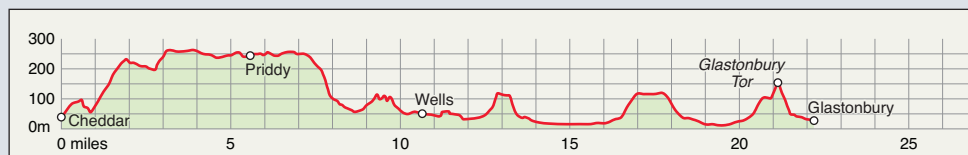


## PRACTICAL INFORMATION



- **Terrain** A mix of grassy paths, woodland tracks and quiet lanes
- **Difficulty** Generally moderate with challenging stretches
- **Directions & GPS** \* 006.pdf, 006.gpx, 006.kml at <https://trailblazer-guides.com/press>

\* See p10-11 for more information on downloads

## ROUTE OVERVIEW

**22 miles (35.5km)**

Although this is a challenging landscape at times, the rewards are ample for both pilgrims and nature lovers. Make sure you have plenty of food and water with you for the Wells to Glastonbury stretch.

### Cheddar to Wells

**10.6 miles (17km)**

- **Time** 4hrs 45mins actual walking time
- **Total ascent** 751m/2464ft
- **Map** OS Explorer 141 *Cheddar Gorge & Mendip Hills West*

The route climbs out of Cheddar and soon joins the West Mendip Way, reasonably well signposted with its white-arrow-on-blue roundels, which it follows to Wells, with a couple of short diversions. The path descends to Bradley Cross (**0.9 miles**) before climbing again to pass through Draycott Sleights Nature Reserve (**1.2 miles**) then runs along the top of the Mendip Hills to Priddy (**3.3 miles**), before descending to Wookey Hole (**3.2 miles**) and reaching Wells in **2 miles**.



### Wells to Glastonbury

**11.4 miles (18.5km)**

- **Time** 4hrs 30mins actual walking time
- **Total ascent** 459m/1506ft
- **Map** OS Explorer 141 *Cheddar Gorge & Mendip Hills West*

Today's walk follows The Monarch's Way, reasonably well signposted with roundels depicting a sailing ship and an oak tree, from Wells over rolling hills via North Wootton (**3.6 miles**) to shortly before West Pennard, reached in **4.2 miles**. From here the going is very flat, on footpaths over meadows, until the steep ascent to Glastonbury Tor (**2.6 miles**) and final descent to Glastonbury Abbey, reached in **1 mile**.



### Day walk options

Start at Wells, reaching Glastonbury in a day.

- **By public transport** The nearest railway station to Wells and Glastonbury is Castle Cary, from where you can take a taxi, or take the train to Bristol and a bus from there.

- **Taxi option** Craigs Taxi Service (☎ 07563-612473, [taxisincastle Cary.co.uk](mailto:taxisincastle Cary.co.uk))

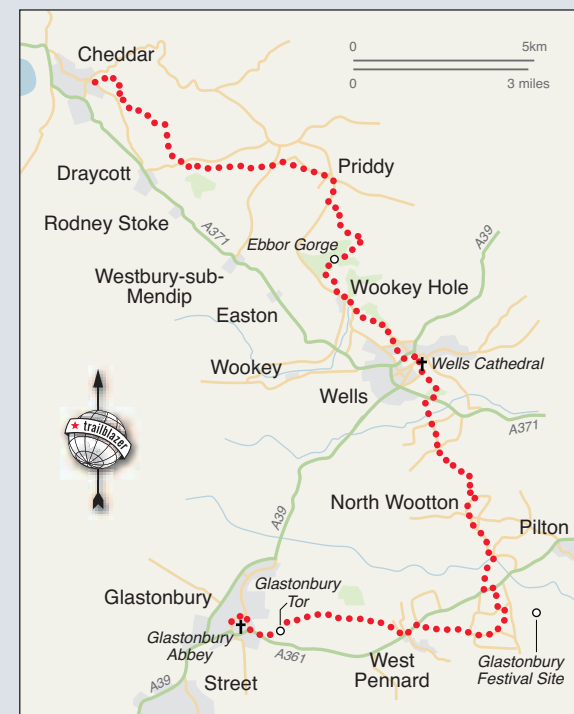
### Where to eat or stay

- **Cheddar** Stay at Gordons Hotel (☎ 01934-742497, [gordonshotel.co.uk](http://gordonshotel.co.uk), Cliff St), a friendly, family-run hotel in the centre of town.

- **Priddy** Eat lunch at the *Queen Victoria* (☎ 01749-676385, [thequeenvicpriddy.co.uk](http://thequeenvicpriddy.co.uk), Pelting Drove; Mon-Fri noon-3pm & 5-9pm, Sat noon-9pm, Sun noon-8pm) a lovely village pub on the summit of the Mendips.

- **Wells** Stay at the *Ancient Gatehouse Hotel* (☎ 01749-672029, [ancientgatehouse.com](http://ancientgatehouse.com), 20 Sadler St) which backs on to Cathedral Green, and eat in their *Rugantino's* restaurant (food: Sun, Mon & Thur noon-2.30pm & 6.30-8.30pm, Fri & Sat noon-2.30pm & 5.30-8pm, Tue & Wed closed).

- **Glastonbury** Eat at the *George and Pilgrim's Hotel* (☎ 01458-831146, [historiccinnz.co.uk/glastonbury](http://historiccinnz.co.uk/glastonbury), 1 High St; food served daily from 5pm).



## PILGRIMAGE HIGHLIGHTS

- Climb the **Mendip Hills** for a high-wire walk through an ancient landscape.
- Explore **Wells Cathedral** ([wellscathedral.org.uk](http://wellscathedral.org.uk); 10am-4pm) and **Bishop's Palace** ([bishopsplace.org.uk](http://bishopsplace.org.uk); Apr-Oct 10am-6pm, Nov-Mar 10am-4pm.)
- Scale the heights of **Glastonbury Tor** then drink the holy waters at the **Chalice Well** (☎ 01458-831154, [chalicewell.org.uk](http://chalicewell.org.uk), 85-89 Chilkwell St; Apr-Oct 10am-6pm, Nov-Mar 10am-4.30pm).
- Explore the legends at **Glastonbury Abbey** ([glastonburyabbey.com](http://glastonburyabbey.com), Magdalene St; 9am-5pm.)

### *Glastonbury pilgrimages*

Anglican celebrations on a Saturday in the second half of June,  
Catholic on a Sunday in early July ([glastonburyabbey.com](http://glastonburyabbey.com))

			<b>Walk 6: Cheddar to Glastonbury</b>
<b>Distance from start</b>	<b>Distance from last direction</b>	<b>OS refs</b>	<b>Direction</b>
0	0	ST 46307 53589	The route starts in Cheddar, at the junction of The Lippiat and Lynch Lane. Walk up steeply climbing Lynch Lane until the route divides.
66yds/60m	66yds/60m		At the divide, take the right-hand option, climbing steadily, the tarmacked lane giving way to an unmetalled track and you reach a junction.
0.3mile/500m	480yds/440m	ST 46307 53589	Turn right off the main track onto the (signposted) West Mendip Way, a narrower track, no longer climbing and passing to the right of Mascall's Wood, to the next junction of tracks.
0.6mile/1km	550yds/500m	ST 47078 53446	At a junction of tracks, where the main route bears left, turn sharp right to descend towards sheds and a house, bearing left in front of the house to pass through a yard, continuing on the West Mendip Way.
0.7mile/1.2km	220yds/200m		Continue straight ahead along the West Mendip Way, descending to Bradley Cross.
0.9mile/1.4km	220yds/200m	ST 46908 53143	At Bradley Cross, just short of the point where the track reaches Bradley Cross Ln, take the track to your left, remaining on the West Mendip Way. The route climbs up onto the Mendips once again.
1.6miles/2.6km	1.3miles/2.2km		Pass the track descending to Carscliff Farm, on your right and continue along to where the track bends left at the corner of four fields.
1.9miles/3km	440yds/400m	ST 48191 52407	At this point turn right off the track onto a narrow path heading diagonally across a field. Halfway over the field, as the West Mendip Way bears right, keep straight on towards the stile and sign at the entrance to the Draycott Sleights Nature Reserve.
2.1miles/3.4km	440yds/400m	ST 48252 51991	Enter the reserve, taking a narrow path across a steep rocky incline and descending to pass to the left of a belt of woodland to reach a lane on the far side of the reserve.
2.6miles/4.2km	880yds/800m	ST 48581 51352	Cross the lane (New Rd) and take path on other side. You are once more on the West Mendip Way, but the correct path over pasture is indistinct. You should ignore the clearer path that runs straight on and bear left to climb steeply. Walk in a shallow arc to your left, and look out for a stile in the hedge at the top of the hill.

2.8miles/4.6km	440yds/400m		At the top of the hill, cross the stile and continue on the West Mendip Way running straight ahead over several fields until you reach Broad Rd.
4.3miles/6.9km	1.4miles/2.3km	ST 51174 51310	Cross over Broad Rd and continue straight on, taking Coxton End Ln towards Priddy. Look out for a West Mendip Way sign on the right.
4.5miles/7.2km	330yds/300m	ST 51450 51372	Leave the lane, turning right on the signposted West Mendip Way across fields to rejoin Coxton End Ln.
4.9miles/7.9km	770yds/700m	ST 52104 51146	Turn right onto Coxton End Ln and follow it to the village of Priddy.
5.3miles/8.6km	770yds/700m	ST 52626 50979	Arrive at the village green in Priddy. Pass to the right of the green and turn right into Wells Rd and continue to Pelting Drove.
5.4miles/8.7km	110yds/100m	ST 52774 50843	Turn right off Wells Rd onto Pelting Drove. The Queen Victoria pub, a suggested lunch stop, is a short distance along Pelting Drove on the right. Continue along and leave the village passing Ebborways Farm campsite on the right.
5.8miles/9.3km	660yds/600m	ST 52641 50217	Shortly after Ebborways Farm, turn left off Pelting Drove onto un-signposted path along the edge of a field, actually the West Mendip Way. Take care not to miss it! Walk the length of the field to the corner.
6miles/9.7km	440yds/400m	ST 52976 50009	Turn right-angle right at the field corner. At the field corner turn right and continue along the West Mendip Way to part way along the next field until you reach a stile on your left.
6.2miles/10km	330yds/300m		Take the stile on your left into the adjoining field and proceed on the other side of the hedge round the field boundary to the T-junction of paths.
6.4miles/10.3km	330yds/300m	ST 53018 49450	At the T-junction of paths, turn left onto a track, (Durstons Drove) and continue to Higher Pitts Farm.
6.8miles/10.9km	660yds/600m	ST 53571 49248	Turn right, taking the drive to Higher Pitts Farm. Pass to the right of the house and then enter a field, keeping to the right-hand margin. Do the same in the second field as the field boundary bends round to the right, up to the edge of the Ebbor Gorge Nature Reserve.
7.3miles/11.7km	880yds/800m	ST 53028 48781	Enter the woods of the Ebbor Gorge National Nature Reserve.

7.5miles/12.1km	440yds/400m		Descend on the narrow path through the woods to reach the Ebbor Gorge observation point. To continue, retrace your steps and look out for a path (unsigned) on your right.
7.6miles/12.2km	110yds/100m	ST 53028 48781	Take the path on your right. Follow it as it descends through woods, bearing left when it reaches the bottom of a narrow valley and continue until you reach a lane called Kennel Batch.
8.3miles/13.3km	0.7mile/1.1km	ST 52836 47800	Turn left onto Kennel Batch towards Wookey Hole village, bearing left when the lanes divide to take High St.
8.5miles/13.7km	440yds/400m	ST 53002 47670	Arrive at Wookey Hole. Continue on through the village until just after Milton Ln on your left.
8.7miles/14km	330yds/300m	ST 53284 47349	Just after passing Milton Ln, take the footpath leaving High St to your left and continue along until the West Mendip Way bends sharp left.
8.9miles/14.4km	440yds/400m	ST 53467 47109	Ignore the West Mendip Way signposted left just before Lime Kiln Ln, but continue on and turn gentle left onto Lime Kiln Ln. Follow it as it enters woods and, at a T-junction, meets Milton Ln, rejoining the West Mendip Way.
9.4miles/15.1km	770yds/700m	ST 54135 46928	Turn right into Milton Ln. Look out for a path, with West Mendip Way sign, that peels off Milton Ln to the right.
9.6miles/15.4km	330yds/300m	ST 54254 46674	Bear right off Milton Ln, following the West Mendip Way sign, onto a track heading downhill to Wells. Follow this path straight ahead across roads and through school grounds to the footbridge over Mountery Rd.
10.1miles/16.3km	990yds/900m	ST 54632 45984	Cross the footbridge then immediately bear left onto Lovers' Walk.
10.2miles/16.5km	220yds/200m	ST 54878 46046	Where Lovers' Walk meets Milton Ln, turn right, then follow this path through a left turn to reach New Street.
10.3miles/16.6km	110yds/100m	ST 54939 46041	Turn right into New St and continue along to the junction with Sadler St.
10.4miles/16.7km	110yds/100m	ST 54918 45885	Turn left into Sadler St. After 50m, turn left to pass into the precincts of Wells Cathedral

10.6miles/17km	330yds/300m	ST 55062 45848	Arrive at Wells Cathedral. Wells is a suggested overnight stop. To visit the Bishop's Palace, walk on past the cathedral entrance and through the archway into Market Pl. Turn right and go through the archway. The entrance to the Bishop's Palace is straight ahead of you. To continue on the route, turn right after you have passed through this archway and walk along the tarmacked path, keeping the palace moat on your left.
10.7miles/17.3km	330yds/300m	ST 55186 45578	When you reach a gate, at the point where the moat angles off to the left, go through it, following the path signposted Monarch's Way, keeping to the right-hand field margin and heading towards the trees.
11miles/17.7km	440yds/400m	ST 55430 45263	On the far side of the field, at junction of paths, go straight on to enter Park Wood.
11.3miles/18.2km	550yds/500m	ST 55451 44867	Take the footbridge over the A371, following it as it turns sharp right to run alongside the road for a few metres, then crosses a field at a 45-degree angle.
11.5miles/18.5km	330yds/300m	ST 55213 44801	At a crossroads of paths, turn left and carry straight on across a field to farm buildings.
11.7miles/18.9km	440yds/400m	ST 55337 44407	Go straight on through farm yard, cross the River Sheppey and continue down the farm track to a lane.
11.9miles/19.1km	220yds/200m	ST 55417 44236	You reach the lane at a junction: cross the lane running left to right and take the one straight ahead of you, towards a house called Wellesley Farm. Pass the farm and walk until you reach a lane joining from the left.
12.3miles/19.8km	770yds/700m	ST 55620 43570	Turn left onto the joining lane and look out for a track on your right in 50m, signposted Monarch's Way. Take the track and continue along to farm buildings. On OS maps there is a footpath marked crossing diagonally left, but this is not evident on the ground.
12.5miles/20.1km	330yds/300m	ST 55630 43291	When you reach the farm buildings, turn left in front of them. The path is indistinct here, but runs to the corner of the field and then climbs steeply through scrubby woodland. OS maps show the path running straight on through the woods but again, this route is not evident on the ground. Instead, bear right as you climb, then left, walking through an arc and aiming for the highest point, where a stile leads into a field.

12.7miles/20.5km	220yds/200m		Cross the stile and bear diagonally right towards the next stile.
12.8miles/20.6km	110yds/100m		Cross this stile into a second field and keep straight on across the corner of the field to a third stile.
12.9miles/20.8km	220yds/200m	ST 56111 42884	Cross stile, then turn left, following field margin towards woods.
13miles/21km	220yds/200m	ST 56257 42874	Enter wood. Several diverging paths make the route here hard to follow exactly, but if you bear right you will reach stile exiting wood alongside a stream.
13.2miles/21.3km	330yds/300m	ST 56471 42669	Exit wood into pasture, continuing to follow stream to track junction.
13.5miles/21.7km	440yds/400m	ST 56357 42342	At junction of tracks, turn left and pass Little Owl Farm on the right to reach Dark Lane.
13.7miles/22km	330yds/300m	ST 56631 42201	Turn right onto Dark Lane and follow it towards North Wootton.
13.8miles/22.3km	330yds/300m	ST 56406 41986	At junction of lanes, go straight ahead onto High St and continue past a field on the right.
14miles/22.6km	330yds/300m	ST 56318 41699	Turn left at T-junction, into Stocks Ln.
14.2miles/22.8km	220yds/200m	ST 56468 41630	Turn right into Chessell Ln, following it as it becomes Lower Westholme Rd and leads to Lower Westholme.
14.9miles/24km	0.7mile/1.2km	ST 57051 40641	Shortly after Lower Westholme Rd bends left by farm entrances, turn right onto footpath, signposted Monarch's Way.
15miles/24.2km	220yds/200m		At a junction of paths, bear right to remain on Monarch's Way and continue to follow it to Meade Ln.
15.6miles/25.2km	0.6miles/1km	ST 56771 39881	As the path reaches Meade Ln, follow it left towards the A361.
15.8miles/25.5km	330yds/300m	ST 57122 39736	At A361 turn left past the Apple Tree Inn then cross over to the right of Ashcombe Farm caravan park and take the footpath running straight uphill through fields to the next lane (Sticklinch Rd).

16.2miles/26.1km	660yds/600m	ST 57224 39119	As the path approaches Sticklinch Rd, follow it as it tacks left opposite Willow Farm. Turn left onto Sticklinch Rd and continue along to the T-junction.
16.3miles/26.3km	220yds/200m	ST 57380 39103	At T-junction, turn right into Castle Ln and follow it uphill, passing Manor Farm.
16.8miles/27km	770yds/700m	ST 57093 38473	At the summit, where Worthy Ln – close to perimeter of Glastonbury Festival site – goes left, follow Castle Ln right.
17.1miles/27.6km	660yds/600m		Where Down Ln joins from the left, keep straight on along Castle Ln.
17.3miles/27.8km	220yds/200m	ST 56404 38445	Where Castle Ln turns sharp right, follow the farm track headed diagonally right. This route becomes Cottles Ln, and is tarmacked as it descends gently to West Pennard, reaching the A361 in the village.
18.2miles/29.3km	0.9miles/1.5km	ST 54997 38748	When Cottles Ln meets the A361, cross over and turn left to walk through West Pennard.
18.6miles/29.9km	660yds/600m	ST 54563 38419	Turn right onto East Street Ln and after 100m look out for a stile to a footpath on the left. The stile is hidden in the hedge and is hard to spot.
18.6miles/30km	110yds/100m	ST 54511 38485	Go over the stile on the left and take the footpath diagonally right across field, aiming for a lone tree, then diagonally right across three more fields towards farm buildings.
19miles/30.6km	660yds/600m	ST 53928 38780	When you reach a track, turn left to reach East Street Farm, where you bear left to walk through the yard
19.1miles/30.7km	110yds/100m		After East Street Farm, bear right, walking diagonally right over field to a stile.
19.2miles/30.8km	110yds/100m	ST 53543 38886	After crossing a stile into a second field, walk diagonally right.
19.3miles/31km	220yds/200m	ST 53144 38882	Leaving the second field, bear left to pick up a farm track towards Norwood Park Farm.
19.8miles/31.9km	990yds/900m		At Norwood Park Farm bear left, then right, passing between farm buildings to reach Wick Ln.
19.9miles/32.1km	330yds/300m	ST 52541 38928	Turn right onto Wick Ln for 100m.
20miles/32.2km	110yds/100m	ST 52541 38928	Turn left onto Stone Down Ln, to begin the ascent to Glastonbury Tor, and continue along past Basketfield Ln on the left.

20.7miles/33.4km	0.7miles/1.2km	ST 51385 38836	Shortly after Basketfield Ln take the footpath on the left for Glastonbury Tor.
21miles/33.8km	440yds/400m	ST 51220 38615	Arrive at the summit of Glastonbury Tor. To continue, go straight on for path descending to Glastonbury.
21.3miles/34.3km	550yds/500m	ST 50702 38468	When the path reaches Wellhouse Ln, turn left, then immediately right onto the A361. The Chalice Well is on this corner. Continue along the A361 for Glastonbury.
21.5miles/34.6km	330yds/300m	ST 50401 38617	Where the A361 bears left, continue straight on into Chilkwell St which passes Abbey House and becomes Lambrook St, reaching the junction with High St.
21.8miles/35.1km	550yds/500m	ST 50262 39023	Turn left into High St.
21.9miles/35.4km	330yds/300m		Follow High St as it turns left.
22miles/35.5km	110yds/100m	ST 49890 38852	Arrive at Glastonbury Abbey entrance