

Walk 9: Kilve-Kilton Circular



Length: 3.4 miles / 5.5 km

Good for: All walkers

Theme: History, Geology and Nature

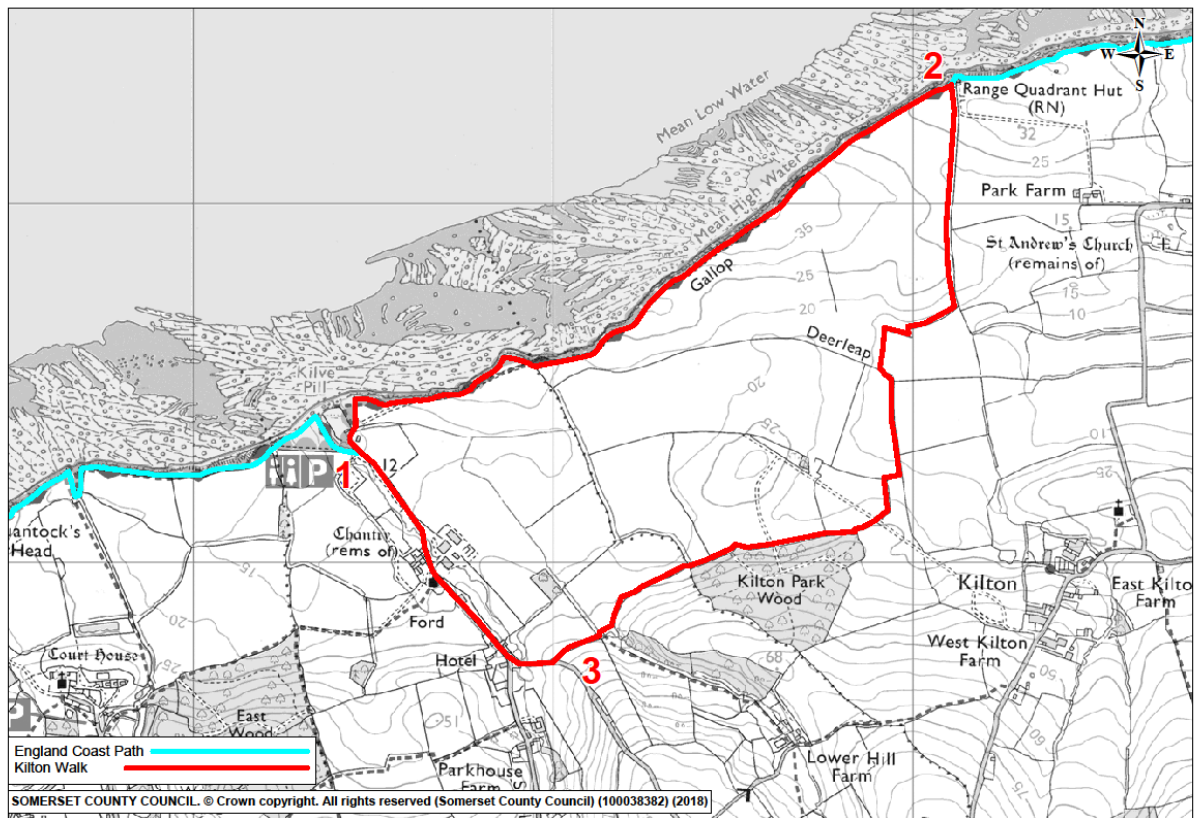
Duration: 2 hours

Notes: *This is an easy to moderate walk with historical interest as well as some wonderful views.*

Points of interest:

- Oil Retort
- Navy look out
- Views of Dunkery Beacon
- Deerleap
- Medieval woods

Map:



Directions: From the car park at Kilve (1) walk towards the Oil Retort and take the path to the right signposted England Coast Path. The Oil Retort was built around 1924, shortly after it was discovered that the shale beds on the coast were rich in oil. Although there were great plans, it was abandoned not long afterwards when it was considered it was not going to be cost effective. Now it is all that is left of the Somerset oil boom!

Follow the path around to the right and bear left towards the Coast then turn right through the kissing gate and walk along the cliff top path, keeping well away from the cliffs, until you meet the farm track. Continue on the farm track following signs for England Coast Path until just before you reach the Range Quadrant Hut (2).

The Range Quadrant Hut was used as a look out for the Royal Navy practice bombing range out at sea, which ceased in 1995. Turn right and follow the permissive path with the hedge on your left. On a clear day you can see Dunkery Beacon to your right - the highest point in Somerset. Follow this headland path waymarked with green-white permissive path discs, keeping the hedge on your left, to Deerleap-a ditch and bank which marks the edge

of the Medieval Park. At the gateway, turn left and continue on the headland path through two fields until you reach the northeast corner of Kilton Park Woods. The Woods date back to 1279 and Kilton was first mentioned in 873 when King Alfred left his estate at Kilton to his son Edward the Elder.

Follow the path with the woods on your left then, at the western edge of the woods, continue straight ahead on the path but with the hedge on your right. A short distance from the woods, go through a metal field gate and the hedge will again be on your left. Keep on the path until you reach the junction with the public footpath. Go straight ahead through the gate and follow the enclosed track until you reach the road (3) Turn right and follow the road until you reach another road. Turn right here and follow the road back to the car park at Kilve.

Facilities: There are toilets, a Tea Room, a pub and a shop in Kilve Village.

All information correct at the time of publication.