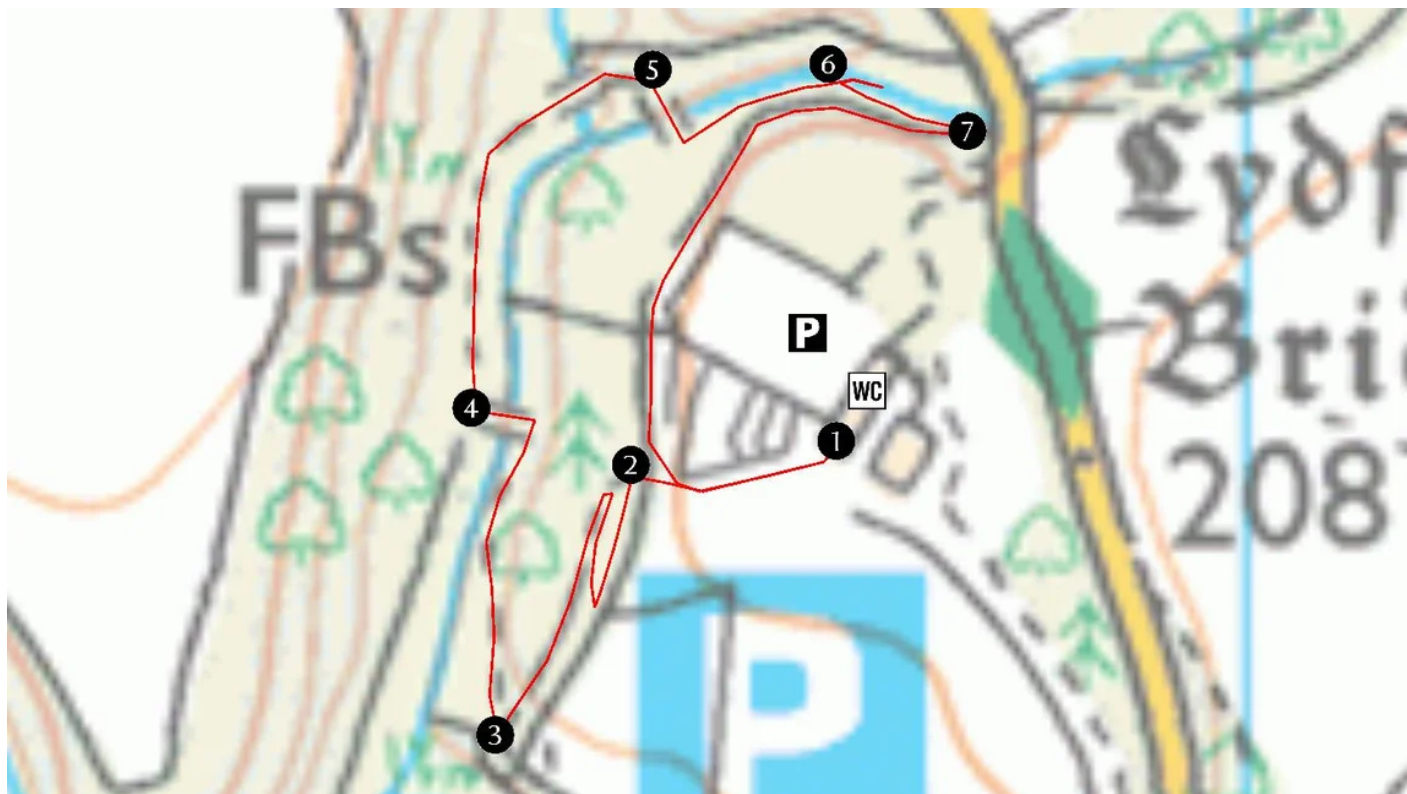


DEVON

Devil's Cauldron Trail

Descend into Lydford Gorge on this circular walk and follow the narrow, winding paths next to the River Lyd as it changes from peaceful stream to raging torrent. Head through the deep ravine, stopping off at the viewing platform in the Devil's Cauldron (a large pothole full of gushing water and encircled by rock walls) before heading back out again.



Information

Address: Devil's Cauldron entrance, Lydford Gorge, Devon, EX20 4BH

OS map: Explorer OL28

Activity: Walking

Moderate: Narrow, rocky paths with some steep gradients and rugged steps. For further details, please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: Dogs welcome, please keep them on a short lead at all times, and out of the river. We advise not to take them onto the Devil's Cauldron viewing platform - there are narrow un-barriered steps, plus the platform floor is a metal grill material that dogs don't like

Full trail: Miles: 0.8 (km: 1.28)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 45 mins

Terrain

Steep, uneven paths close to fast-flowing water. Rugged steps and uneven surfaces which can be slippery even when dry. Sturdy footwear with good grip is recommended. There are seven narrow, uneven rock steps, with a handrail but no barrier, leading down to the Devil's Cauldron viewing platform, although navigating these is not necessary to complete the trail.

Total steps: 7

Start point: Devil's Cauldron entrance, Lydford Gorge, grid ref: SX508844

1. From visitor welcome head down the gravel path, past the entrance to the tea-room, and go through the open gate to start the walk.
2. Follow the path as it zig-zags gently down through the trees until you come to a junction with a signpost.
3. Take the right-hand path and head down to the river and across the bridge.
4. Turn right (the path to the left is closed and is unsafe), then follow the path upstream and cross back over the river via a metal bridge.
5. Follow the path to the left, up the rock steps, to where it splits.
6. To head into the Devil's Cauldron, take the left-hand path which drops down to a gate. Go through the gate and down the seven narrow, rock-hewn steps, with a handrail but no barrier, to access the viewing platform. The platform floor is not suitable for all dogs so you may wish to avoid this. To continue the walk head back out of the cauldron to the main path and head left to continue uphill until you reach a junction with a steep path up to the right.
7. At this point you can explore a short section of path under the road bridge before heading back out of the gorge. Then take the steep path uphill and follow it until you meet the gravel path, turn left to head towards the tea-room, bookshop and way out.

End point: Devil's Cauldron entrance, Lydford Gorge, grid ref: SX508844
