

Bawdrip, Sutton Mallet & Cossington

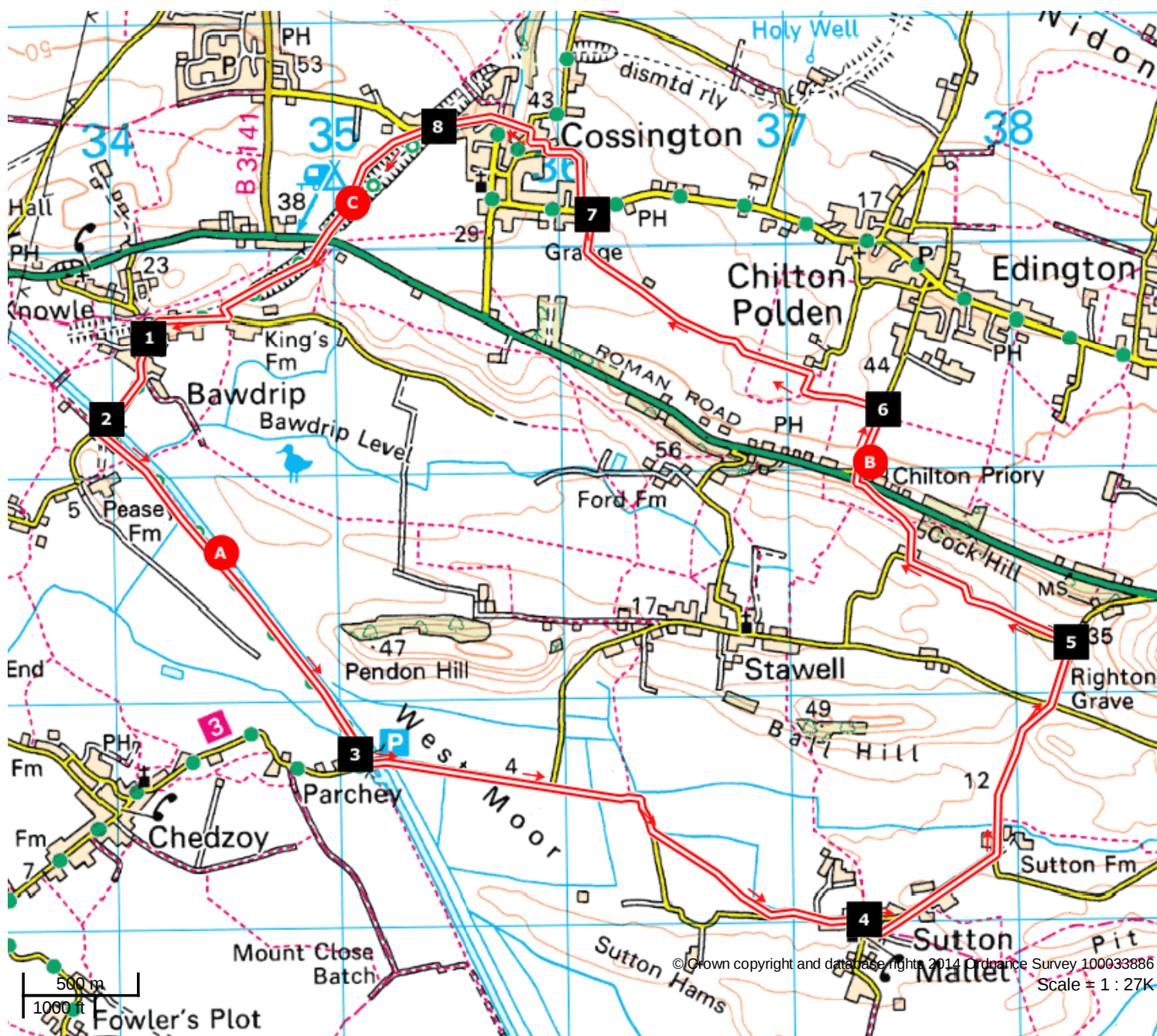
Starts at Bawdrip Church, Bawdrip, Somerset

4 hours 0 minutes | 8.0miles 12.9km | Leisurely



ID: 0.1837 | Developed by: Edward Levy | Checked by: David Thompson | www.ramblersroutes.org

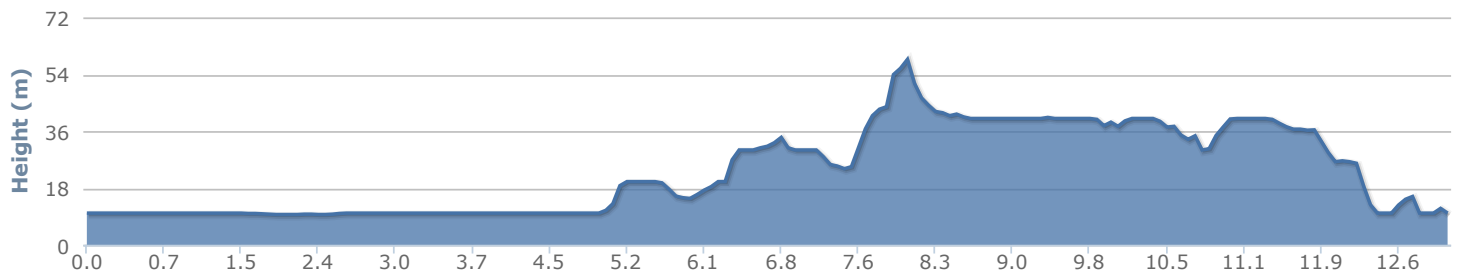
A circular walk from Bawdrip Church crossing the Somerset levels and returning over the top of the Polden Hills. The Levels are notoriously wet and muddy, even sometimes in Summer. This route mainly uses minor roads with footpaths on the Poldens.



— Main Route — Alternative Route H Point of Interest 4 Waypoint

Distance: 12.90km Ascent: 87m Descent: 87m

Route Profile



*move mouse over graph to see points on route

The Ramblers is Britain's walking charity. We work to safeguard the footpaths, countryside and other places where we all go walking. We encourage people to walk for their health and wellbeing. To become a member visit www.ramblers.org.uk



Starts at

Roadside by Bawdrip Church, Bawdrip, Somerset

Ends at

Roadside by Bawdrip Church

Getting there

By car: *Bawdrip lies approximately 1/2 mile south of the A39 three miles from Bridgwater. Roadside parking alongside church.*

By bus: *There is an hourly bus service (route 375) between Bridgwater and Wells. To get to the start it would be necessary to alight at the Silver Fish traffic lights (where the road from Bridgwater joins the A39 from M5 Junction 23) and then walk into the village approximately 3/4 mile. Alternatively the starting point could be changed to Cossington as the bus passes through the village.*

Route instructions

[1] Commence walk with church on your right and walk along road. Bear left where road joins from the right and follow road out of village to reach Bradney Bridge which crosses Kings's Sedgemoor Drain.

(A) King's Sedgemoor Drain is an artificial drainage channel which diverts the River Cary along the southern flank of the Polden Hills, to discharge into the River Parrett at Dunball near Bridgwater.. As the name suggests, the channel is used to help drain the peat moors of King's Sedgemoor.

[2] Immediately after crossing bridge turn left onto a surfaced path running along top of riverbank. Follow this path until it reaches a road alongside Parchey Bridge.

[3] Turn left onto road and cross Parchey Bridge. Follow the road, which runs in a straight line between fields to reach a bend where it runs right. Shortly after the road turns right watch for a path on the left that crosses a ditch followed by a stile. Take this path and after crossing stile bear left to cross two fields diagonally. Exit the second field and immediately turn left in the next field and follow path with field boundary on left to reach gate where exit into a road. Follow the road ahead into Sutton Mallet village.

[4] In village turn first right and almost immediately first left opposite entrance to village church. Follow road out of village passing farmyards on both left and right. At road junction bear left following road onwards to reach a crossroad where continue straight ahead.

[5] On reaching a junction with a road on the left turn into it and continue to next road junction where turn right to follow road uphill to meet the main A39 at the top. **Cross the busy A39 with great care as traffic runs at high speed on this section.** Turn left and walk along roadside for a short distance to find a path turning off to the right. Take this path, which in approximately 30 yards meets a minor road. Follow this road downhill.

(B) The large house on the right is Chilton Priory. The building dates from the early 19th century and was originally constructed as a folly. Subsequently additions and alterations were made to convert it into a country house.

[6] At footpath waymarker sign turn left into a field and follow path along its edge with hedge on right. Continue ahead where a path crosses. In approximately 200 yards path turns right through a gate and in a short distance turns left. The path then runs straight ahead through and alongside fields before finally veering right and going ahead to meet a road.

[7] Turn left into road and then first right into a minor road. Follow minor road, which makes a number of

bends left and right before reaching a junction with another road. Cross the road diagonally to right to reach a footpath crossing a stile. Cross stile and follow path downhill and then after crossing a small stream uphill to exit into a road. Turn right and follow road, which almost immediately turns left. The road runs between houses before crossing a stone bridge.

[8] Cross the bridge and immediately turn left onto a tarmac footpath which runs initially alongside a disused railway track and then drops into it and follows the course of the old railway line.

(C) The disused railway line was a branch of the Somerset & Dorset from Glastonbury terminating in Bridgwater. The line was closed in 1966 being a victim of the "Beeching Axe".

Follow the path, which eventually turns off to the left from the old railway track to finish in a short distance at the junction with a minor road. Turn right onto the road and follow to junction with a road. Turn left at junction where you will find yourself back at the start alongside Bawdrip Church.

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Acknowledgements

Developed by: *Edward Levy*

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Bawdrip Church
Photo taken by: Edward Levy



Gates at Start of Old Railway Trail Cossington
Photo taken by: Edward Levy



Swan Sculptures on Old Railway Trail
Photo taken by: Edward Levy



Wooden Thrones Old Railway Trail Bawdrip
Photo taken by: Edward Levy



Sutton Mallett Church
Photo taken by: Edward Levy

