

Walk from Blackmore Farm to Charlynch Church and Ashford Reservoir

This walk starts at Blackmore Farm or can be used as extension of the walk described in leaflet No1. Cars can be parked at Blackmore Farm.

1. From Blackmore Farm car park turn right into Blackmore Lane. Where the lane turns to the left walk straight on through the metal gates into the farmyard. Leaving the concrete ramp to your right walk straight into the field ahead of you. Keeping the hedge to your right, walk to the top right corner of the field.
2. Via two stiles and some steps, climb into the next field. Continue climbing with the hedge on your right to the first summit of the path. The path now dips and after 60 yards look carefully for the way through the hedge on the right.
3. Once through the hedge continue walking uphill to two mature oaks in the hedge on your right. From here there is a wonderful vista of Cannington, the hill and the church, the Parrett winding out to sea and Bridgwater with the spire of St Mary's church.
4. Look ahead and the tower of Charlynch Church is visible. Walk directly towards the tower, over a stile, across another field and through a gate into the churchyard. The church is privately owned with access only to the footpath and to the churchyard.
5. Leave the churchyard by a short flight of stone steps, turn right and almost immediately follow a footpath sign pointing into a field on the left. Follow the path straight downhill, at first with the hedge to your left and after a break in the hedge leave it to your right. The tower of Spaxton Church and the Quantocks can be seen straight ahead.
6. At the bottom of the hill, turn right onto the crossing footpath. Follow the path to the far right corner of the field, pass through the opening and follow the path which bears left across the field. Enter a long narrow field and keep the hedge to your right.
7. At the corner of the field, don't follow the path curving to the left, but walk through the opening to the right. This joins another footpath, turn left and walk along a grassy lane towards some cottages. Walk on further until just before a green wire fence on the right, a narrow opening reveals a path running alongside Ashford Reservoir.
8. Walk along the path with the reservoir and the old and new pumping stations visible ahead. Climb the stile at the end of the path; follow the finger post across the road to a concrete yard, cross this yard to the small gate at the far end. Once through the gate, head to the far-left corner of the field. Blackmore Farm is ahead and Cannington Brook to the left.

9. Pass through this gate and follow the track with the brook to the left. Walk through a series of fields until just past a footbridge across the brook. The main track now curves uphill towards the farm buildings, climb a small stile to the left into a grassy field.

10. Once in the field aim to the left of the Blackmore Farm Chapel. After passing the chapel, leave the field through a pair of iron gates onto the farm drive.

This would be a good time to visit the coffee shop!

This walk is about 2½ miles long and takes about 1¼ hours. The more adventurous might like to continue straight on at step 6 towards Spaxton Church. Turn right at Splatt Lane, walk down hill past Splatt Mill, and then take the signed footpath to the right after two thatched cottages. Cross three fields to a road, turn right and follow this road to Currypool Mill. Take the byway to the right, leave the caravan site to your left and walk to the reservoir (step 7).

