

A short walk of 1 to 1½ hours.

Starting at the crossroads, walk down Combe Hill and turn right at the seat and take the footpath to Cottons Lane. Turn right towards the B3153.

Cross over the B3153 and continue along Bab Cary Lane until it meets with Blind Lane where you turn right. Walk the length of Blind Lane, turn left into Queen Street and right into Chistles Lane.

Continue along to the Village Hall site then turn right to the top of the field. Turn left across the top of the field and then right to the High Street by Box Cottage.

Turn right and then left into Barton Road and take the second farm entrance on the right opposite Northfield House. Follow the footpath which will take you back to the seat on Combe Hill. Turn right and to return to the crossroads.

A longer walk of 1½ to 2 hours.

Follow the short walk as far as Bab Cary Lane. Carry on along the lane beyond Blind Lane and take the next footpath on the right.

At the end of this lane, turn right and continue on to Church Street.

Take the first left into Church Lane. At the end of the lane, follow the footpath across the fields to Withybed Lane.

Turn right and at Combe Lane, turn right again and walk back towards Keinton Mandeville. Just before you get to the first house, take the footpath on the left leading to King's Hill.

Continue with the Short Walk from the top of the field by the Village Hall.

A Sunday Morning 3 Mile Circular Walk

Starting at Cottons Lane at the east end of Castle St, take the bridle way to West Lydford, walking up the slope past the old water tank, you will have a beautiful view of Glastonbury Tor. Listen out for the skylarks, maybe the barking of the pair of ravens and the cry of the woodpeckers in the wood to your left.

When you reach West Lydford turn left, down the slope to the river and the church, cross the bridge and enter the churchyard. If you are lucky the cherry trees will be out, the sound of hymns will drift from the church and the sun will shine.

By the yew tree, to your left, there is a grave which can move me to tears, this man must have been so loved and so missed. His grave is always covered with fresh flowers, memorabilia, often about football, little animals and toys. It is a work of art and love.

Walk on through the graveyard and over the narrow bridge. Take some time to reflect upon the beauty and tranquillity of this place, it is really special, sit by the river with the sound of the water rushing over the weir, you may see a kingfisher flash by, or a trout rise from the water.

Visit the Lydford Forest Garden and in the summer picnic on the beach below the weir. This is Paradise!

My walk keeps to the left and follows the fleet, past the sheep and into the cider orchards, breathtakingly beautiful when in blossom or dripping with apples in the autumn. I have often seen hares and leverets here.

The gravel path runs out but you continue, bear right, following the hedge. Go through the wooden gate, on your left, marked with the footpath arrow. There is a man made lake which often has ducks or other interesting waterfowl on it. Make sure you shut all the gates, the horses may be out, but take no notice of them. Go through the next gate, keeping to the left, out through the next one and over the new bridge.

Go past the old mill buildings and up the lane, towards Combe hill. At the holm oak and the cedar, turn left up through Bob the gamekeeper's garden (marked Restricted Byway). Be amazed by the gunnera and the fishpond; follow the stream up the hill to the springs which feed it, surrounded by bright green ferns. At the top of hill the path becomes the end of Cottons Lane and you are nearly back where you started!

Please do not drop litter, keep your dog under control and clean up after it!

Julia Manning

Keinton Mandeville FOOTPATH MAP

A Keinton Mandeville Village Plan Initiative

**Please respect our
Countryside and Wildlife**