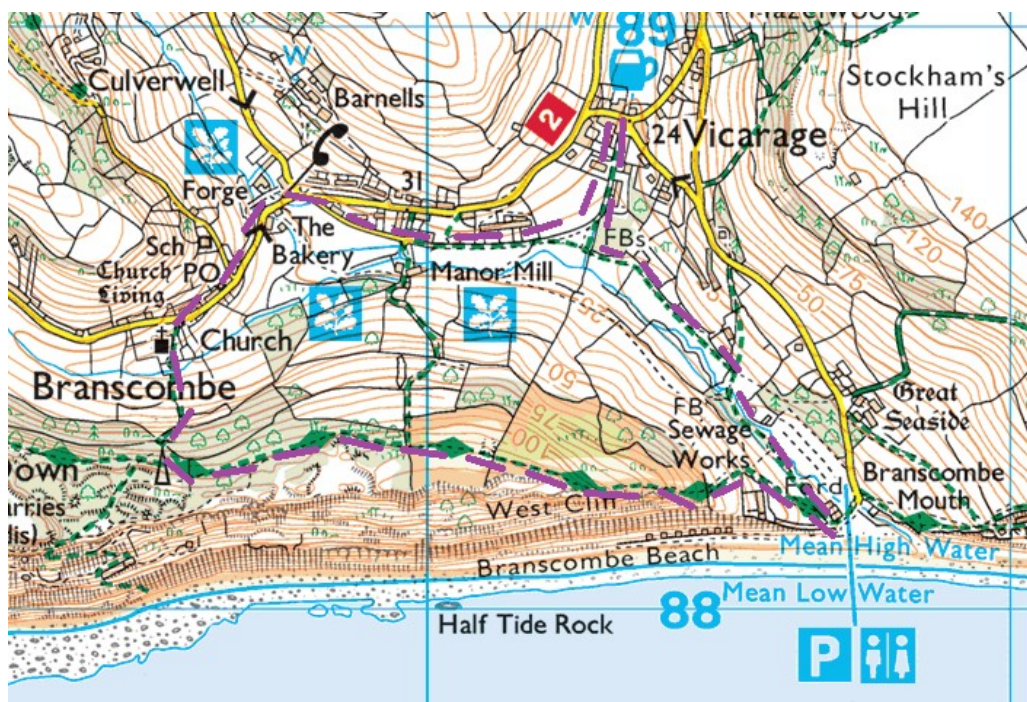


Branscombe Beach and Village

A 3 mile circular walk from the Mason's Arms in Branscombe with one short steep climb.



Start at the Mason's Arms, which would be the first of three good options on this walk for refreshment! From the front of the pub head left, down the road to the T junction. Turn here, but don't walk along the road as it curves to the left, instead take the right hand dead-end road, which soon becomes a footpath beside houses. Keep right as the path curves round beside fields and behind gardens. After a few minutes you reach a cross road of paths with a finger post. (You can take a diversion left to visit Manor Mill, but then return to this point.) Go straight across into Mill Lane with the culvert to the left hand side until it reaches the main road, across from the Village Hall. Turn left on this road where you pass (or maybe stop and visit) The Old Bakery tea rooms on your left, and, the National Trust Forge on the right. Carry on up the road past the school sign for a few minutes until you reach the impressive St Winifred's Church. Enter the church by the gates and make your way down to the lower end of the churchyard, taking the path that crosses the stream by a footbridge. Enter the field opposite and this is the start of the climb which can also be a bit muddy. At the top of the first field is a stile, which leads you into a wooded area which is full of bluebells and wild garlic at the right time of year. Go up the steps then path until you reach a larger path at the top where you turn left, the finger post noting that Branscombe Mouth is $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. After a few minutes you pass through a gate. Ignore the path on the left, but keep going enjoying great views, firstly inland back down to Branscombe, then after, over the sea and Branscombe Beach.

Head down the grassy path until you reach Branscombe Mouth. The anchor and an interesting story board will tell you the interesting fate of MSC Napoli and how it made Branscombe famous in 2007. The Sea Shanty Cafe is a great place for lunch, cream tea or even a cheeky pint. Leave the beach by heading along the path to the left of the shop, i.e. right beside the path you arrived on. This heads upstream along the small river. Cross the bridge and stay on the path ignoring the first turn off on the right until you meet a the second right turning near a small footbridge that will take you back up the lane to the Masons Arms.