

WALKS 6 AND 7

Towards Priston

The walk to and from Priston is a favourite of many villagers. It is a peaceful walk with wonderful views along the Priston Brook valley. Priston has many interesting old buildings including the Church of St Luke and St Andrew which has been designated by English Heritage as a Grade I listed building.



	WALK 6	WALK 7
Distance	1.9 miles (3.1 km)	4.5 miles (7.2km)
Stiles	0	9
Approximate Time	1 hour	2 hours
Start/Finish	the Connies	the Connies
Start/Finish Grid Reference	ST 669587	ST 669587
Map	OS Explorer 142	OS Explorer 142 and 155
Terrain	Undulating, quiet lanes, fields, bridleways and a shallow ford to cross.	Undulating, quiet lanes, fields, bridleways and a shallow ford to cross.

1 / A THE CONNIES TEA ROOM IN THE SQUARE

With your back to Connies, turn right and walk past Our Plaice fish and chips shop. Continue along Newmans Lane until you reach the T-junction by The British Legion. Turn right into North Road and then, at the Congregational Church, turn left into Lippiatt Lane. Walk along Lippiatt Lane. After 600 yards, the road narrows. Continue on for a further 200 yard as you pass the allotments on your left and Mead Cottage on the right. Continue down the lane and up a slight hill. The lane bends around to the right.

2 / B WALLMEAD FARM

Walk past the entrance to Wallmead Farm. Continue on for 200 yards until you reach the entrance to Wallmead House Farm. This farm is found on the 1784 map of Timsbury. Walk straight on through a kissing gate and the next gate to enter the field. The field is called Wallmead, formerly the site of two Neolithic barrows. Continue walking straight ahead, keeping the hedge on your right. Farmborough Common can be seen on your left. You then reach another kissing gate, pass through and enter Parkway Lane.

For the shorter walk continue with 3 below. For the longer walk go to C below.

3 WALLMEAD COTTAGES

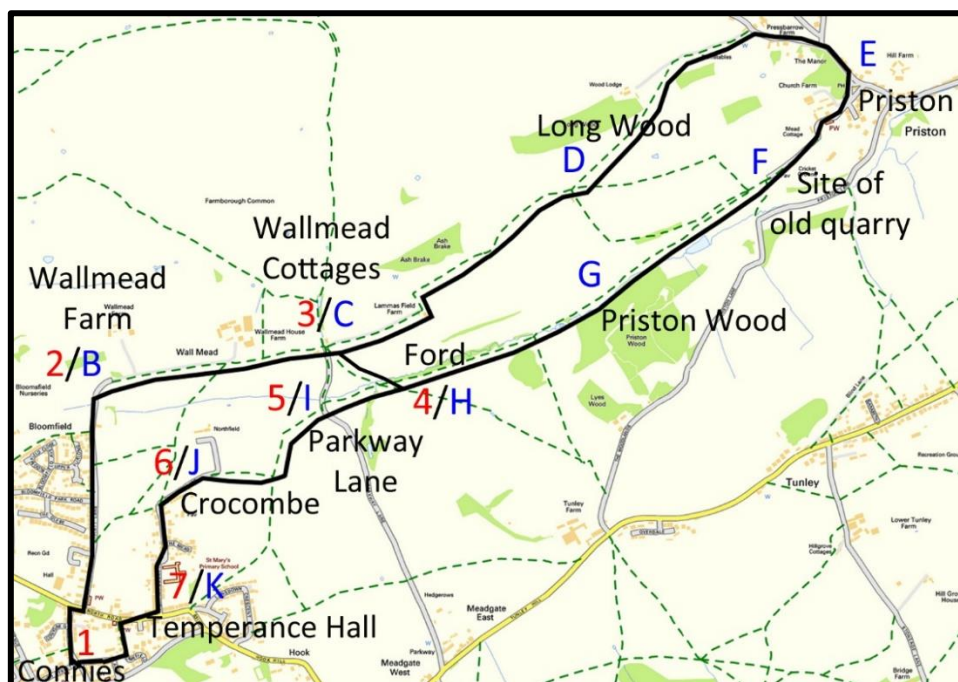
Turn right and immediately look to the left and cross a stile (*Proceed down the lane to 5 if you wish to avoid the stiles*) Bear right diagonally to way-marked stile. Cross the stile and follow the same line down the hill to bridge beneath ash tree. Cross the bridge and turn right. **For the shorter walk continue with 4 on Page 22.**

C WALLMEAD COTTAGES

After passing through the kissing gate, ignore the footpath signs going to the right down Parkway Lane and continue straight ahead up the track. Continue until you reach bridleyway gate at the end of the track with Lammas Field Farm on your right and enter into the field. Walk diagonally across the field keeping Ash Brake woods and the single oak tree on your left. Ignore the gateway on your left at the end of Ash Brake woods and enter the next field. Continue ahead, keeping the hedge on your left. Pass a metal barn on your right and then take the stile on the left at the beginning of the next field.

D LONG WOOD

Turn left over the stile and then immediately right. Then walk diagonally across the field, keeping the woods on your left, towards a gap in the hedge. Pass through the gap and follow the hedge on the left for about 50 yards until you reach a small arch in the hedge. Squeeze through this gap and the kissing gate. Walk diagonally across the field to the end of a row of poplar trees. Pass through the kissing gate onto the drive. Turn right and follow the drive over the cattle grid to the road.



See Main Map on Pages 4 and 5 for map source and copyright details

E PRISTON

At the end of the drive you reach the Farmborough Road; Holt House is straight ahead. Stand beside it and enjoy the views across the valley to Lansdown. Turn right and follow the road into the village of Priston. On the way, you will pass Priestbarrow House and The Manor House on the right. Follow the lane until you enter the centre of Priston. Pause for a rest under the tree and a non-alcoholic drink from the fountain on the right. Priston has a long and interesting history. The name is thought to have derived from 'Priests tun' and there is an Anglo-Saxon Charter of 931 AD. Walk down to the right of the Ring O' Bells pub and the Village Hall, past the car park at the rear and ignoring the drive on the right. At the T-junction, turn right and walk towards the Church. Walk past the Church, the lane bends to the left and then right. Walk past Priston Cricket Ground on your left. Carry on along the bridle path until you reach a field gate and a stile.

F SITE OF OLD QUARRY

At the end of the bridleway, climb the stile, turn left and sit on the stone seat. Enjoy the views along the valley. The uneven mound next to the stone seat marks part of an old quarry, topped by a standing stone. Now walk back to the stile, bear left and walk straight ahead to the next stile, keeping the hedge on your right (and ignoring the stile and gate on your right). Continue over this and a second stile following the line of the hedge until you reach a short stone wall to your right with good examples of ammonites. Then walk diagonally downwards until you reach another stile.

G PRISTON WOOD

Cross the stile and carry on straight ahead keeping the stream on your left. At end of this field turn left, cross the stile and then the stream. Turn immediately right, follow the path keeping the fence on your right. Cross a stile and carry on ahead with the stream on your

right. Go over another stile in a dividing fence and continue with the stream on your right. Cross the shallow ford that flows from left to right.

4 / H FORD

Continue with the stream on your right until you reach a Bristol gate that leads back into Parkway Lane.

5 / I PARKWAY LANE

Turn left and then immediately right through the kissing gate. Walk straight ahead up the hill to the next kissing gate in the hedge at the top. After walking through the gate, carry on straight ahead to the gap in the hedge - except when the maize is high in which case follow the trodden path! Walk diagonally across the next field to a gate and stile in the fence on the left. Cross the stile into the open area and then turn right and through the gap into the lane. Go straight ahead ignoring the lane to the right which leads to Northfield.

6 / J CROCOMBE LANE

Follow the lane past some modern houses on your left. The lane bends around to the left and then to the right past St Mary's Primary School. Carry on down Lansdown View/Crocombe Lane (where the street name is different on each side of the road) until you reach the T-junction with North Road.

On the 1784 map of Timsbury, either side of Lansdown View/Crocombe Lane was fields. Several were owned by Widow Flower and had the names Crookham and Duck's Little Crookham. By the time of the Tithe Map in 1840 there are two houses and close called Crookham owned by George Flower Snr. However, the Ordnance Survey map of 1884-7 describes the area as Crocombe.

7 / K TEMPERANCE HALL

Turn right at North Road and follow the pavement past the shops and The Seven Stars pub. When the pavement ends, cross the road and walk through the iron gate straight ahead into Chapel Walk. Follow the path with the railings on your right. Turn right at the end of the railings past Crock Barton Cottages. Continue straight ahead into Rectory Lane. At the end, you will see the Miners' Memorial Garden on your left, turn right to the Connies where you started the walk.

