

# Portesham to Abbotsbury



## By the South West Coast Path

- Walk on the pavement by the main road towards Weymouth. Cross the road and take the footpath on the right next to the dairy and caravan park entrance.
- Go through a gate and over a wooden bridge and continue along the well-used path in the field, alongside the hedge on your left, over a stile into the next field, over another stile to a gate and footpath by East Elsworth Farm.
- After some holiday units, but before the main farm buildings, turn right along a permissive path, to a minor road.
- Turn right along the road, passing West Elsworth Farm, turning left off the road just past the farmhouse onto the signed path to Abbotsbury. Continue along this bridleway for 150m until a gate and path on the left, without signage.
- Go up this path between hedges to arrive at a gate and the South West Coast Path. Turn right through a gate/stile along the South West Coast Path through a number of stiles/gates for about 2km, then down a steep hill to a road.
- Continue along the road; bear left into the Swannery car park with the Swannery entrance on the left. Take the gravel road out of the car park, passing some cottages and the Mill House.
- Continue up the road to a road junction; bear left, up past the ancient Tithe Barn and Children's Farm, Old Abbey and Church on the right, to the main road corner. From here return to either of the two village bus stops.



This walk can be made into a circular walk by taking the 1.8 mile Abbotsbury Walk, "Portesham by the Old Railway".

A diversity of bedrock gave Abbotsbury and Portesham their character, as people put locally quarried stone to use. This ridge is Abbotsbury's quarry, and a result of tectonic forces rippling north during the formation of the Alps, 25 million years ago. The rock it is made of formed 165 million year ago in a Jurassic sea.

### Walk Facts

<b>Start point</b>	Village Hall bus stop or Kings Arms bus stop, Portesham
<b>Distance</b>	3.3 miles / 5km
<b>Walking Time</b>	90 mins not including stops
<b>Difficulty</b>	Moderate

