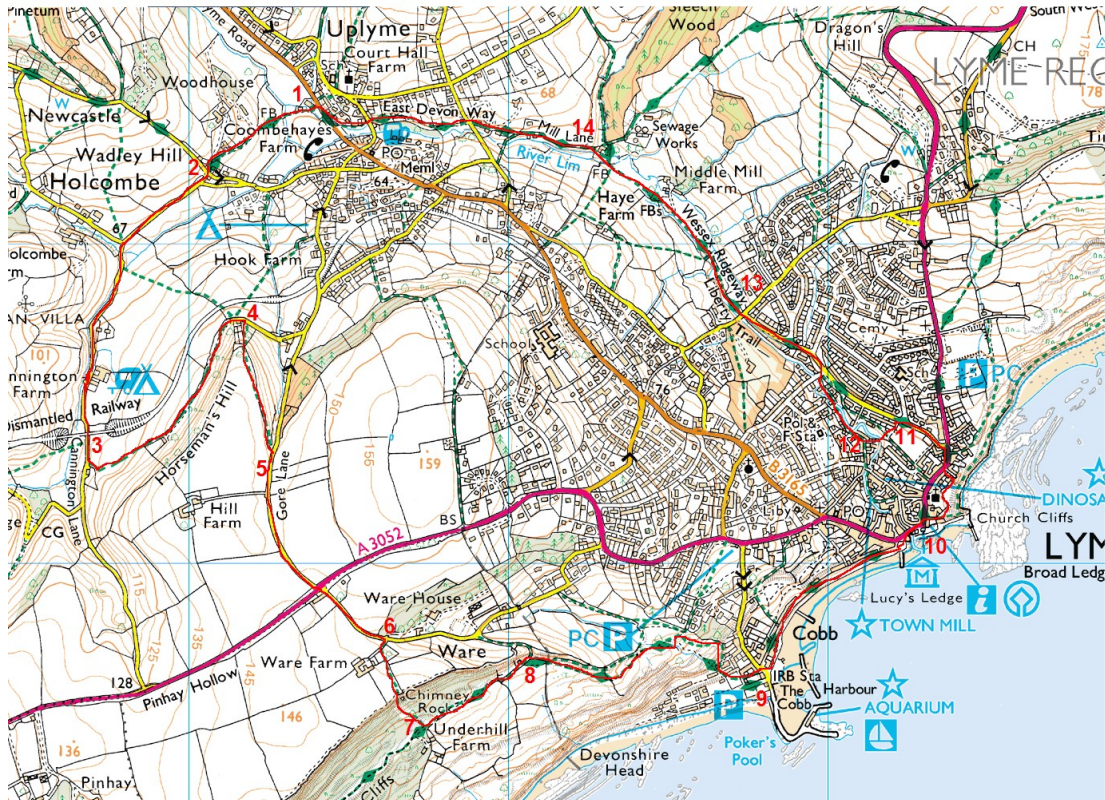


5.5 Mile Circular Walk from Uplyme to Lyme Regis

This walk from Uplyme follows quite country lanes passing the Carrington Viaduct to climb steeply to the coastal path. It includes a very steep decent to the Cobb and on the sea front at Lyme Regis and then follows the River Lim through fields and footpaths back to Uplyme.

1 In Uplyme, use the Talbot Inn (if you plan of patronising it!) or Village Hall Car Park (where the walk starts) which is 100m from the pub (right if you exit the pub car park) and on the other side.



Once in the Village Hall car park go straight through and enter the cricket field via a kissing gate. Keep to the right edge and continue to the far end. Go through another kissing gate into a field and follow the path all the way up the hill keeping the tree line on the right until reaching a stile. Cross over this stile into the lane. Turn left and continue to a crossroads.

2 Once at the crossroads go straight across and after about 50 metres turn right down a lane signposted Shapwick.

3 Follow this lane underneath the Cannington Viaduct. After passing the Viaduct continue for 250 metres up the lane. Then turn left just in front of a white house. Go through the gate and then straight up the field to another gate just left of a large white house. Follow the path to a lane. Stay on the lane until you reach a red brick house.

4 Just past the house turn right up steps which is the start of the climb up Horseman's Hill up a steep wooded bank. Having reached the top enter the field and follow the hedge so it is on the left. When near the centre of the field, cross a stile and continue on the path with the hedge on the right. Carry on to the next stile cross and follow path to a gate and into a lane.

5 Follow the lane to meet the main road (A3052). Take care crossing this road and take the lane opposite signposted Ware. Carry on down the lane for about 250 metres.

6 Turn right into Ware Farm Manor before turning immediately left over a stile. Follow the path to another stile and continue on the path with the hedge on the left. At the end of the field cross a stile and descend steps down through the woods. At the bottom cross the footbridge. Stay on the path bearing to the left. Continue through the woods to reach the main track which is marked South West Coastal Path.

7 Turn left and after about 400 metres turn right next to a house and follow the signpost marked Lyme Regis

8 Follow the path marked Ware Cliffs and go through a gate. Once through the gate almost immediately keep to the right and follow the Coastal Path keeping over to the right all the way. When a house becomes visible at eye level turn right over a stile and follow the path marked The Cobb.

9 Stay on this path all the way down the steps and through the woods finally emerging back on the sea front close to The Cobb.

Lyme Regis was an important working port going back to Saxon times but fell into a decline in the late 18th century. The King of Wessex, Cynewulf, gave his blessing to a settlement of monks at Lyme in AD774. They started to extract salt from seawater, which gave rise to a port to export the salt.

It was not until 1284 that Lyme, through Edward I, was granted a charter giving it the right to use the suffix Regis, because it was an important base for the king's naval fleet in its wars against the French. The port being a natural harbour soon became too small for large commercial vessels and in the middle of the 18th century the port declined in importance.

Lyme Regis was saved by tourism with sea bathing becoming very popular and by 1750 there was a constant flow of visitors to the town. The addition of the railway at Lyme Regis boosted trade even more. Today the charm of Lyme Regis is that it has had no additional developments so the town remains unspoilt after all these years.

Follow the path on the promenade along to the town clock. Then continue to the harbour area to a viewing area.

10 The path rises up a ramp past the Mermaid Theatre and back on the main road. Go past the museum and turn into Coombe Street. Carry straight on to the Lyme fish bar and turn left at the Ship Inn into Mill Street.

11 Follow the lane down to an alley by the side of the Town Mill.

12 Stay on the path with the mill stream on the right and the river on the left.

13 Follow the path to the top of the hill. Go past the mill on the right and at the end go through a gate onto a track which finally comes out into Mill Lane in Uplyme.

14 After entering the lane continue to the end to reach the road. Cross the road and almost directly opposite the lane is a footpath, which leads through the woods finally coming to another lane. At the end turn left then cross the road and after about 5 metres go through a kissing gate and follow the footpath to the Talbot Inn car park.