

Superb bluebell walk. Approx 1½ hours. Even without the wild flowers the walk is special. Not flat - descends and ascends valley.



Drive along the road towards Widecombe and turn right towards Houndtor (you can see Houndtor rocks in the distance). Just after going over a cattle grid, park in the lay-by on the left hand side of the road. You will immediately see the new fence and five-bar gate on the right side of the road (you are about ½ mile from the main Houndtor car park).

Go through the gate and follow the path, bending to the right. Walk through some Pony Club jumps (known as Holwell Lawn). Ignore the signpost to Haytor and head past a couple of jumps designed as 'mini houses'. Go through the gap in



the stone wall. The path bends left towards Houndtor. Carry on to the old gate with two big rocky outcrops in front of you. Pass just to the LEFT of the rocky outcrops. Notice the clear path running down from Houndtor rocks (on your left). This runs to your next gate - If you walk straight on you will see the gate.

Pass through the gate and descend quite steeply to the little river. Cross the river over an ancient stone bridge - carry straight on along the boulder-strewn woodland path meandering through the wood. As you leave the wood notice the

signpost (Leighton left). Follow the vague path climbing upwards (NOT towards Leighton) in due course you will see Haytor in the distance slightly to your left. Ascend to a sort of plateau with big granite rocks. At the top here look across slightly to the right. Notice the steep old quarried rocks with piles of scree stones below. Follow the small path heading that way. You are heading for the old stone tramline track running between the steep rocks and scree stones.

When you reach the tramline track turn **RIGHT**, passing below the steep rocks. Very shortly cross a little natural rocky bridge over a small gorge. Immediately path to the right of the tree and follow down to the valley below (which you can clearly see). As you reach the lovely river turn left at the water's edge and look out for the old fallen tree trunk



stretching across the river. You can easily use the tree trunk to cross the river.

Having crossed, turn right along the river and very shortly you will find the path leading up away from the river. Pass through the gate that has a 'no cycling' sign. Follow the obvious path upwards - continue to follow it as it bends to the right and in due course you will see the gate which you passed through after the Pony Club jumps near the two rocky outcrops. Turn left, back towards the jumps and the gap in the stone wall. Pass the old signpost and ahead you will see the road where you parked.