

# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

South  
Somerset  
Cycleway



The South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway will take you on a journey through idyllic country villages and bustling market towns with opportunities to admire fine heritage homes, ancestral landmarks and productive agricultural vistas, distinctive to this area of Somerset.

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[www.visitsouthsomerset.com](http://www.visitsouthsomerset.com)



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## How to get the most from your South Somerset cycling adventure.

**The South Somerset Visitor Information Centre and the Visit South Somerset website has information on a wide range of places to stay including campsites, farmhouses, self-catering cottages, village inns and country house hotels.**

Cycling builds up a healthy appetite and you can't go far along the route without passing a country pub serving local produce and our famous Somerset cider!

Towns and villages along the route have pubs, cafes and shops but it is always advisable to carry some basic rations.

There are numerous attractions in the area and those on or near the route are mentioned. Please check the opening hours before making a detour.

### **Please cycle safely and follow the Highway Code.**

- Don't jump red lights and don't ride on pavements (unless they are shared paths).
- Don't ride the wrong way in one-way streets (unless signs say that cyclists are permitted to do so), or ride across pedestrian crossings.
- Think ahead by anticipating drivers' actions. Catch their eye.
- Be visible. Ride well clear of the kerb, wear bright clothing and always use lights after dark or in poor daytime visibility.
- Show drivers what you plan to do. Always look and signal before you start, stop or turn.
- Ride a straight line past parked cars rather than dodge between them.
- Move over, when it's safe and convenient. Two-abreast is often OK, but try not to hold up other traffic.
- Ride positively and decisively. It helps motorists to understand what you plan to do.
- Always pass horse riders wide and slow and let them know you are about to pass, especially from behind.

### **Travelling to South Somerset by train.**

South Somerset is only a little over 100 miles west of London and is easy to reach by train.

- London (Waterloo) to Exeter trains call at Templecombe, Sherborne, Yeovil Junction and Crewkerne.
- London (Paddington) to Penzance trains serve Castle Cary.
- Bristol to Weymouth train stops at Bruton, Castle Cary and Yeovil Pen Mill.
- Bristol to Taunton line stops at Bridgwater.

On some of the train companies or services, bike reservations are compulsory, so please check with the individual companies. For information about train services call 08457 48 49 50 or visit [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

### **Need a bike repair or accessories?**

There are bike shops in Chard, Crewkerne, Langport, Sherborne and Yeovil.

### *Keep in touch:*

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 South Somerset Visitor Information Centre & Gift Shop, Cartgate Picnic Site, A303/A3088, Stoke sub Hamdon, Somerset, TA14 6RA



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

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## Section 1: Yeovil Junction to Sherborne

### Overview

This section is a relatively flat and easy section with a small but steady incline as you leave Bradford Abbas.

After leaving Yeovil Junction Railway Station you are very quickly into the rural countryside with quiet lanes and just birdsong for company. There is one short offroad section as you approach Sherborne.

**YEOVIL** is the major town of South Somerset with a great shopping centre and bustling high street and markets. Also home to The Octagon Theatre, Goldenstones Leisure Centre, the Yeo Leisure Complex and the very popular Yeovil Country Park.

**SHERBORNE** is a historical and picturesque market town with a 15th Century Abbey at its heart and two castles on the outskirts. One of these, Sherborne Castle, was built by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1594 and surrounded by a lake, lawns and parkland. Also worth visiting are the museum and 15th Century Almshouse. There is delightful and varied shopping in the town centre with handcrafted goods and elegant fashions. An excellent rest stop with several teashops and restaurants.

**Length of route:** 7.4 miles 11.8 km

**OS Explorer Map:** 129 Yeovil & Sherborne



**Travel and Transport:** Visit [www.travelsomerset.co.uk](http://www.travelsomerset.co.uk) or [www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com) for help planning your logistics.



**Parking:** Car parking in Yeovil and Sherborne town centre plus limited parking at Yeovil Junction and Sherborne Railway Stations



**Toilets:** Public toilets at Yeovil Junction and Sherborne Stations plus town centres



**Places to Eat and Drink:** Lots of independent and national cafes and restaurants in Yeovil and Sherborne plus a pub in Bradford Abbas



**Where to stay:** There are lots of accommodation options to suit all budgets in the STAY section on [visitsouthsomerset.com](http://visitsouthsomerset.com), click MAP VIEW



**While in the Area:** Detour to ILCHESTER, once a major Roman garrison town on the Fosse Way and the county town of Somerset until the 19th Century. You can also visit Haynes Motor Museum at Sparkford and the 14th Century Lytes Cary Manor and gardens locally.



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 1: Yeovil Junction to Sherborne



### Route guidance.

The route is waymarked with brown South Somerset Cycleway signs and stickers. Please use these instructions in conjunction with the OS Explorer map 129, Yeovil and Sherborne.

NB. Some sections of the route incorporate the **Sustrans National Cycle Network** (routes 26 and 33). Please make sure you follow the South Somerset Cycleway signs.

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# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 1: Yeovil Junction to Sherborne

- 1** Exit Yeovil Junction Railway Station. At the T-junction with the road turn left under the railway bridge then after ¼ mile take the first left “Bradford, Sherborne” following the red sign. Crossing the narrow bridge, you enter Dorset.
- 2** At T-junction after 1½ miles, turn left, signed “Bradford Abbas”, cross the bridge over the river then turn first left, signed “Bradford Abbas”.
- 3** Follow the road through the village past the church and under the railway bridge. At the T-junction at the end of the road turn right following the blue sign.
- 4** Continue along this road for two miles, through a minor x- roads and, at the start of a small woodland, turn right down a no through road. Go past a farm (Lenthay Dairy House) and continue along the track through a gateway. Keep to the left and go through a narrow field keeping to the left of the fence to a gate at the bottom of the field. Turn left onto a rough track following the signs. Follow the track that leads to Lenthay Road.
- 5** Continue along Lenthay Road to the traffic lights at the junction with the A352. Go straight ahead onto Horsecastles. At crossroads at the end of Horsecastles carry straight on into Trendle Street. At the T-junction at the end of Trendle Street bear left towards the Abbey.
- 6** Cycle past Sherborne Abbey and follow the road round to the left and then to the right. Take the second left, just before the Eastbury Hotel, up St. Swithin’s Road, signed “All through traffic” At the end of the road turn left into Newland and continue to the top of the town centre, at the T-junction bear right onto a road called The Green.
- 7** Turn left (not signed) before the bus shelter into Hospital Lane and turn right to continue down Back Lane, follow the road down the hill and around the right-hand bend. Turn left at the junction of Back Lane with the A30.

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## Section 2: Sherborne to Castle Cary

### Overview

An attractive route through a number of pretty villages before reaching the thriving market town of Castle Cary. This section is a bit longer than some and involves some hills with a total ascent of approximate with a total, possibly the most strenuous section but worth the effort.

**SHERBORNE** is a historical and picturesque market town with a 15th Century Abbey at its heart and two castles on the outskirts. One of these, Sherborne Castle, was built by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1594 and surrounded by a lake, lawns and parkland. Also worth visiting are the museum and 15th Century Almshouse. There is delightful and varied shopping in the town centre with handcrafted goods and elegant fashions. An excellent rest stop with several teashops and restaurants.

**Castle Cary** is a vibrant market town with a winding main street of thatch and golden stone below Lodge Hill where the 11th Century castle once stood. The museum in the Market House has interesting displays about local history and residents. On Bailey Hill stands the 18th-century "pepper pot" lock up known as the Round House, one of only four in the country and now a wedding venue!

**Length of route:** 12.0 miles 19.3 km

**OS Explorer Map:** 129 Yeovil & Sherborne and 142 Shepton Mallet & Mendip Hills East



**Travel and Transport:** Visit [www.travelsomerset.co.uk](http://www.travelsomerset.co.uk) or [www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com) for help planning your logistics.



**Parking:** Car parking in Sherborne and Castle Cary town centre plus limited parking at Sherborne and Castle Cary Railway Stations



**Toilets:** Public toilets at Sherborne and Castle Cary Stations plus town centres



**Places to Eat and Drink:** Lots of independent and national cafes and pubs in Sherborne plus independents in Castle Cary and a number of village pubs on route and Teals Farm Shop at South Cadbury.



**Where to stay:** There are lots of accommodation options to suit all budgets in the STAY section on [visitsouthsomerset.com](http://visitsouthsomerset.com), click MAP VIEW



**While in the Area:** Leave your bike in the carpark and climb the Iron Age hill fort of CADBURY CASTLE to admire what remains of the impressive fortress and views across the Somerset countryside towards Glastonbury. Also, interesting detours are the towns of BRUTON and WINCANTON



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 2: Sherborne to Castle Cary



### Route guidance.

The route is waymarked with brown South Somerset Cycleway signs and stickers. Please use these instructions in conjunction with the OS Explorer map 129, Yeovil and Sherborne and 142 Shepton Mallet & Mendip Hills East.

NB. Some sections of the route incorporate the **Sustrans National Cycle Network** (routes 26 and 33). Please make sure you follow the South Somerset Cycleway signs.

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**Disclaimer - The Public Rights of Way shown on the map are only intended as an indication of the general route. To determine the exact route of a Public Right of Way, the Definitive Map (1:10560 scale) should be consulted.**



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 2: Sherborne to Castle Cary

- 8** Take the first right onto the B3148 “Marston Magna” **Warning!** This is a difficult right turn - wait for a gap in the traffic. Cross the main road onto the B3148 then after 150 yards take the first right signed to Combe. Follow this lane for 3 miles. In Sandford Orcas, take the first right after the Mitre Inn, just before the village hall. It is a sharp junction taking you back on yourself to “Holway, Corton Denham”. At the T-junction after ½ mile fork left signed to “Corton Denham”.
- 9** Follow this road for 2½ miles, through Corton Denham and passing the Queens Arms pub on your left. After ¼ mile pass the no-through road to Witcomb Farm on your right. Take the next right “South Cadbury”. At the T-junction turn right.
- 10** Go through South Cadbury, past The Camelot pub, cross the bridge over the A303. Go through North Cadbury, past the Catash Inn. On a sharp left-hand bend (with chevrons) bear right.
- 11** After 1½ miles, at T-junction turn right. At T-junction at the end of Hearn Lane, turn left then shortly right onto Frog Lane.
- 12** At X-roads with the A359 go straight ahead onto Small Way Lane “Castle Cary”. At T-junction with B3152 turn right into Castle Cary. **Warning!** Busier road.

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## Section 3: Castle Cary to Somerton

### Overview

The route is a gentle, predominantly downhill section to Somerton across the Cary Moor and through attractive woods.

**Castle Cary** is a vibrant market town with a winding main street of thatch and golden stone below Lodge Hill where the 11th Century castle once stood. The museum in the Market House has interesting displays about local history and residents. On Bailey Hill stands the 18th-century "pepper pot" lock up, one of only four in the country and now a wedding venue!

**Somerton** is reputedly the 7th-century royal capital of Wessex. The 17th-century square, market cross, town hall, elegant houses and inns create an attractive townscape of outstanding architectural and historical interest. The Somerton Arts Festival takes place every July and the town has a number of interesting art galleries.



**Length of route:** 13.7 miles 22.1 km

**OS Explorer Map:** 129 Yeovil & Sherborne and 142 Shepton Mallet & Mendip Hills East



**Travel and Transport:** Visit [www.travelsomerset.co.uk](http://www.travelsomerset.co.uk) or [www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com) for help planning your logistics.



**Parking:** Car parking in Castle Cary and Somerton town centre plus limited parking at Castle Cary Railway Station



**Toilets:** Public toilets at Castle Cary Railway Station plus in the town centres



**Places to Eat and Drink:** Lots of independent cafes and pubs in Castle Cary and Somerton plus a pub in Lydford on Fosse and village stores in Keinton Mandeville



**Where to stay:** There are lots of accommodation options to suit all budgets in the STAY section on [visitsouthsomerset.com](http://visitsouthsomerset.com), click MAP VIEW



**While in the Area:** Take time out to visit Fleet Air Arm Museum, with an extensive display of aircraft history over the years, including the first British Concorde and the award-winning Aircraft Carrier Experience. Clarks Village, the retail outlet, is not far from this section in Street.



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 3: Castle Cary to Somerton



### Route guidance.

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The route is waymarked with brown South Somerset Cycleway signs and stickers. Please use these instructions in conjunction with the OS Explorer map 129, Yeovil and Sherborne and 142 Shepton Mallet & Mendip Hills East.

NB. Some sections of the route incorporate the **Sustrans National Cycle Network** (routes 26 and 33). Please make sure you follow the South Somerset Cycleway signs.



**Disclaimer - The Public Rights of Way shown on the map are only intended as an indication of the general route. To determine the exact route of a Public Right of Way, the Definitive Map (1:10560 scale) should be consulted.**



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 3: Castle Cary to Somerton

- 13** In Castle Cary, at the T-junction of Lower Woodcock Street and the B3152 turn left. After ½ mile turn left onto Torbay Road, signed “North Barrow”.
- 14** Follow this road for 3 miles. At T-junction turn right and go through North Barrow. At X-roads go straight ahead, and signed “Babcary”.
- 15** After 2 miles, at T-junction (in Foddington) turn right, signed “East Lydford, Keinton Mandeville.”
- 16** At T-junction with B3153 turn left. At traffic lights with A37 go straight ahead,  
**Warning!** Busier road.
- 17** In Keinton Mandeville, turn left onto Queen Street, just before the Keinton Stores. After ¾ mile, on a sharp left-hand bend turn right by a telephone box onto Church Street towards “Charlton”.
- 18** After 1½ miles, at a T-junction on a sharp bend in Charlton Adam, bear right and follow the road around a sharp right-hand bend then after ½ mile around a sharp left-hand bend. At the T-junction turn left, signed “Somerton” then first right, signed “Somerton”, and follow for 2 miles.
- 19** At T-junction with the B3153 turn left, signed “Somerton”. **Warning!** Busy section. At T-junction with B3151 (not signed), turn left again towards “Somerton” then after crossing the bridge take the second right, climbing uphill.
- 20** At T-junction with New Street bear right. At T-junction with B3153 (Broad Street) turn left, signed “Langport, Taunton”. At The Triangle follow the road bearing right along the B3153, signed “Langport” to Somerton.

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## Section 4: Somerton to South Petherton

### Overview

Gentle climbing when leaving Somerton and approaching Langport otherwise easy cycling through the pretty and interesting villages of Muchelney and Kingsbury Episcopi. There is a short offroad section when leaving Langport, which rejoins country roads just west of Muchelney.

**Somerton** is reputedly the 7th-century royal capital of Wessex. The 17th-century square, market cross, town hall, elegant houses and inns create an attractive townscape of outstanding architectural and historical interest. The Somerton Arts Festival takes place every July and the town has a number of interesting art galleries.

**SOUTH PETHERTON**, is home to the David Hall Arts Centre and award-winning Holm restaurant. There is also a selection of smaller cafes and interesting buildings including the fine St Peter and St Paul Church with a rare octagonal central tower, reputed to be the tallest in the country.

**Length of route:** 14.9 miles 24.0 km

**OS Explorer Map:** 129 Yeovil & Sherborne



**Travel and Transport:** Visit [www.travelsomerset.co.uk](http://www.travelsomerset.co.uk) or [www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com) for help planning your logistics.



**Parking:** Car parking in Somerton and South Petherton



**Toilets:** Public toilets in Somerton and South Petherton



**Places to Eat and Drink:** Selection of independent cafes, pubs and restaurants in Somerton and South Petherton. Full range of facilities in Langport and village shop in Kingsbury Episcopi



**Where to stay:** There are lots of accommodation options to suit all budgets in the STAY section on [visitsouthsomerset.com](http://visitsouthsomerset.com), click MAP VIEW

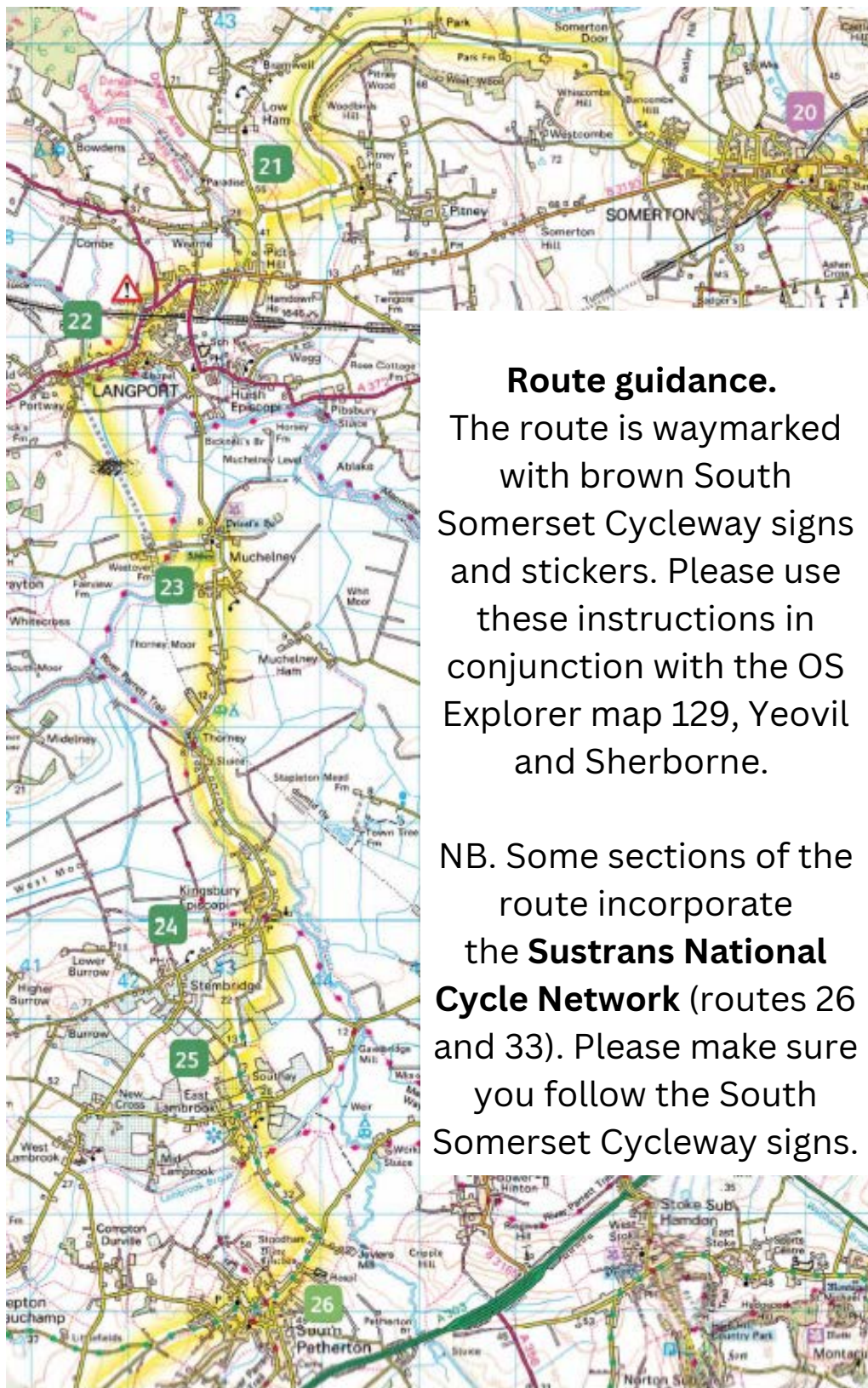


**While in the Area:** Stop and explore LANGPORT with its distinctive Bow Street and "hanging chapel" gatehouse. MUCHELNEY ABBEY is definitely worth a visit to explore the site of the influential Benedictine Abbey and the internationally famous MUCHELNEY POTTERY is just further down the road. EAST LAMBROOK MANOR GARDENS was home of Margery Fish and still a delightful garden to visit.



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 4: Somerton to South Petherton



### Route guidance.

The route is waymarked with brown South Somerset Cycleway signs and stickers. Please use these instructions in conjunction with the OS Explorer map 129, Yeovil and Sherborne.

NB. Some sections of the route incorporate the **Sustrans National Cycle Network** (routes 26 and 33). Please make sure you follow the South Somerset Cycleway signs.





# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 4: Somerton to South Petherton

- 21** Follow B3165 east out of Somerton. At the mini roundabout by the telephone box bear left “Langport”, (not signed) then after ¼ mile take the right along Cartway. At the T-junction turn left on Bancombe Road. Follow this road for 4½ miles. At T-junction turn right signed “Langport”. At the next T-junction turn left signed “Langport” then shortly first right “Wearne” (not signed). Ignore a no-through road to the left. Take the next left by The Old Farm House. At X-roads with the main road turn right. Warning! Follow this busier road through Langport.
- 22** Immediately after crossing the bridge over the River Parrett turn left onto Westover Trading Estate and follow as the tarmac turns to track. Continue along the dismantled railway for 1½ miles. (This section has a rougher surface). Go through gates. At the T-junction with lane turn left. At the next T-junction by the English Heritage property, Muchelney Abbey turn right towards “Kingsbury Episcopi”.
- 23** Follow this road for 3 miles, through Muchelney to Kingsbury Episcopi. In the village, ignore the first no-through road on the left and take the left, signed “Martock, Yeovil”. Shortly, as the road swings sharp left, bear right.
- 24** At T-junction turn left. At the next T-junction, at the end of Southay, turn right signed “West Lambrook” then left signed, “South Petherton”.
- 25** After 1½ miles, at the T-junction turn right “South Petherton”. At the end of Prigg Lane turn right into St James Street.

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# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

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## Section 5: South Petherton to Ilminster

### Overview

A shorter and relatively easier section through interesting villages and the parkland of Dillington Estate before descending into the town of Ilminster. While the Dillintonn section isn't a main route it is still used for vehicle access.

**SOUTH PETHERTON**, is home to the David Hall Arts Centre and award-winning Holm restaurant. There is also a selection of smaller cafes and interesting buildings including the fine St Peter and St Paul Church with a rare octagonal central tower, reputed to be the tallest in the country.

**ILMINSTER** takes its name from the fine Minster Church which towers above the small shops, independent cafes and narrow streets. Nearby Herne Hill offers fine views over this fine charming market town and the Isle Valley. The town is home to the Warehouse Theatre, Ilminster Arts Centre and Phoenix Studios Somerset, the fashion house of designer Alice Temperley



**Length of route:** 8.6 miles 13.9 km

**OS Explorer Map:** 129 Yeovil & Sherborne and 128 Taunton & Blackdown Hills



**Travel and Transport:** Visit [www.travelsomerset.co.uk](http://www.travelsomerset.co.uk) or [www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com) for help planning your logistics.



**Parking:** Car parking South Petherton and Ilminster town centres.



**Toilets:** Public toilets South Petherton and Ilminster



**Places to Eat and Drink:** Lots of independent cafes, pubs and restaurants in South Petherton and Ilminster plus a pub in Shepton Beauchamp and Barrington



**Where to stay:** There are lots of accommodation options to suit all budgets in the STAY section on [visitsouthsomerset.com](http://visitsouthsomerset.com), click MAP VIEW



**While in the Area:** Take time to explore BARRINGTON with the 13th century parish church and cottages of hamstone and thatch. This National Trust property includes an empty fine Tudor manor house, formal walled gardens and extensive parklands.



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 5: South Petherton to Ilminster



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### Route guidance.

The route is waymarked with brown South Somerset Cycleway signs and stickers. Please use these instructions in conjunction with the OS Explorer map 129, Yeovil and Sherborne and 128 Taunton & Blackdown Hills.

NB. Some sections of the route incorporate the **Sustrans National Cycle Network** (routes 26 and 33). Please make sure you follow the South Somerset Cycleway signs.







# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 5: South Petherton to Ilminster

- 26** Follow the road North through South Petherton passing the Methodist Church on the right. On a sharp right-hand bend towards the end of the village continue straight ahead. Climb, emerge from cutting, then bear right "Shepton Beauchamp". At X-roads by the "Stop" sign go straight ahead.
- 27** At the T-junction in Shepton Beauchamp turn right then on a sharp right-hand bend by the Duke of York pub turn left onto "Great Lane". Shortly, at X-roads turn right signed "Barrington".
- 28** ½ mile after passing the Barrington Boar pub take the next left onto Shelway Lane. At T-junction turn right. At the next T-junction turn sharply left signed "Stocklinch" and follow the road through the village.
- 29** Cross the bridge over the A303. At T-junction (not signed) with the busier road turn right and immediately right in front of the cottage to go back on yourself into the parkland of "Dillington House".
- 30** Keep on the drive cycle past Dillington House and to the T-junction with B3168 by a thatched lodge house, and turn left uphill. Warning! Busier road.
- 31** At T-junction at the bottom of the hill (not signed) in Ilminster turn left. After 400 yards, opposite the Bell Inn pub, turn right onto North Street signed "Town Centre". At X-roads by the Market Cross turn left onto East Street.

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# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

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## Section 6: Ilminster to Merriott

### Overview

Gentle short section through pretty Dowlish Wake and Hinton St George. You will pass productive cider orchards and agricultural fields. There are lovely views to be had across the South Somerset Countryside as you approach Hinton St George, including looking down on the site of a roman villa which appeared on the Time Team in 2002.

**ILMINSTER** takes its name from the fine Minster Church which towers above the small shops, independent cafes and narrow streets. Nearby Herne Hill offers fine views over this fine charming market town and the Isle Valley. The town is home to the Warehouse Theatre, Ilminster Arts Centre and Phoenix Studios Somerset, the fashion house of designer Alice Temperley

**MERRIOTT** Manor was first recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086. The good quality fertile soil led to the development of market gardening locally, with the first use in England of the word nursery (noresire) occurring at Merriot in 1369. There is still evidence of this horticultural history, and some very unusual street names, such as Boozer Bit Lane.

**Length of route:** 6.5 miles 10.5 km

**OS Explorer Map:** 129 Yeovil & Sherborne and 128 Taunton & Blackdown Hills



**Travel and Transport:** Visit [www.travelsomerset.co.uk](http://www.travelsomerset.co.uk) or [www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com) for help planning your logistics.



**Parking:** Car parking in Ilminster and street parking in Merriott



**Toilets:** Public toilets in Ilminster town centre



**Places to Eat and Drink:** Cafes and pubs in Ilminster, village pub and [Perry's Cider Farm Shop](#) in Dowlish Wake, pub in Dinnington, pub and village shop in Hinton St George and the cycling cafe [The Feed Station](#), plus a pub and shop in Merriott.



**Where to stay:** There are lots of accommodation options to suit all budgets in the STAY section on [visitsouthsomerset.com](http://visitsouthsomerset.com), click MAP VIEW

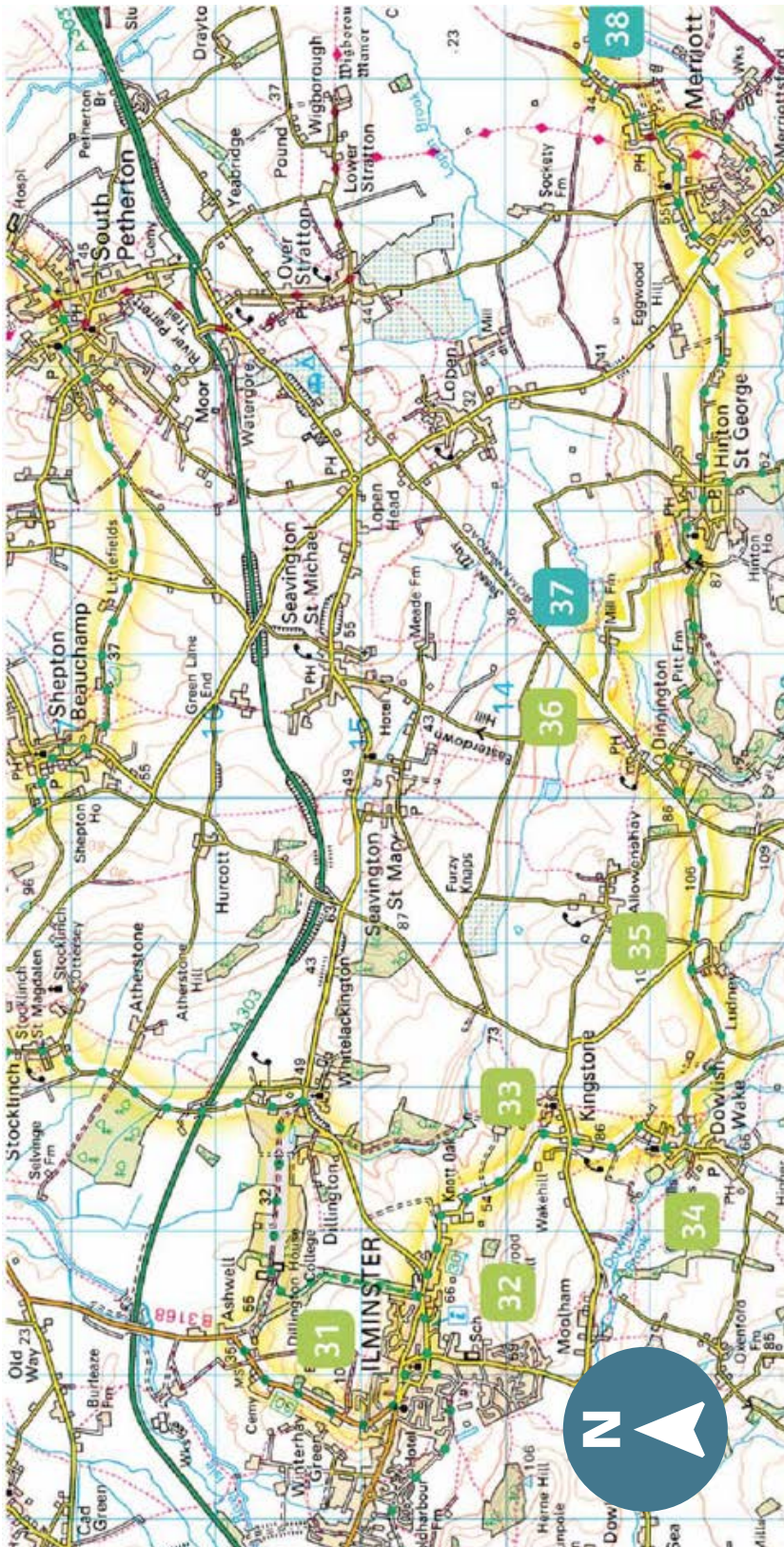


**While in the Area:** Detour to CHARD, with its wide high street flanked by two streams and a good variety of shops and an interesting museum. The route passes through Dowlish Wake which is home to Perry's Cider Mills and churchyard with the tomb of John Hanning Speke, the 19th-century explorer who discovered the source of the Nile.



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 6: Ilminster to Merriott



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### Route guidance.

The route is waymarked with brown South Somerset Cycleway signs and stickers. Please use these instructions in conjunction with the OS Explorer map 129, Yeovil and Sherborne and 128 Taunton & Blackdown Hills.

NB. Some sections of the route incorporate the **Sustrans National Cycle Network** (routes 26 and 33). Please make sure you follow the South Somerset Cycleway signs.





# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 6: Ilminster to Merriott

- 32** Heading east out of Ilminster, at T-junction turn right signed "Seavington St Michael" then shortly bear right, signed "Kingstone, Crewkerne".
- 33** After 1 mile, on a sharp left-hand bend in Kingstone, on the brow of the hill, turn right "Dowlish Wake" (not signed) then immediately left (not signed).
- 34** Go past the church in Dowlish Wake. On a sharp right-hand bend near to a stone bridge bear left, signed "Chillington". At T-junction turn left uphill signed "Ludney, Allowenshay".
- 35** At X-roads by a triangle of grass turn right, signed "Crewkerne" then after 300 yards, as the road swings right, bear left, signed to "Dinnington".
- 36** At T-junction bear left then take the second right "Hinton St George, Merriott". Shortly, at T-junction turn right.
- 37** Follow this road for 3 miles, passing through the village of Hinton St George. At T-junction turn right and follow road down the hill to Merriott.

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# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

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## Section 7: Merriott to Montacute

### Overview

This section is not far but does include a long steep climb up to the summit of the Ham Hill Country Park. The views are definitely worth the effort, but there is an easier option if your legs cannot face the climb.

**MERRIOTT** Manor was first recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086. The good quality fertile soil led to the development of market gardening locally, with the first use in England of the word nursery (noresire) occurring at Merriot in 1369. There is still evidence of this horticultural history, and some very unusual street names, such as Boozer Bit Lane.

**MONTACUTE** is a beautifully laid out village of hamstone houses. It is famous for the National Trust property, Montacute House. There is a fine Elizabethan house, extensive gardens and parklands to explore and a popular cafe. Montacute is a popular filming location, including the 1995 *Sense and Sensibility* and 2014 *Wolf Hall*.



**Length of route:** 7.4 miles 11.9 km

**OS Explorer Map:** 129 Yeovil & Sherborne



**Travel and Transport:** Visit [www.travelsomerset.co.uk](http://www.travelsomerset.co.uk) or [www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com) for help planning your logistics.



**Parking:** On street parking in Merriott and Montacute



**Toilets:** Public toilets at the Ham Hill Ranger Centre



**Places to Eat and Drink:** Pub and The Feed Station in Merriott, pub in Chiselborough, Norton sub-Hamdon and Stock sub-Hamdon and Montacute. There is a small supermarket in Montacute and pub on top of Ham Hill.



**Where to stay:** There are lots of accommodation options to suit all budgets in the **STAY** section on [visitsouthsomerset.com](http://visitsouthsomerset.com), click **MAP VIEW**



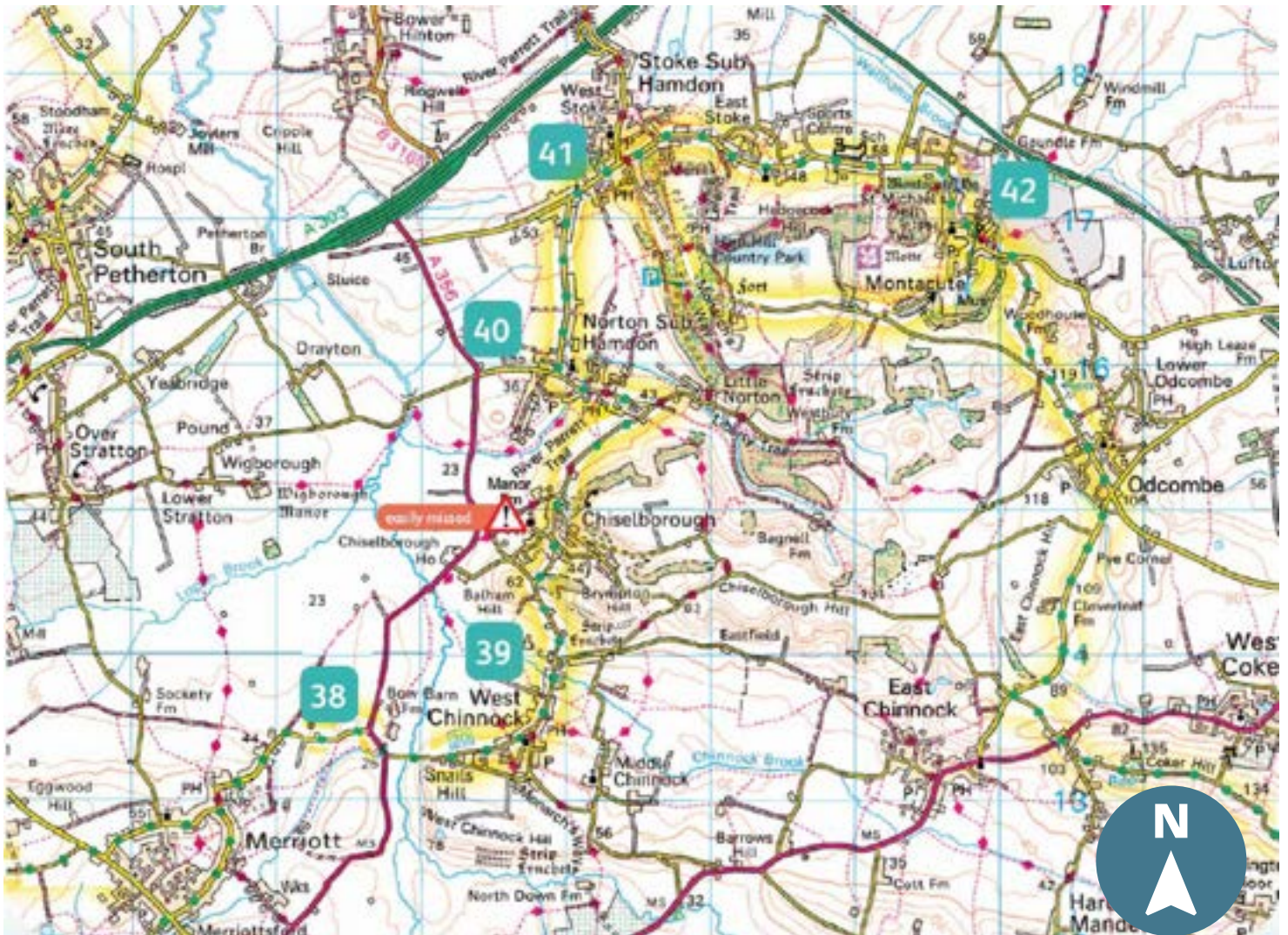
**While in the Area:** Visit **CREWKERNE** which has been an important town since the Norman Conquest with fine buildings reflecting its prosperous cloth-making past, a visit to the local museum is a must to find out more. Allow time to discover the network of footpaths over the Iron Age Hill Fort on **HAM HILL**, many offering amazing views over Somerset.





# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 7: Merriott to Montacute



**South  
Somerset  
Cycleway**

### Route guidance.

The route is waymarked with brown South Somerset Cycleway signs and stickers. Please use these instructions in conjunction with the OS Explorer map 129, Yeovil and Sherborne.

NB. Some sections of the route incorporate the **Sustrans National Cycle Network** (routes 26 and 33). Please make sure you follow the South Somerset Cycleway signs.



**Disclaimer - The Public Rights of Way shown on the map are only intended as an indication of the general route. To determine the exact route of a Public Right of Way, the Definitive Map (1:10560 scale) should be consulted.**



# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 7: Merriott to Montacute

**38** Take the first left out of Merriott via Church Street past The Feed Station. At T-junction at the end of Church Street turn left (not signed) onto Higher Street, signed "Martock". At T-junction (not signed) with main road (A356) turn right then first left at the bottom of the hill, signed "West Chinnock".

**39** At T-junction at the end of Scotts Way turn left, signed Chiselborough and follow for 1½ miles. On the descent into Chiselborough take the second of two closely spaced right turns "Norton, Ham Hill". Follow the road around a sharp left-hand bend.

**40** Shortly after the Lord Nelson pub in Norton Sub Hamdon take the 3rd right onto New Road, signed "Stoke Sub Hamdon".

**41** At T-junction in Stoke Sub Hamdon turn right, signed "Montacute." Turn right between the Half Moon pub and Stoke sub-Hamdon Working man club up "Ham Hill". Steep climb. After 2 miles, as the road starts to descend, take the first left (not signed) down Hollow Lane. turn right.

**Alternative Route.** To avoid steep climb over Ham Hill follow the busier road out of Stoke Sub Hamdon (do not turn right for 'Ham Hill') for 2 miles into Montacute.

*Keep in touch:*

 VisitSouthSomerset

 VisitSSomerset  visitsouthsomerset

 VisitSS@Somerset.gov.uk

 01935 829333

 www.visitsouthsomerset.com

# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

South  
Somerset  
Cycleway

## Section 8: Montacute to Yeovil Junction

### Overview

The final section leaves the pretty village of Montacute towards Yeovil, but there are more villages to enjoy en route, and tall follies to look out for! There is a steep climb out of Montacute and then a gentle decline to our destination, Yeovil Junction Railway Station.

**MONTACUTE** is a beautifully laid out village of hamstone houses. It is famous for the National Trust property, Montacute House. There is a fine Elizabethan house, extensive gardens and parklands to explore and a popular cafe. Montacute is a popular filming location, including the 1995 *Sense and Sensibillity* and 2014 *Wolf Hall*.

**YEOVIL** is the major town of South Somerset with a great shopping centre and bustling high street and markets. Also home to The Octagon Theatre, Goldenstones Leisure Centre, the Yeo Leisure Complex and the very popular Green Flag award-winning Yeovil Country Park.



**Length of route:** 8.1 miles 13.0 km

**OS Explorer Map:** 129 Yeovil & Sherborne



**Travel and Transport:** Visit [www.travelsomerset.co.uk](http://www.travelsomerset.co.uk) or [www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com) for help planning your logistics.



**Parking:** On street parking in Montacute, car parking in Yeovil town centre plus limited parking at Yeovil Junction Railway Station



**Toilets:** Public toilets at Yeovil Junction Railway Station and Yeovil Town Centre



**Places to Eat and Drink:** A couple of pubs and a small supermarket and the National Trust cafe in Montacute, pubs in Odcombe and Hardington Moor and Barwick, pub, cafe and farm shop in East Coker and a wide choice in Yeovil



**Where to stay:** There are lots of accommodation options to suit all budgets in the **STAY** section on [visitsouthsomerset.com](http://visitsouthsomerset.com) , click **MAP VIEW**



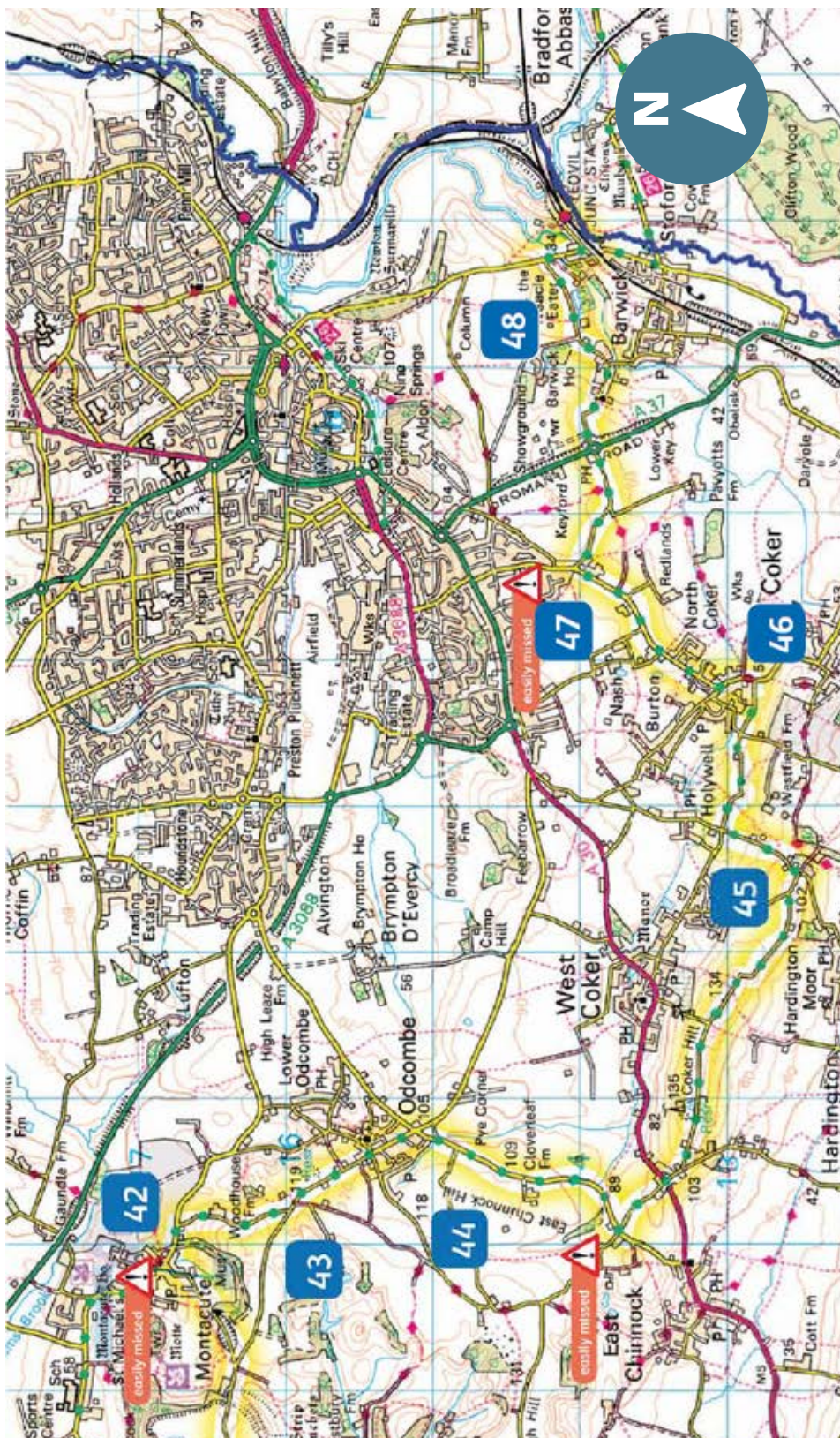
**While in the Area:** Allow time to explore EAST COKER, including the parish church with associations to the poet TS Elliot, Sutton Bingham reservoir for excellent bird-watching and Pen Wood with a nature trail and superb views. Look out for the four follies around Barwick Park - Jack the Treacle Eater is the most obvious, reputedly named after an estate messenger that sustained himself by eating treacle





# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 8: Montacute to Yeovil Junction



### Route guidance.

The route is waymarked with brown South Somerset Cycleway signs and stickers. Please use these instructions in conjunction with the OS Explorer map 129, Yeovil and Sherborne.

NB. Some sections of the route incorporate the **Sustrans National Cycle Network** (routes 26 and 33). Please make sure you follow the South Somerset Cycleway signs.





# South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

## Section 8: Montacute to Yeovil Junction

- 42** Shortly after the petrol station on the edge of the village turn right onto Woodhouse Lane. **Warning** - Easily missed! Steep climb. At T-junction at the top by a triangle of grass turn left.
- 43** Go into and through Odcombe. At the X-roads at the end of the village turn right onto Chinnock Road, signed "East Chinnock".
- 44** **Warning** - Easily missed! At X-roads (not signed) at the bottom of a long descent turn left towards "West Coker, Hardington". Cross the bridge over the sunken A30 then after 200 yards bear left (not signed) uphill past Ridge Cottage.
- 45** After 2 miles, at T-junction (not signed) turn right then shortly at X-roads turn left (not signed). At next X-roads turn right signed "East Coker".
- 46** At T-junction in East Coker turn left (not signed) to "North Coker" then first right by a traffic island "Yeovil". **Warning!** Busier section.
- 47** After 1 mile, at the grass triangle, take the first right, signed Barwick, Dorchester". At the roundabout at the main road (A37) go straight ahead, using the cycle facility to cross each lane separately.
- 48** Descend through cuttings. On a sharp right-hand bend bear left onto Rexes Hollow Lane. At T-junction turn right to return to Yeovil Junction Railway Station.

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 01935 829333

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