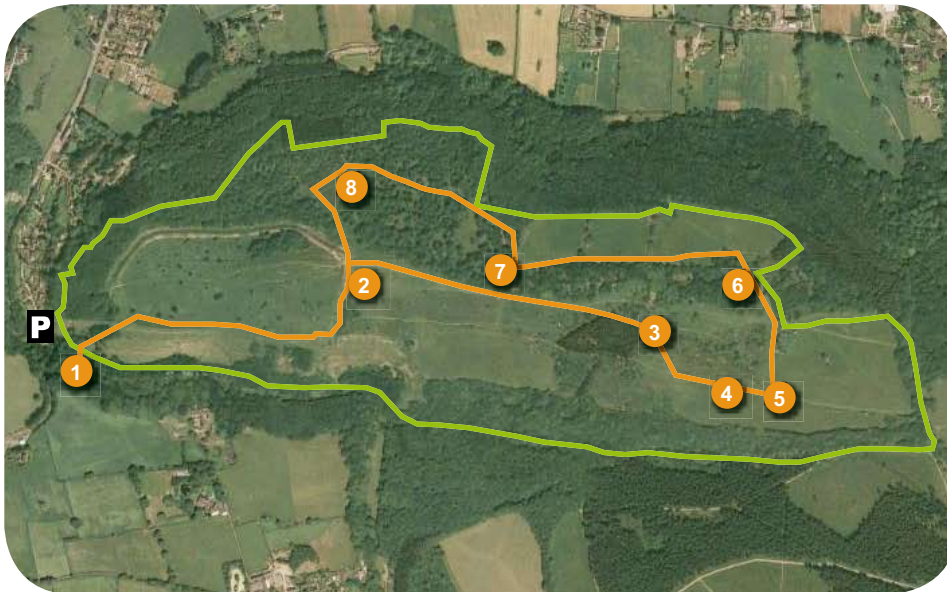


Avon Wildlife Trust

Dolebury Warren *for butterflies in summer*



OS grid ref: ST455 590

Walk details

duration: 3 hrs

grade: challenging

Key to map

— walk

① point of interest

— reserve boundary

P car park

scale

400m

Begin at the car park at the end of Doleberrow (1). Go over the stile and climb the flight of steps through the woodland to the top of the hill. Ahead is a large bank, the remains of an Iron Age hill fort. Walk all the way along the top of the bank, turning left to the highest point of the hill. This is the best viewpoint on the reserve, you can see for miles around and it's the reason why our ancestors chose this site for their fort. Listen out for the distinctive call of buzzards and ravens. They are often seen swooping down the valley and around the pine plantation to the south.

From this viewpoint (2) continue east, away from the fort, along a broad path towards the distant stand of pine. Pass through a gate and head straight on, keeping the pines on your right. At the end of the plantation follow the path that forks to the right. At the top of the slope (3) the views open up again and you can see over to Blackdown, the highest point of the Mendips. Keep an eye out for green woodpeckers that are frequently seen flying close to the ground with their characteristic undulating flight.

Turning left continue until you reach a gate (4), and go through, following the fence line to enter a second gate to your left (5). Continue on, and follow the track to a third gate (6). Turn left through the gate and begin to walk through the first of three fields. In the corner of the last field (7) you'll see a kissing gate that marks the beginning of the woodland pasture path. Follow this through the wood until you come through an old field gate (8). Turn left and head up to the top of the hill, returning to the hilltop viewpoint. Retrace your steps to the car park.

How to get there

Follow the A38 southwards from Churchill village. Take first left turn after traffic lights into Dolebury Bottom. Please drive slowly along lane and park in small car park. Follow footpaths to summit.

Access

Please keep dogs on leads. No suitable access for wheelchairs or pushchairs.

Did you know? Dolebury Warren was a medieval rabbit warren where rabbits were bred for food and fur.

Why don't you... see if you can find the warrener's hut?

look out for...

