

River Sid & Soldiers Hill

Walk 2

Distance - 4 miles Map: OS Explorer 115. Exmouth & Sidmouth

Only four miles, but what variety. Also the opportunity to visit Sidmouth on foot, and not have the worry of where to park the car.

The N.T. (free) car park at Salcombe Hill, situated off the secondary road between Sidmouth and Salcombe Regis, is an ideal spot to launch oneself into this scenic ramble. Across the road is the Norman Lockyer observatory, which is only open to the public by prior arrangement. Norman Lockyer and his family founded the Observatory at their own expense. Lockyer discovered the gas helium during his observations of the sun.

Start/car parking - N.T. Salcombe Hill Car Park



WALK

Leave the car park following the signpost to Salcombe Hill and Coast Path and after a couple of paces swing left along a driveway. When confronted by two gates the right hand side one is the obvious choice, and almost at once views of Sidmouth and the bay are presented.

Follow the main path to reach a junction, turning right past a viewing point towards another Sidmouth Coast Path sign. The route descends through trees, becoming stepped, and then descends across a field. Arriving at a gate (with signpost) at the bottom of the field, turn right and pass the entrance to Heathland. Turn left along Laskey's Lane and enter a residential area. When the road curves right, veer left to follow the indication of a (well concealed) Coastal Path sign. March on, descending all the time, along Cliff Road and swing right into Beatlands Road. Keeping down hill to the left, pass Amberleigh (on the right) to merge with Millford Road. Cross over towards the former Toll Gate House (c1817). If wanting to visit Sidmouth, turn left and return here later.

Continue through the parkland (The Byes / Sid Meadow) beyond the Toll Gate, following the upstream course of the River Sid. Use any of the first three bridges to cross the river. 200 yards above the third bridge, cross a tributary stream by footbridge and pass through the gate into Margaret's Meadow. At the gate out of the meadow, turn right to pass Gilchrist Field on the right. Beyond the field, turn right on the path to Fortescue.

Recross the River Sid and pass through two gates into Fortescue. At the road junction, swing left to pass a telephone box. 50 yards beyond, turn right into Griggs Lane, following the signpost to Salcombe Regis. A steep climb ensues.

Entering the trees, maintain the previous line toward Soldier's Hill, taking in first 48 steps and then another 32 along the way. Where the ground levels out, cross a stile and continue straight on through the edge of the wood. Throughout the wood, a bluebell wonderland awaits (in season).

Another stile exits the woodland, then cross the field keeping close to the left hand boundary. A gate leads out onto a road. Turn right, pass the memorial (Soldier's Hill) heading in the direction of Sidmouth. Pass the entrance to the Scout Field on the right, and in 100 yards pass through a gate on the left and enter the woodland. After five minutes a major footpath junction is encountered. Turn right along the edge of the wood and right again at a barn to return to the car park.

Revised 21 April 2014

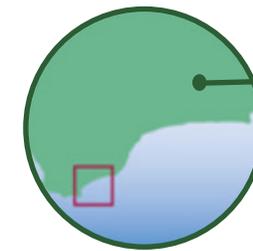
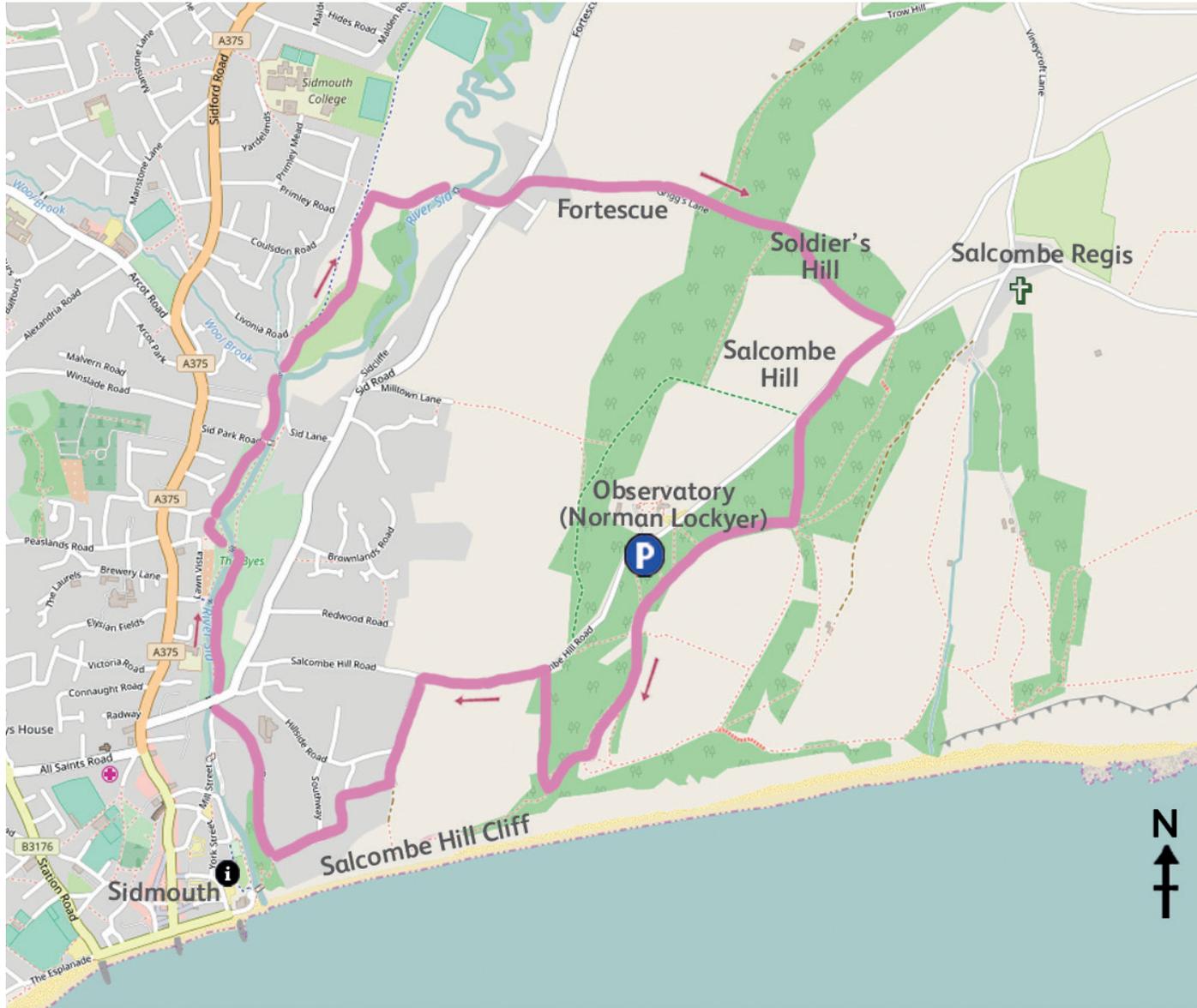
It would be a great help to future walkers if you could record any inaccuracies you come across during this walk and report them to reception so that appropriate amendments can be made.

Thank you. Happy walking!

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Walk 2



HPB Lower Knapp

- Walk
- A375
- B3176 / Station Road

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