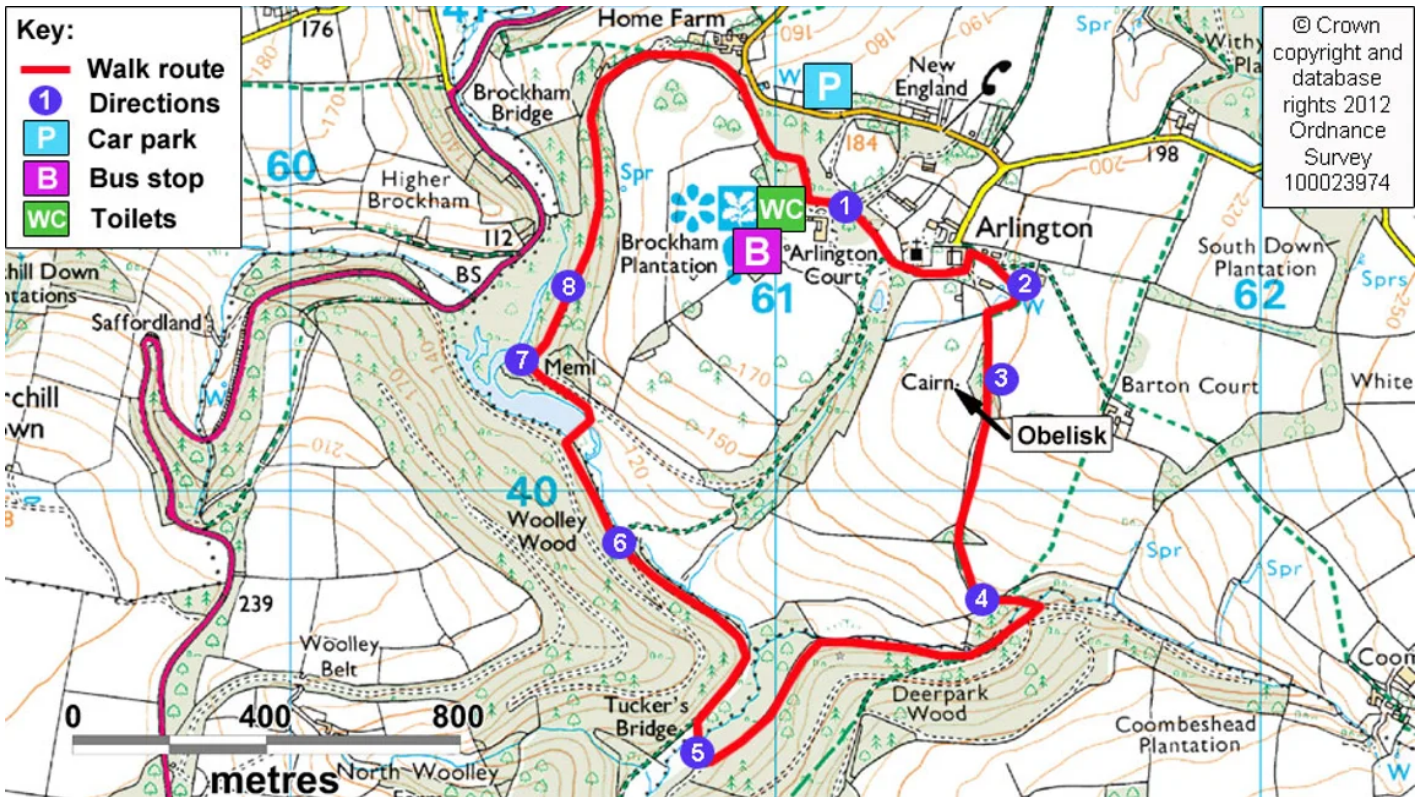


DEVON

Arlington Court deer park circular walk

Keep your eyes peeled for red deer as you follow the green waymarks on this walk through ancient woodland, parts of the estate's wildlife reserve and alongside the lake.



Information

Address: Arlington Court, Arlington, Near Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 4LP

OS map: Explorer 139; Landranger 180

Activity: Walking

Moderate: On footpaths around the estate, with some steep or muddy parts. For further details, see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: Dogs are welcome on this walk but please keep them on a lead. The Vine Café at Arlington Court is dog-friendly.

Full trail: Miles: 3 (km: 4.8)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 2 hours

Terrain

This walk follows footpaths around the estate, including through sections of woodland. Some parts can be muddy, some steep.

Total steps: 8

Start point: Old Kitchen Tea-room, grid ref: SS611405

1. From the tea-room, follow the signs through the garden to the Stables and Carriage Museum. At the gate leading up to the stable yard, look out for the wooden signs with green arrows that direct you to Deerpark Wood. Walk up the track, and bear right through a section of woodland to emerge next to the Sawmill building.
2. Turn right to take the path through woodland to a gate into a field. Go through the gate and bear right. Follow the fence down the hill, until you reach two more gates. Go through the left-hand gate and follow the path to the left.
3. After 70m there is a very small path to your right that leads to a bench and viewpoint where you can see the Obelisk and the house beyond it. Return to the main track to continue the walk down the hill.
4. Take a sharp left-hand turn, then go through a gate into the top of Deerpark Wood. Bear left down a steep path. After about 50m there is a fork. Take the right-hand fork down the hill. Stay on this track to reach Tucker's Bridge.
5. Turn right and cross Tucker's Bridge. Bear right again and follow the track towards the lake, signposted 'Lake and Arlington Court'.
6. Stay on the track until you reach Smallacombe Bridge. Do not cross the bridge but carry on towards the lake. Turn right across the dam. From here, you can see the bridge piers. After the dam, bear left alongside the lake. Stay on this track as it begins to slope upwards.
7. On your left, you'll pass Miss Chichester's urn, a memorial to the woman who donated Arlington Court to the National Trust. It marks her favourite spot on the estate and offers picturesque views of the grounds. Further along you can take the signposted diversion to the bird hide. Retrace your tracks to continue the walk.
8. Carry on up the slope for 400m. Pass through three gates and along the avenue lined with monkey puzzle trees. This joins the surfaced main drive that winds back to your

starting point at the shop, tea-room and toilets.
End point: Old Kitchen Tea-room, grid ref: SS611405
