

Bridport Green Route



Walk around the heart of Bridport and discover the richness of nature and heritage. Seek out connections to the green open spaces that help define the special character of the Bridport Area.

Bridport Town Council wishes to thank the volunteers who kindly gave their time to help develop this Green Route and to Dorset AONB Sustainable Development Fund for support with producing this leaflet.

A walking route around the heart of Bridport to promote health and encourage connection with nature and heritage for wellbeing.

Bridport has an important relationship with the surrounding landscape. The distinctive skyline of the sandstone capped hills and the river corridors of the Brit and Asker are part of the town's identity.

The Bridport Green Route builds on a previous round Bridport heritage trail developed in the late 1990s. With input from local health and access groups the route has been revised, improving accessibility and green space connections to encourage walking for health and wellbeing.

The Bridport Green Route connects residential areas to local green spaces using the network of Public Rights of Way and along the river corridors.

The walk is approximately 3 miles in length and will take around 1-2 hours to complete.

A 3-mile walk linking the green open spaces around this eventful market town



Six heritage and nature highlights to enjoy along the route:

Along the route you will find six junctions with Public Rights of Way that offer additional or extended walking to other green spaces in the Bridport Area:

Junction 1

West to Skilling and onto Eype or East into the heart of the Saxon Town via the Community Orchard

Junction 2

West to Vearse Farm and onto Allington Hill

Junction 3

North toward Watton Hill

Junction 4

North to Happy Island and Bradpole

Junction 5

East to Bothenhampton Hill

Junction 6

South to West Bay and the Jurassic Coast

A Coneygar Hill

Enjoy the impressive views over the town from Coneygar Hill with echoes of the Georgian era development of family villas combined with landscaped pleasure gardens.

→ [Website](#)

B The Old Railway Line

Look out for the distinctive iron gates that indicate that the Green Route has crossed the former Bridport Branch Line. The Bridport Railway Company opened its branch line from Maiden Newton, through Powerstock to Bridport in 1857. The line was closed in 1975, the last branch line to close in Dorset. Sea Road North sits on top of the old railway bed.

→ [Website](#)

C Site of the Old Priory, East Street

See if you can spot a little known piece of Bridport history: on 5th November 1483 King Richard the Third stayed overnight in Bridport on his way to Exeter to deal with the remnants of the rebellion led by the Duke of Buckingham. It is likely that he stayed at the Priory of St John the Baptist (founded circa 1240 and dissolved in 1547) which was situated on East Street adjacent to the bridge over the River Asker.

D Asker Meadows

Take some time to sit and enjoy this wildlife haven in the heart of Bridport. Wildflower meadows and tree planting are beginning to buzz with insects, birds and mammals as the Local Nature Reserve Group continue to enhance the riverside meadows. Look out for water voles and otters!

→ [Website](#)

E St Michael's / West Mill, West Street

Bridport has a long association with rope and net making. West Mill is a good example of the water powered mills that drove the industry and created employment in the town. Plottingham Field, now a public park, was formerly used for drying out nets and sail cloth. Bridport still produces nets for a wide range of uses, from cargo shipments to various sports – including the nets for Wimbledon!

→ [Website](#)

F Along the Riverbanks











The three rivers that meet in Bridport are important corridors for wildlife and offer local people unique access to the living world. Look out for kingfishers along the River Brit around Gundry Pond and where it is joined by the River Simene.

→ [Website](#)





KEY

-  Green Route
-  Alternative section avoiding steep hill
-  Roads
-  Green spaces
-  Rivers
-  Heritage / Nature highlights as listed overleaf, A - F
-  Junction points as listed overleaf, with access to further routes, 1 - 6
-  Toilets
-  Bus Station
-  Steep incline

NB: This map is almost to scale but artistic licence has been used and not all roads are included!

