

Hope Cove to Bantham Walk

This relatively short walk of four miles runs from the pretty fishing village of Hope Cove to the mouth of the river Avon. Along the route approximately one mile from Hope Cove is Thurlestone Sands and South Milton Ley - The second largest reed bed in Devon and an RSPB nature reserve. Across the small wooden bridge is Thurlestone village with its famous Golf course, and traditional local pub called 'The Village Inn'.

The coastal path runs along the edge of the golf course so beware of errant golf balls! As you round the headland Bantham beach comes into full view - this is a popular beach with surfers and windsurfers, who provide good entertainment with their daredevil activities. As you cross the beach and wander a short way up the riverside there is a small ferry waiting to take you across to the other side where you can continue your walk to Bigbury Bay and beyond.

The ferry runs only infrequently during the summer and not at all in the winter, so be careful not to get stuck as it is a very long trek to the next crossing at Aveton Gifford. The village of Bantham is a five minute walk from the beach where The Sloop Inn offers refreshments to weary walkers.