

# Cheddar Walking



in partnership with the

# National Trust



# Cheddar Walking

## TRAIL TYPE

Walking

## GRADE

Hard / Strenuous  
in places

## DISTANCE

3½ miles

## TIME

2 to 2½ hours

## OS MAP

Explorer: 141

Landranger: 182

## CONTACT

[contact@cheddarwalking.co.uk](mailto:contact@cheddarwalking.co.uk)

## FACILITIES

Full facilities within the main lower Gorge visiting area but none on the walk itself

## TERRAIN

Varied terrain with open grassy paths with some steep, rocky and muddy (when wet) stretches. Some steps, one long set on decline. Stout walking shoes/boots recommended. Can be exposed along the top of the Gorge.

## WHAT TO SEE

Lion Rock. Soay sheep, goats, deer. Views of Glastonbury Tor, Brent Knoll and Bridgwater bay. Pavey's lookout tower. Cheddar Pinks, Peregrine Falcons

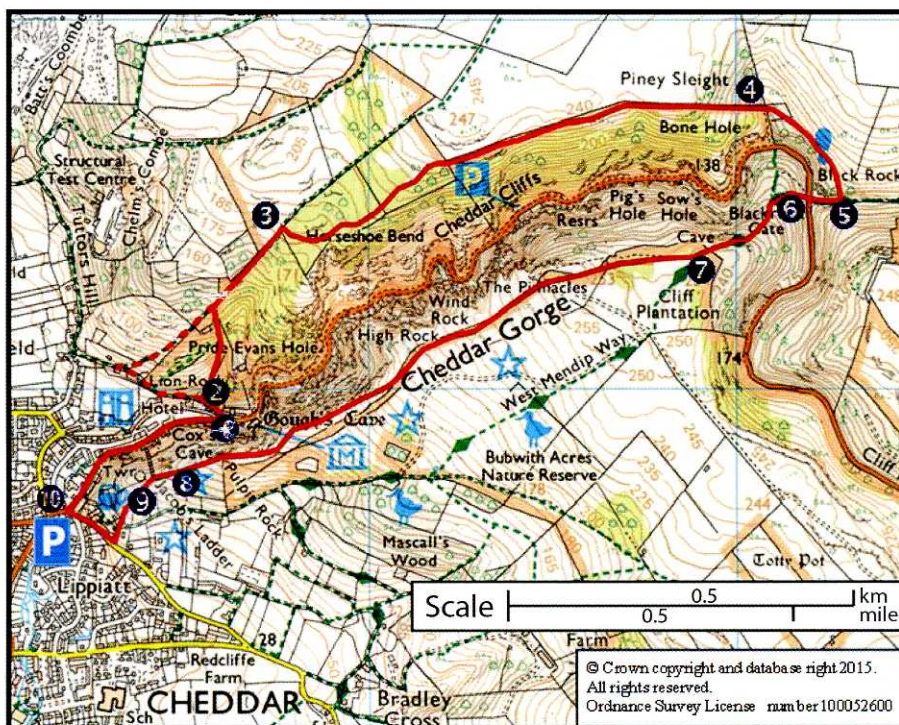


## #5 GORGE CIRCULAR WALK

Iconic Cheddar Gorge walk with magnificent views of the gorge and beyond. At almost 400ft (122m) deep and 3 miles long, this is England's largest gorge, and with its weathered crags and pinnacles, one of our most spectacular natural sites.



## Map



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## START/END

National Trust Information  
Centre Cheddar Gorge

grid ref ST 468543

GPS (Start):

N 51.28189

W 002.76690

## HOW TO GET THERE

### BY BIKE

By bike from the  
Strawberry line  
(National Cycle Network 26)

### BY BUS

Service 126  
Weston-super-Mare to  
Wells stop at Tweentown  
close to the bottom of  
the gorge

### BY CAR

Pay and display car  
parks in Gorge and  
Cliff Street car park



## Directions

- 1 Take the stony track (Cufic Lane) diagonally left opposite the National Trust information Centre/Café Gorge in the lower Gorge area; the gatepost has markings for the Cheddar Gorge walk.
- 2 Turn right at the first finger post to join the permissive path leading up through the woods for between 15 and 20 minutes. This ascent is on a stony path with steps in places which can be muddy and slippery when wet. Half way up note the large cave off to your left.  
*If very wet a slightly better alternative is to continue past the first finger post, up the track and follow the footpath behind Cufic cottage and then immediately right to follow a parallel path up through the woods (marked on the map with a dashed line). This route follows the official signed route of the West Mendip Way, so look out for the blue roundel markers.*  
When you reach the top of the ascent go through the gate and join a wide grassy path leading diagonally upwards to your right (the alternative route joins slightly to the left at this point). Keep the stone wall to your right as you ascend, you will see some wooden marker posts en-route. This was the site of many of the cliff scenes from the film "Jack the Giant Slayer".
- 3 Follow the path to the top, through the kissing gate marked with the gorge walk sign. Look back from this point for magnificent views of Cheddar, Glastonbury Tor, the Somerset levels and Bridgwater Bay. The following section is rocky in places and can become very muddy in wet weather. Follow the obvious path along the side of the Gorge before descending via a long set of steps to a deep valley.
- 4 At the bottom of the steps go through the wooden kissing gate straight ahead of you. Once through the gate the path leads through a wooded area and descends to meet the "Black Rock" stony path. This stretch can become muddy.
- 5 Where the path joins the stony track (*the common route with the West Mendip Way ends here*) turn immediately right through a farm type gate and onto another gate to join the main Gorge road.
- 6 Carefully cross the road and slightly diagonally to your right join the path which rises to the other side of the Gorge (signposted Draycott and West Mendip Way). This path is steep, rocky and uneven as it rises through the woods. Continue to the top of this path.

