

Forest and moorland walk

Distance: 2.7 miles (4.3km) **Ascent:** 143m (469ft) **Time:** Allow 1h 15m to 2h



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

Start/Finish: OS Locate SX 654 773 what3words ///silently.rags.trek

A lovely route through the forest to the historic Clapper Bridge and back over the moor. From the hostel driveway turn right, after the buildings on the left continue ahead and take the next path on the right along the edge of the forest. Follow the path around to the left then turn right at the cross roads. Continue along a wide forest track, which after a while heads downhill, to the Bellever Forest car park. Continue to the car park entrance and onto the gravel path opposite, then head to the river and the Clapper Bridge. Turn right at the river and head back to the bridleway, near to where the gravel path emerged. Climb a set of tall steps and follow the path across pasture and alongside the road. Join the road on the approach to Bellever and turn right at the junction to the hostel.

Hazards

Take care on the road sections with no pavement. Watch out for traffic if crossing the busy B3212 to the visitor centre or shop. Take care near the water. Deep steps to reach the moor on the return. May encounter wild ponies.

Accessibility

There are no stiles on the route. There are gates and paths less than one metre wide.

Most of the surface is paved, good track or grass path. The bridleway on the return from Postbridge has a steep climb up to the moor involving some deep steps.

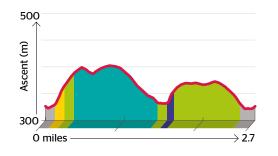
Navigation

Following roads and obvious, well laid paths and tracks. Follow signs through the forest and to the Clapper Bridge. The bridleway is well walked and occasionally signposted.

Terrain

Mostly wide forest track and grassy bridleways. Some rocky short ascents and a section of quiet road.

Paved
Rocky
Grass
Unpaved (flat)
Unpaved (uneven)



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.

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

Points of interest (see map)

This is a beautiful area with lots of flora and fauna including wild ponies, **1** pretty Bellever Forest, **2** National Park Visitor Centre **3** Postbridge village and **4** the historic Clapper Bridge and river. Many ancient standing stones and stone circles in the area.

Facilities (see map)

Toilets at National Park Visitor Centre. Village shop and pub in Postbridge.

Not wheelchair accessible

Not a touch free route

Not pushchair accessible









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 (metoffice.gov.uk).
- 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).
- For further information on how to stay safe visit adventuresmart.uk

In case of emergency call 999 (or text 999 if pre-registered) and use OS Locate or what3words to provide a detailed description of your location.

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



Countryside Code

Respect everyone

- Be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking.
- Be nice, say hello, share the space.
- Follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available.

Hazards

- Take extra care and stay alert where a right of way crosses a railway line.
- When walking on a road without a pavement keep to the right-hand side, so that you can see oncoming traffic. Keep close to the side of the road, and walk in single file if necessary. It may be safer to cross the road well before a sharp right-hand bend so that oncoming traffic has a better chance of seeing you. Cross back after the bend.
- Give wild animals, livestock and horses plenty of space.

Protect the environment

- Take your litter home leave no trace of your visit.
- Do not light fires and only have BBQs where signs say you can.
- Always keep dogs under control and in sight.
- Dog poo bag it and bin it any public waste bin will do.
- Care for nature do not cause damage or disturbance.

Enjoy the outdoors

- Check your route and local conditions.
- Plan your adventure know what to expect and what you can do.
- Enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory.

What to wear

- Comfortable clothing suitable for the conditions.
- Use several layers, so you can add and remove clothing to regulate your temperature.
- Extra warm clothes in case it gets colder.
- Hat, gloves and scarf.
- Sun hat, sun cream and sunglasses.
- Waterproof jacket and trousers.
- Cushioning comfy socks.
- Comfortable well fitting trainers, walking shoes or boots.

Kit

- Map and compass.
- Water, lunch and snacks.
- Charged mobile phone and portable charger.
- First aid kit.
- Torch and spare batteries.
- 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

- Picnic blanket.
- Waterproof baseball cap, if you wear glasses.
- Walking poles.
- Tissues and hand sanitiser.