CIRCULAR WALKS AROUND

QUEEN CAMEL, SPARKFORD AND WEST CAMEL

Walk No: 5

Queen Camel, South Cadbury and Sutton Montis

WARNING: Some walks cross over busy roads and pass near rivers and ponds. Great care should be taken including the special control of children and pets.

Start Point: St Barnabas Church, Queen Camel
Maps: Overleaf and the OS new Explorer Series No. 129
OS Grid Ref: UK: ST E597 N249  GLOBAL: Lat. 51° 1’ N & long. 2° 35’ W
Parking: In village, where common sense dictates
Distance/Time: 6 ¾ miles (11 kilometres), 3 ½ hours excluding stops
Terrain: Mixed lane/field/hills, some parts muddy, excellent views
Refreshment: Pub, inn and shops in Queen Camel and South Cadbury
Wild Life: Rabbits, hares, fox, deer, wide variety of birds
Special Mention: Churches, antiques and pottery shop
Abbreviations: sp. = signpost of several types

General Description: This is a long, strenuous, circular walk from Queen Camel eastwards across to Weston Bampfylde and South Cadbury, from there up (Cadbury) Castle Mount and returning home via Sutton Montis and Weston Bampfylde.

1. From St Barnabas church go along Grace Martin’s lane, turn left, cross the plank bridge over Henshall Brook and reach the first (left) stile. Follow the hedge along to the second stile and turn left following the path to the double stile. In a few yards cross the next stile then cross the field heading for the railway bridge, pass through the tunnel and straight on to the next stile. Cross the field to the next stile. After 200 yards or so on the right is a wooden gate and a hedged path leading past ‘Field Place’ on the right and stone toadstools reaching Weston Bampfylde centre.

2. Turn left and then, at the telephone box turn right reaching Church of the Holy Cross. At the end of the graveyard enter a small white gate and in a few yards enter small metal gate, then a few yards further enter second metal gate. Cross field ½ right to old metal kissing gate. Turn left into manor house drive and cross cattle grid into South Cadbury road.

3. Turn right into road, past ‘Underwood’ house and in ½ mile ignore left junction (no sp.) with Little Weston. In 200 yards at right-hand bend leave road, climb stile (sp. South Cadbury ¾ mile and Leyland Trail) and enter large field. Note: there is a shortcut from here – one can simply continue along the road and join up with the walk at point 8 (see above).

4. Turn sharp left and in 100 yards cross stile on left. Cross next 4 fields with double stiles and in 4th field cross last stile on right and enter into hedged track: this is Folly Lane. Follow the track/lane past bungalows and reach The Camelot pub at crossroads in South Cadbury. This is about half way and time for a drink.
5. After resting turn right (south) at crossroads into Church road (sp. Sutton Montis and Corton Denham) and dawdle past St Thomas à Becket church on the right.

6. Further on right ascend steep Castle Lane (track) to Cadbury Castle (Mount). At the top explore and admire the views. The exit track is in the southwest corner about 600 yards diagonally across from your uphill point. There are many other tracks that circle the Mount but these are not direct exits.

7. Descend the exit track for 200 yards (ignore tracks to the right) until fence line appears. Climb stile and in 100 yards reach further fence line. Follow it round to the left and then bear right and cross next stile. Bear left after stile for 50 yards and at hedge/ditch turn left into road leading to Sutton Montis.

8. Cross over Henshall Brook and enter Sutton Montis village (first house is ‘Village End’). Climb road to church. (Note: from this point the Leyland Trail footpath signs will adequately guide walkers’ home to Queen Camel and beyond.)

9. Climb stile (sp. Queen Camel 2 miles) into Holy Trinity churchyard and cross to second stile. Bear half left downhill across pasture. Pass through 4 fields and stiles until lane is reached (sp. Sutton Montis ¾ miles)

10. Cross stile and turn right into the road and in 40 yards turn left, through metal gate (sp. Queen Camel 1 mile). Cross 4 fields and stiles until rail line is reached. Cross rail line using stiles either side and head for Queen Camel. Cross three fields and 3 stiles. Enter hedged track with Henshall Brook on left and head for St Barnabas church and home.

**All public rights of way cross PRIVATE land so please follow the Country Code:**

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work * fasten all gates * guard against all risks of fire * keep all dogs under close control * keep to public paths across farmland * use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls * leave livestock, crops and machinery alone * take your little home * help to keep all water clean * take special care on country roads * protect wildlife, plants and trees * make no unnecessary noise

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