

## Coleridge Bridle Way

**A horse riding route from the Quantock Hills to Exmoor  
33 Miles from Nether Stowey to Exford**

### 2. The Brendon Hills

#### MONKSILVER TO LUXBOROUGH

##### General Description

**A challenging section with some steep climbs and descents and a large number of gates, with some stock in fields.**

**Between Windwhistle Farm and Lype Hill the route may go alongside shoots at certain times of year.**

A one mile climb up Bird's Hill (soft sunken lane) from Monksilver. Steady down hill and then steady uphill on soft woodland tracks and across grassy fields to Raleigh's Cross. Extremely steep descent through woodland to Comberow, followed by tarmac quiet lane and then steep climb up from valley to Leigh Barton on soft tracks.

Grassy track to Coldharbour, short road section followed by steady climb up and across Treborough Common.

Tarmac road past Hazery Plantation followed by a steep downhill field edge with several gates (some of which may require you to dismount) to Luxborough.

**Start point: – Monksilver church**

**Toilets:** None.

**Places to Eat & Drink:** Pub at Monksilver; Pub (just off route) at Raleigh's Cross; pub and tea gardens (just off route) at Luxborough.

**Maps:** You are advised to carry with you OS Explorer Maps

- 140 Quantock Hills & Bridgwater
- OL9 Exmoor

#### 15 ST 073 374 MONKSILVER

With the Notley Arms and church on your R take next road R, where main road bears left, and after 50 yards take bridleway on L signed to Colton Cross. Continue up Bird's Hill bridleway for around one mile to road at Colton Cross.

#### 16 ST 057 362

Ride along road directly opposite. After around 400 yards, look out for a gate on the R signposted to Sticklepath. Go through gate and go directly across field to the corner of the wood ahead and with woodland on your R carry on to gate. Go through gate into woodland and follow blue waymarked bridleway straight ahead, ignoring all paths off left and right, down hill. Near the bottom take L hand fork uphill signed to Raleigh's Cross.

#### 17 ST 047 361

After a short distance you pass through a gate and continue on track. When you reach an open field go through gate on L and follow track with trees on L as it bends R. After going through a third gate continue in same direction with tree boundary on L. The track bears L, through a gap in the fence, into an open field. Continue to ride close to L hand boundary to reach single gate onto a lane. Take 2<sup>nd</sup> gate on R signed to Raleigh's Cross. Follow R hand edge of narrow field to gate in far R hand corner. Go through gate and keep to L hand edge of next field to reach gate onto B 3190 road.

#### 18 ST 041 348

Cross road with care and turn R on fenced permitted bridleway, signed to Comberow. Follow this alongside road to reach gate. Go through and keep to R hand side of open ground to reach another gate. Go through gate and cross small stream to reach a layby.

#### 19 ST 043 351

Turn left, signed to Comberow, and take the main forestry track downhill. Continue to follow the waymarked route on forestry tracks down to reach quiet road at the bottom.

**20 ST 039 357**

On reaching the road, turn L and follow road for around 500 yds. After passing Timwood Cottage on R go round bends and take next signed track on R. Follow minor track on L of main track. This bends R and then left to reach a T junction. Turn L and after 100yds leave track by going through gate on R signed permitted bridle way to Leigh Barton.

**21 ST 031 354**

Go steeply uphill and as track levels go straight ahead keeping fence on L. On reaching a gate go through and turn R signed Leigh Barton. Follow track uphill through woods keeping fence to R to reach a fingerpost. Turn sharp L, signed Leigh Barton. Keep on this track to reach another fingerpost. Follow sign to Leigh Barton by taking R fork uphill just after signpost. Eventually this path narrows and bends R to reach a gate into farmyard at Leigh Barton.

**22 ST 025 358**

Go through gate and immediately turn sharp L and head for double metal gates following restricted byway sign to Coldharbour. Go through double gates and ride along main track to reach another gate. Go through and continue along grass track above valley to reach another gate. Go through and ride along enclosed sunken lane. As you exit sunken lane bear L on stone driveway. Follow this path to road with Windwhistle Farm on L.

**Between Windwhistle and Luxborough the route may go alongside several shoots. There are likely to be pheasants around at certain times of year.**

**23 ST 014 360**

Turn L on quiet road passing two cottages on R. Go around L hand bend and after 20 yds turn R on track signed permitted bridleway Treborough Common. **The route goes alongside a cross country course on which there may be a competition.** After going through a gate take R hand fork following hedge on R. At the next path junction continue to bear R following hedge on R. Follow track with fence on R for 600yds with stunning views out to R. After going through gateway bear slightly L to reach road gate.

**24 ST 002 351**

Just before road gate turn R (slightly back on yourself) and follow public bridleway sign through gate and then turn immediately following permitted bridleway sign, ie keeping car park boundary on your L. Then follow L hand side of field with fence on L. **Part of this section may go alongside a shoot at certain times of year.** Keep following boundary on L hand side for 500 yds until you reach a hunting gate on the edge of woodland. Go through and turn sharp L to road. Turn R on quiet road signed to Luxborough for around 700 yds to reach a T junction

**25 SS 986 361**

**Much of this section may be alongside a shoot at certain times of year.**

Turn R signed to Luxborough and soon after, as road bends R, take bridleway on L through a gate. Go down the left hand edge of 4 fields through 4 gates to reach a small area of woodland. Keep to L hand edge and on exiting the woodland through a gate keep to L hand edge of field to reach a further gate. Go through this gate and past house on L to take furthest main track R which soon reaches a road.

**26 SS 982 372 LUXBOROUGH**

Turn R here if you wish to visit the Royal Oak Pub, and tea gardens. The pub is around ½ mile away. Follow the road downhill and turn L over bridge (seasonal tea garden on R). Pub is on L after Village hall.