

Doynton Walk 3

The Quarry Loop



Map	OS Explorer 1:25K Bristol & Bath
Start & Finish	Cross House Inn Doynton
Grid Ref	ST 71943 74008
W3W	redefined.spurned.deaf
Distance	3.5 miles
Duration	1.5 - 2 hours
Difficulty	Moderate
Terrain	Some moderate inclines and some road walking,
Accessibility	Stiles, narrow at times and can be muddy in places. It goes through a working quarry site with heavy vehicles around.

With the pub behind you, walk to your right down the High Street. Cross the stone road bridge over the river and turn left along Ham Lane and immediately right up Bottoms Farm Lane. At the top of the hill (1), by the Powell Court sign, go through a wooden kissing gate and turn left on the footpath alongside the converted barns. Go through another kissing gate and follow the concrete path along the hedge with views of St. James Church, Abson to your right. Continue straight on through four fields until you come to a stile leading onto Ham Lane. Turn right and walk up the hill past Gatherham Farm.

At the top of the hill the road goes sharp right into Cleeve Lane. Soon after the bend take the left turning into Rock Road (2). When you come to the second house (Rodlays Farm) take the lane to the left. Go through the metal kissing gate, continue up the lane and follow the footpath to the right when the lane ends. You get your first glimpses of the quarry lake on this stage of the walk. Go through a kissing gate into a field and follow the path round the left edge of the field. Ignore two wooden gates on your left, although you can make a detour at this point into the woods to gain views of the Golden Valley Nature Reserve. Cross the next sloping field heading for the lower left-hand corner and go through a kissing gate into woods and the Nature Reserve. Turn left for a short distance before following the path to the right and head down to bridge over the river Boyd (3).

Once across the river turn right and follow the track along the river, ignoring the footpath off to your left that goes up an incline. You leave the Golden Valley Country Park through a gap (with metal width restrictors) to the left of a wooden gate and join the lane leading to the main road. You soon reach a footpath on your left that goes over a small wooden bridge and through a wooden kissing gate into a field.

When the path splits and you should take the left-hand route going gently up the side of a field. Go through the next metal kissing gate and follow the edge of the field. The path goes 90 degrees left at the end (ignore the path through the kissing gate that goes right).

The path turns right along a garden hedge and emerges on the road through a metal gate in front of Bury Manor Castle. Turn right to follow the road and go through another metal kissing gate to a footpath on the left. The path climbs quite steeply towards another kissing gate and then levels out when the quarry boundary fence comes into view (4). Follow the boundary of the quarry fence and enjoy the views of the quarry lake. The path takes you into the quarry site and leads you straight across a road (beware of large vehicles at the point). Follow the footpath signs to walk past the site buildings (on your left) and out onto Bury Lane. Take care as this is a busy road. Turn left towards Doynton before taking a footpath, through a metal gate to the left, after 100m or so.

Follow the footpath along the edge of the quarry until you come to a metal gate and a path to the right which goes diagonally across the fields to the village (5). After the second field it is best to follow the path around the hedge on the left side of the field to protect any crops (the official path cuts across the middle of this field). When you reach a narrow field, take the gate to the right through a hedge (6) and head diagonally right across the final field towards Bury Lane emerging through a wooden gate. Turn left and walk 100m back to the pub.

