

DORSET

Walk at White Mill and Shapwick

A moderate walk through the water meadows by the River Stour, with short distances on country lanes and along gravel tracks. You'll start at an 18th-century mill and go along an unspoilt stretch of the River Stour with much bird life. You'll then pass through the picturesque village of Shapwick and return to White Mill.

! Dogs not allowed

Please note, due to livestock grazing unfortunately dogs are not allowed on this walk.



Information

Address: Mill Lane, near Shapwick, Dorset, BH21 4BX

OS map: Explorer 118

Activity: Walking

Moderate: Follows grass and gravel tracks with short distances on country lanes. For further details, see section marked Terrain.

Not suitable for dogs

Full trail: Miles: 4 (km: 6.4)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 2 hours 30 mins

Terrain

Fairly flat walk on grass and gravel tracks and short distances on country lanes. At times the path by the Stour will be flooded and river banks can be slippery.

Total steps: 7

Start point: Car park opposite White Mill; grid ref: ST958007

1. Leave the car park at White Mill and turn right at the signpost for Shapwick and Tarrant Crawford. The permissive path, part of The Stour Valley Way, is clearly marked on the opposite side of the road.
2. Follow the riverside walk along the Stour. It meanders over rough pasture and arable headlands for approximately 2.5 miles (4km). Squeeze stiles at fence lines indicate the route to be taken.
3. Having arrived at St Bartholomew's Church on the edge of the village of Shapwick, follow the footpath signs to the cross at the centre of the village. The Anchor Inn at Shapwick Cross provides an ideal spot for refreshments if required.
4. To continue the walk proceed straight up the Shapwick High Street until a junction with Park Lane is encountered on the right, opposite Priory House.
5. Turn right here and you will almost immediately pass the Higher Dairy part of Crab Farm.
6. Turn right down the bridleway, known as Half Mile Drove, before New Barn Farm. This track leads to the White Mill and Shapwick.
7. Turning left at the bottom, return with care along the road to your start point.

End point: Car park opposite White Mill; grid ref: ST958007