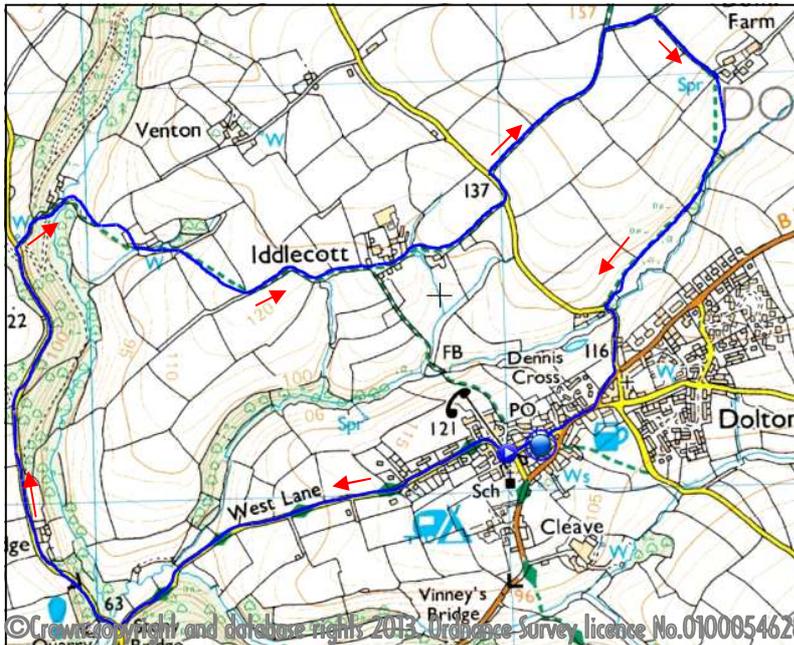


## WALK 2 - Halsdon, Iddlecott, Down Farm

3.5 miles, approx 1½ hours along lanes, footpaths and meadows

Mostly an easy walk, about half on quiet lanes but with a couple of quite steep climbs. Suitable in most weather although after heavy rain some of the farm tracks and valleys can be quite muddy. No facilities en route until you return to Dolton.



Starting and finishing in Dolton Village Square, this walk goes past the entrance to Halsdon Nature Reserve, maintained by the Devon Wildlife Trust, and can be easily altered to take in more of it if you wish. Alternatively you can easily miss out Down Farm and return along Brook Road to Dolton, which reduces the distance to 2.8 miles. Cattle may be encountered in one or two of the fields.

- From the Square, take West Lane out of the village and down the long gentle hill. At the bottom the lane bends left then right, and after another 200 yds turn right at Woolridge Cross.

- After a few yards you pass the

*entrance to Halsdon Woods where you can divert - maps are usually available in the box below the information board.*

- Continue up the lane, after ⅓ mile passing another entrance to the woods on the left. Once the hill flattens out, immediately after Venstave Cottage, turn right at the signpost down a steep path, which can be muddy.
- At the bottom, turn left onto a track down to the stream with some pretty cottages on your left where Halsdon watermill stood nearby in the 19th century. Cross the footbridge, through a boggy area into the field. Follow the hedge up the right side of the field and through a gate at the top, maintaining the same direction through the next field towards a tall beech tree.
- Go through a 5-bar gate (signposted) and gently up through the woods following the track of a small stream and cross a stile into a field. Head diagonally across the field towards a large isolated tree, with distant views of Yes Tor on Dartmoor.
- Exit the field through a large metal gate and turn left onto a farm track. Ignore the footpath sign to the right (where you could divert quickly back to Dolton, emerging in the Square) and continue through the farmyard, onto a concrete lane passing a pond on the right. At the road, turn left for 90 yds, then right towards Down Farm.
- Stay on this concrete track, ignoring more footpath signs to your left, past a bungalow on the right then through a signposted gate ahead of you just before the farmhouse. Head diagonally down to the right across the field, through a wide metal gate into the woods, following the path alongside the stream.
- Through another gate into the meadow, continue on the level track through this field to the trees at the end and through the little gate within a gate, turning left onto Brook Road and back into Dolton at Dennis Cross, turn right for the Square.