

# Dramatic views from Dolebury Warren

Hike up to the top of Dolebury Warren for spectacular views across North Somerset, from the site of an imposing Iron Age hill fort built more than 2,500 years ago.

**Dolebury Warren is a wonderful place to walk at any time of the year, with views from the top on a clear day across the Mendip Hills and towards Wales.**

It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest for its grassland, heathland and scrub, which support a great variety of wildlife.

An Iron Age hill fort was built about 500BC and the ramparts can still be seen clearly. It is a Scheduled Monument because of its long history.

From the car park at Dolebury Bottom, go through the wooden gate and join the wide, rocky path into the woodland. It can get very muddy in parts so wear suitable footwear.

Keep following the main, wide path through the trees).

At a fork in the path, next to the Rowberrow Warren sign, take the left-hand path (following the light blue waymarker).

It becomes a narrow path here through the trees and shrubbery.

Continue ahead at the next junction.

At the wide t-junction, with the field visible ahead of you through the trees, turn left.

Shortly on your left-hand side is the entrance to Dolebury Warren, through one of six newly installed kissing gates. Follow the wide, grassy path ahead of you.

After the next kissing gate, where the path forks, veer to the right-hand side of the trees. Then follow the waymarker pointing left, into the woodland.

When you come out of the wooded area, you'll be back in the open. Continue ahead, through another kissing gate, towards the brow of the Iron Age fort.

The double ramparts of the Iron Age hillfort are evident.

Continue in the same direction over the summit of the fort and start the descent, following the main, wide path.

This becomes a gravel, then rocky, path. Exit through the wooden gate, then turn left at the end, past the pink house.

This will take you back to the lane, and car park.

## Walk information

**Distance:** about 2.8 miles

**Difficulty:** medium/hard – rocky, uneven paths which can get very muddy in wet weather. Wear suitable footwear.

Wide/accessible kissing gates have been installed at the top of Dolebury Warren this year and are suitable for all-terrain off-road mobility vehicles. These gates are on the gentler slopes leading up to the ancient settlement, meaning people in countryside scooters (known as Trampers) can access the site.

The first section of this route, along the bridleway/rocky path, should be accessible to these vehicles but please look carefully at the photos to check the terrain before heading out. The full circular route isn't available for Trampers as there is a smaller wooden gate at the end, so you'll need to retrace your journey from the top of Dolebury Warren.

**Estimated time:** about two hours

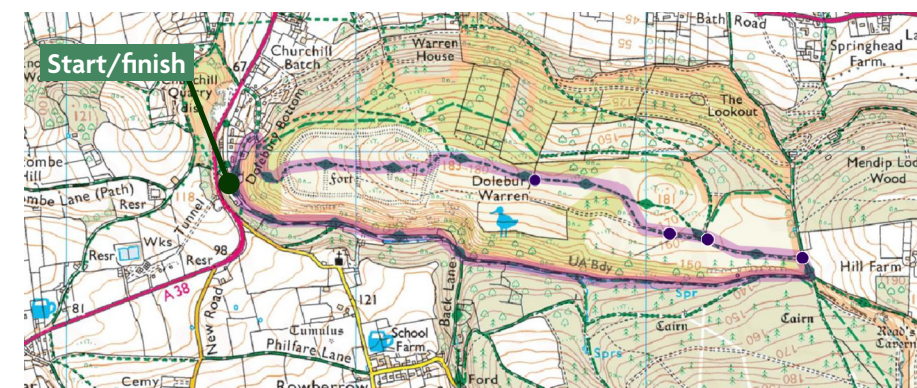
**Map:** OS Explorer 141

For a definitive map showing all public rights of way in North Somerset visit [www.n-somerset.gov.uk/publicrightsofway](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/publicrightsofway)

## How to get there

Park at Dolebury Bottom, at the end of Doleberrow, off the A38 just south of Churchill. This is a small car park and space is limited to four or five cars.

If full, try Churchill Memorial Hall car park in Ladymead Lane. You can then access Dolebury Warren from the north (check the OS map for public footpaths).



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