continue ahead on the less defined path and turn right onto the track to pass Scarey Tor to Cullever Steps. Bear left and follow the track, then at Winter Tor turn left to ascend the south side of Higher Tor. Navigate carefully along the top to Belstone Tor and Watchet Hill. Walk downhill and follow the road towards Belstone. Turn left as you enter the village and follow the road to a cattlegrid. Go through the gate, then over a stile to follow a footpath through fields. Go under the A30 and the railway bridge. Follow footpath signs to Station Road. Go under the railway arch, over Charlottes bridge, then right to follow Tramlines bridleway. At the end of the path turn left towards the railway station, under the bridge, and back to the hostel.



Hazards

Steep and narrow alongside the river and could become slippery after rain. The area on the moors up to and across the Tors is exposed to the elements. Keep clear of military areas. In winter the route may become hazardous, especially if covered in snow and ice, and will require winter clothing and footwear.

Accessibility

There are stiles and steps on the route and gates and paths less than one metre wide. There are steep narrow sections on rocky ground alongside the river which is wet near the waterfalls and has a handrail. The moors are exposed with no proper footpath in places, careful navigation required.

Points of interest

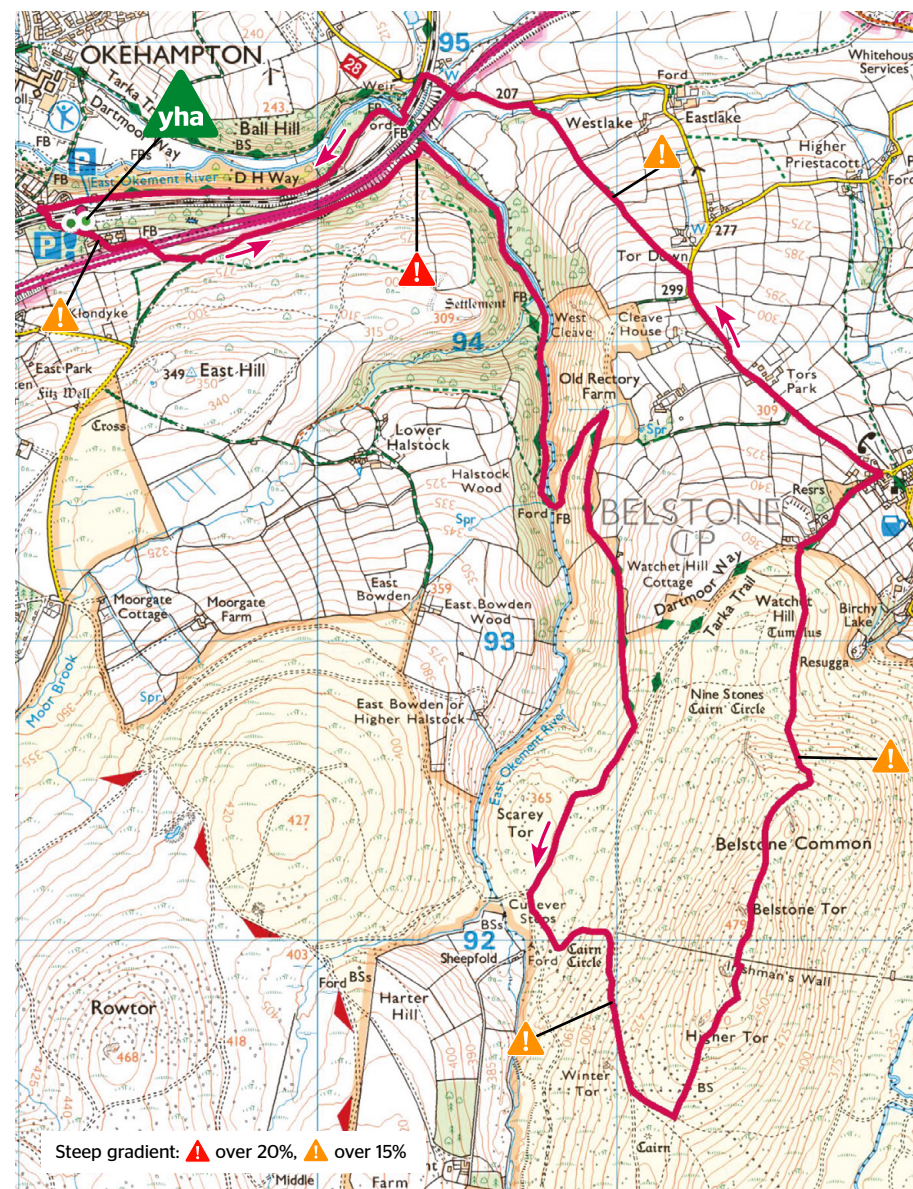
It is a beautiful walk especially alongside the river. Towards the top are waterfalls and pools suitable for swimming and a good place for picnics. Great views from the top of Higher Tor, Belstone Tor and Watchet Hill.

Facilities

No toilets on the route. Pub a short detour away in Belstone.

This route has been created by YHA to provide inspiration and to aid planning and preparation of your walk. It doesn't replace the need for an OS Map or the OS Maps App to navigate your walk safely. Digital maps are a guide and do not always reflect the conditions on the ground, ensure you are aware of your immediate surroundings.

Scan or click to view this route on the OS Maps App – also a route profile and GPX





Thank you for choosing to walk from our hostel.
We hope you have a great time.

Walking in the national landscapes of England and Wales is part of YHA's heritage. With hostels on National Trails, in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, YHA plays a unique role in the nation's walking community.

To make it easy for everyone to enjoy walking from YHA hostels, we have curated three walks – an easy, moderate, and more challenging option. They have all been graded – the higher the grade, the more challenging the route.

Before you go:

- Check the local weather forecast (mountain-forecast.com).
- Check the tide times for coastal routes (tidetimes.org.uk).
- Get the right clothing, footwear and kit for the route and weather.
- Ensure you have enough time to complete the route before dark.
- Download the OS Locate and what3words apps to your phone.
- Contact 999 by SMS text (must pre register by texting 'register' to 999) (relayuk.bt.com/emergencysms).
- Plan your walk by completing the YHA route notification card it helps Emergency Services if you get into difficulties or fail to return from your walk when anticipated (yha.org.uk/route-card).
- Ensure your entire group have the fitness and skills to complete the route.
- For further information on how to stay safe visit adventuresmart.uk

For more walks or information on route grading and timings go to yha.org.uk/walks

If you encounter problems with this route contact walking@yha.org.uk



Scan or click to shop
for OS maps online
osmaps.com/yha

Share your walks



What to wear

- Base layer and mid layer.
- Walking trousers.
- Warm jacket(s).
- Take extra layer(s).
- Hat, gloves and neck gaiter.
- Sun hat, sun cream and sunglasses.
- Waterproof jacket and trousers.
- Cushioning walking socks.
- Walking shoes or boots.

Kit

- Map, compass and GPS device or OS Map app on your phone.
- Water, lunch and high energy snacks.
- Charged mobile phone and portable charger.
- First aid kit.
- Head torch, spare batteries.
- Watch.
- Whistle and survival bag.
- Rucksack, with waterproof cover or a dry bag or plastic bag inside.
- Medicines or toiletries you would usually use.

You might also want to take

- Spare socks, hat, gloves.
- Balaclava.
- Leg gaiters.
- Waterproof baseball cap (handy if you wear glasses).
- Walking poles.

- Bivi bag or group shelter.
- Spare food and hot drink.
- Duct tape (handy for fixing things).
- Penknife or multitool.
- Tissues and hand sanitiser.
- Plastic bags to take away your rubbish or dog poo.

In case of emergency

- Call 999 (or text 999 if pre-registered) and ask for the Police.
- Use OS Locate or what3words to provide a detailed description of your location.
- If you need to attract attention shout or give six blasts on a whistle at regular intervals. In low light flash your torch six times at regular intervals.
- If you can send someone for help, they need to know your location (grid reference), number of people in the group and the nature of the emergency.
- Help could be some time coming so whilst waiting make the casualty comfortable.
- Keep the casualty warm and dry using spare clothing. Use coats or rucksacks to insulate them from the ground.
- Remember the rest of the group could be getting cold whilst waiting. Use an emergency shelter or find a sheltered location.