



FOOTPATH WALKS
AROUND LONG ASHTON
WITH A PUB HALFWAY

THE GEORGE INN at ABBOTS LEIGH via Abbots Pool

All the walks in this series are on tracks and paths across fields, and some are by streams, so be prepared for some mud and occasionally livestock.

The route starts and finishes at **The Little Tipple** at 50 **Weston Road** and the return way varies from the outward route. The roads encountered are shown in bold type; hopefully residents will find a starting point near home. This walk also passes cafes in Ashton Court. Not all the paths are rights of way. Some paths are 'Permissive' so please use them but do not abuse them.

Walking time will depend on your starting point and speed. As a rough guide allow 1½ hours to the pub and the same for the return. Use Ordnance Survey map Explorer 54 but permissive paths in Ashton Court and around Abbots Pool are not shown. For **The George** opening and mealtimes telephone 01275 372467.

From **The Little Tipple** turn up the lane (**Keeds Lane**) between the estate agent's office and the bus stop. Cross **Rayens Cross Road** and continue ahead on the track, passing recreation fields on either side. On reaching cottages turn right on a signed path. This goes uphill on a broad woodland path and, near the rear of houses, forks right to **Providence Lane**. On the opposite side of the lane, and to the right, the way is on a narrow fenced footpath to the edge of the golf course. Paths on the course that are rights of way and are marked with a concrete bollard or special signs. Please keep to them.

Continue ahead, keeping close to the woodland on your left and be aware that golfers are driving towards you.

Stay on the grass to the far left corner of the golf course and turn left to cross a stile on to the **Clarken Coombe Road**. With care, cross to go through the stone 'squeezy' stile where a short path connects with a bridleway in Ashton Court. Turn left to go uphill and at the top stay on the bridleway as it turns right. This is Redwood Drive and after passing the fenced deer park and later the Redwood trees, ends at an edge of the golf course. Turn left here to reach a track and turn right to go downhill. At the bottom turn left on the driveway and then first left up to the golf course car park and cafe.

Over to your right is a track leading to the Miniature Railway. Go along the track to go to the left of the booking office and station buildings and, taking care as you cross a cycle track, turn left for a short distance on a bridleway to find a gap in the stone wall on your right. Go through and, on the pavement of the **A369 Portishead Road**, turn left as far as the traffic lights at the **Beggar Bush Lane** junction. With care, cross the major road **A369**. Turn right for few yards and then up a driveway shared by Woodlands Bungalow and Inwoods Bungalow.

The right of way is then to the right of the left hand bungalow where there is a step stile into a field. Cross the field aiming for the right hand edge of another bungalow to a step stile by a gate. Cross the lane to go through the opposite gate and continue ahead, aiming for the farmhouse ahead, where the walk goes to the left of the farm. Follow the fence to a corner of the second field, a short way in front of the farm.

Turn left to follow the fence as the way then goes right to a gated step stile on to the farm track. Cross the track, go through a recessed gate and follow the right hand hedge to its protruding corner.

Leave this corner, aiming for the church ahead, to cross a step stile and the bottom of a shallow valley. Continue up to cross a gated step stile and along the edge of the small playing field to **Church Road**. Turn left to reach

the pub at the junction of **Portishead Road** and **Manor Road**. It is best to cross this busy road to reach **The George** using the light-controlled crossing several yards to the left of the junction.

On leaving the pub return to, and go along, **Manor Road**, keeping to the right side verge. By The Beeches do not go along the road but continue ahead on the bridleway and cross a lane. Go to the right of the bungalow Lane End, through a kissing gate, and down some very old stone steps. Cross an old bridge and turn left up steps to Abbots Pool. With the pond on your left, go along a wide path and pass the car park on your left. Cross **Manor Road** to continue on the opposite bridleway, which later bears left uphill to reach **Beggar Bush Lane**.

Carefully cross the road and turn left for a few yards and then through a gateway in the wall on to the golf course of the Ashton Court Estate. When way is clear cross the course, aiming for the cafe passed earlier.

After leaving the car park cross over the main drive to reach the fencing surrounding a deer park. Go through the tall kissing gate and staying on the main downhill path, reach a second tall kissing gate. From here bear right by a car park to reach the gates of the stable courtyard (another cafe here). To the left there is a metal kissing gate near a picnic area. Go through here and cross the field, bearing slightly right and on reaching the edge of the wood ahead, cross a stile on the left. A short path leads into a sports field. Continue to the left of the pitch to reach the green fence and then turn right. The path ends under an arch near **The Dovecote** pub.

Turn right along **Ashton Road** for a short way before crossing at the junction to join the Festival Way Cycle Path. This leads first to **Yanley Lane** and then to **Lampton Road**. The first on the right, **Yeomeads**, or the second on the right, **Lovelinch Gardens** leading to **Weston Road**.

*Tony Hibbitt and friends
More walking guides are available at littletipple.co.uk*

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