



Follow in the footsteps of poets

Follow in the footsteps of poets on this short, circular, coastal path in Clevedon.



Walk information

Distance:
About 1.5 miles

Difficulty:
fairly easy – the route is short but there are lots of woody paths and steps. Wear suitable footwear.

Duration:
About an hour at a very leisurely pace

Map:
OS Explorer 153

How to get there

Start at map ref: ST 397710

Car:
Pay and display car park at Salthouse Fields, or park considerably on the road.

Poets' Walk is a little over a mile in length but the area includes a wealth of features, including limestone grassland, woodland, a rich diversity of wildlife, an Iron Age fort, Second World War shelter, and stunning views across the Bristol Channel.

The site is managed by North Somerset Council with help from the Friends of Poets' Walk volunteer group and, thanks to their hard work, some old footpaths have recently been opened up.

Poets' Walk is a tranquil route around Church Hill and Wain's Hill.

Its name is a reference to the English poets Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Alfred Tennyson, who visited Clevedon and were inspired by the time they spent there.

Start this walk at Marine Lake, which underwent an £850,000 restoration last year.

Take the stone steps up into the woodland and turn onto the right-hand path. This path leads to a view point at the end, a big stone circle.

Turn left up some steps and continue to the lookout. This was built in about 1835 by Ferdinand Beeston, then owner of the Salt House. It is known as the Sugar Lookout.

After a few yards take the second path on your left, and then follow the zigzag path immediately on your right, up through the woodland.



The Friends of Poets' Walk meet at 2pm every Thursday to carry out a range of activities, including litter picking, scrub management, path clearance and scything the ramparts on Wain's Hill in the summer.

Tools and insurance are provided by North Somerset Council.

Everyone is welcome. Call Angela for more information: 01275 873 974
www.clevedonconservationvolunteers.org



The Friends of Poets' Walk, with help from the Woodcutters for Wildlife volunteer group, have focussed on repairing and reopening historic pathways.

This zigzag path is one that has recently been restored to allow access up the side of Church Hill.

Follow this path to the top of the hill and you will come to an iron cross bollard. This originally marked the top of the (then fenced) zigzag path and prevented grazing cattle from wandering onto the path.

From here, take the right-hand path which leads back downhill. You will pass the Tennyson posts on your left, a sculpture erected in 1994 which includes lines from Tennyson's poem In Memoriam A.H.H.

Ahead of you will be views of St. Andrew's Church, which viewers of ITV's Broadchurch will recognise.

Continue down the path and at the junction with the formal path, take a sharp right and then a left, following the signpost to the Iron Age earthworks.

This paved path runs around the peninsular and was constructed in 1929.

Near the end of Wain's Hill, leave the formal path to take the zigzag woodland trail to your right. This leads out onto the road so go past the cottages, allotments and town cemetery.

Turn left up to St Andrew's Church and, after passing the front of the church, take the right-hand path, signposted to Salthouse Fields.

Continue on the paved path until you see a woodland trail going up on your left. Follow this trail until you get to some woodland steps, which then lead you back down towards Marine Lake. Or keep straight on to return via the lookout.

