

## Route Description:

This walk starts in the delightful village square circled by pretty cottages and inn and overlooked by the church tower. The walk passes through farmland, reaching mixed woodland before getting to Buckland Filleigh with its manor and hidden church. One continues through several old farmsteads and woodland, finishing along an old track into the village.

## Directions to start from Ruby Park

Drive out of Ruby Park to the end of the access road by the post box. Zero your milometer.

Turn right into the road.

0.2 miles, Metherell Cross, turn left on to A3079 towards Holsworthy.

2.0 miles, Halwill Junction mini roundabout, turn right towards Black Torrington.

3.1 miles at Chapel, bear right to keep on same road through Chilla.

5.3 miles, Beara Cross, turn right on to A3072 towards Hatherleigh.

6.5 miles at Highampton at sharp right-hand bend, turn left towards Sheepwash.

7.5 miles, Sheepwash Bridge, continue on same road over bridge.

7.9 miles, park in Square on the right. The walk starts here.

## Walk directions:

1, SS 486 063, 0 miles: From Sheepwash Square, leave on the road with The Half Moon Inn on your right. Shortly ignore the footpath on the left at Old Court, continuing along the road. Soon pass North Road Farm following the road round to the right.

2, SS 486 067, 0.3 miles: Now take the footpath on the left over a stile to follow the hedged field

boundary on your right. Pass through the gate in the corner continuing ahead by the right-hand hedge. Pass through the next gap into the next field to go ahead to a stile in the corner.

3, SS 484 071, 0.6 miles: From this stile go straight ahead across the field with its right-hand boundary hedge some way to your right. As the scene opens up over the progressing brow ahead you will see a stile ahead in the tree-lined field boundary across you.

4, SS 482 074, 0.8 miles: Cross this stile and bridge over the stream. Now continue ahead up this field with the hedge on your left. At the farm buildings go through the bridle gate and turn right to follow the hedge now on your right, past the barns on the left to reach a small road.

5, SS 481 078, 1.0 mile: Cross straight over signed Public Footpath. Pass through the metal walkers gate by the main gate to follow the old hedged track ahead following the double bends to reach the next farm.

6, SS 479 082, 1.3 miles: Follow the track around the farm buildings to then turn left on the same track away from the farm, joining a track coming in from the right to continue ahead. Soon ignore the track on the left to Black Moat. Soon pass by cottages and farm buildings keeping to the track.

7, SS 475 087, 1.8 miles: Bear right when a track goes off to the left to Modbury.

8, SS 472 093, 2.2 miles: On reaching the road turn left up the hill. Near the top of this hill ignore the bridleway off to the right.

9, SS 465 092, 2.6 miles: Soon turn left towards Buckland House and the church on a Public Footpath.



*Sheepwash*

At the house bear left and then at the fence turn right to the church. Pass through the lych-gate to the church porch.

10, SS 465 091, 2.7 miles: Visit the church and then take the path away from the porch to a stile. Bear right to the right of the lake to cross the bridge over the stream. Now bear hard right to pass below the lone specimen tree to follow a grass swathe between scrub and Christmas trees.

11, SS 461 087, 3.1 miles: On reaching the gate by a road, cross straight over at Glebe Cottage into their drive and immediately right to a stile and turn left away from this stile to reach a stile ahead. Having crossed it turn left along by the wire fence for a few yards to a waymarker to then turn right across this field towards the woodland ahead.

12, SS 458 086, 3.3 miles: Watch for a handrail on the edge of the woods. Follow the steps steeply down to more steps and a bridge over a stream and up to the next stile. Now bear gently to the left up this



*Buckland Manor*



*Buckland Filleigh church*

field to the line of trees bearing left again at the top now keeping level passing the farm buildings on your right to a gate in the fence on the right.

13, SS 458 084, 3.4 miles: Pass through it and follow the farm road ahead between the farm buildings.

Having passed the buildings the track divides. Take the one ahead/left ignoring the track bearing round to the right. Pass through the gate and continue ahead to pass through the next gate and continue ahead as the track follows the left-hand hedge of this field. At the top corner turn left through a gate and on to the next gate to reach a road.

14, SS 454 080, 3.9 miles: Turn left on to the road. Shortly the road goes right, continue straight ahead down a track signed Public Footpath.

15, SS 458 081, 4.2 miles: On reaching Lovacott take the track that goes to the right of Lovacott gate and ahead to a bridle gate. The path now follows a sunken lane and small stream downhill, eventually reaching a small bridge over the stream to a bridle gate. Turn right away from this gate to cross another bridge over a stream to a stile.

16, SS 461 081, 4.4 miles: Now go straight ahead up the field ahead to reach a stile by a gate in the wire fence ahead. Now go ahead towards the cottages to reach a stile by a gate by a road.

17, SS 463 081, 4.5 miles: Follow the road ahead to the cottages and turn right in front of them. Go through the kissing gate by the metal gate and follow the forest track, almost immediately taking the path off to the right through the forest. Follow this track as it meanders through the woodland. As you emerge from the woods go across to a fence in the corner of a field ahead.

18, SS 468 079, 4.9 miles: Now bear left to follow the edge of this field with the boundary hedge on your left. At the gap at the end of this field, pass through and keep ahead still with the hedge on your left to reach a gap in it.

19, SS 470 076, 5.1 miles: Pass through and now bear 45° right, across this field to the far corner. Here you will find a track to the right following the tree-lined right-hand edge of this field.

20, SS 474 074, 5.4 miles: On reaching the road turn left on to it. Shortly, just before a large metal barn, turn right through a gate to pass between farm buildings to a gate at the end on the right. Pass through it and go ahead to then bear left to this field's right-hand boundary hedge, following it down to the woods ahead.

21, SS 478 070, 5.9 miles: In the bottom corner of this field cross the stile and go ahead to the foot-bridge. Cross the bridge and bear slightly left to a stile. Continue ahead into a field to reach the right-hand end of the line of trees ahead.

22, SS 480 069, 6.0 miles: Now bear right to follow the same line of shrubby trees. Shortly you come to a track ahead, now on the left-hand side of this same line of shrubby trees.

23, SS 482 067, 6.2 miles: Follow it down to a gate to pass through it, bearing round to the left and then right up a hedged track. Continue ahead towards the church tower. Follow the track round to the left to a gate.

24, SS 485 065, 6.5 miles: Follow it past a barn to pass through the next two gates at Old Court. Turn right along the road back to the Square.

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Information on Ruby Lodge at [www.rubylodge.co.uk](http://www.rubylodge.co.uk)  
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# Walks at Ruby Lodge

## *Sheepwash via Buckland Filleigh*

**6.7 miles, circular**



### **Fact file:**

Highlights: Sheepwash village Square, mystery building with shoots, in woods (yet to find out what it is), Buckland House, Buckland Filleigh church, old sunken lane, mixed woodland, green lanes

Start Grid ref: SS 486 063

Distance: 6.7 miles, circular

Height gained/lost: 197 metres, moderate to easy walk. Possibly muddy in parts.

Highest Point: 157 metres

Lowest Point: 80 metres

Toilets: None

Eating Places: Sheepwash

Time required: 3hr 40 min, plus stops

Mileages shown are cumulative

The route directions will take you around this walk without using the OS grid references, if preferred.