

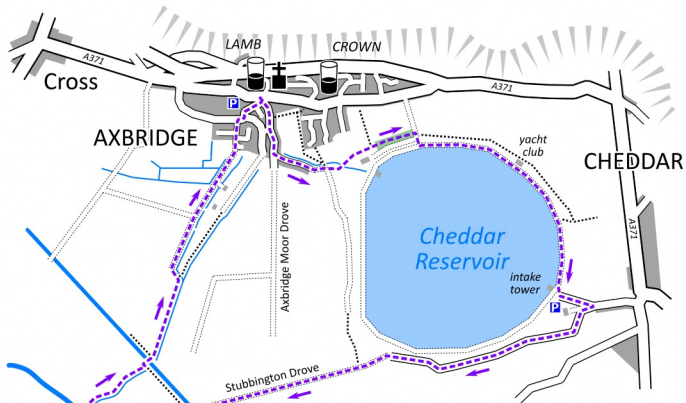
into a narrow hedged lane that bends left past a business premises, then curves right to run parallel to the reservoir embankment. **29** The tarmac ends at a parking area, where you turn left, away from the reservoir, onto a rough track (Stubington Drove). **30** After a straight half-mile the track reaches the Cheddar Yeo, which you cross over a farm bridge. **31** Follow a reedy ditch ahead to a gate at the end of a farm track, which you follow to a pumping station by the River Axe. **32** Cross the river and follow the track through a farm out to a lane. **33** Turn right past a couple of houses, then turn left at the entrance to Moorview Farmhouse. **34** Keep right of the driveway into a field and climb half-left up to a stile by a gate in the top corner. **35** A grassy track leads past a bench with views over the Levels, to a field gate. **36** Turn right after the gate and descend into a shallow valley, passing through a couple of field gates. **37** Cross a stile at the bottom then climb the field edge to the road above Ashlyn Farm. *From this point on you are retracing your steps from the outward route.* **38** Follow the road ahead, climbing to a road junction. **39** Turn right past Alston Farm, then at a corner turn left through a gate into a farm track, where you turn right. **40** At the end of the track, go through a gate and follow the right-hand field edge to a metal gate. **41** Keep on along the right-hand side of the next field to a stile in the corner. **42** Emerge between gardens onto the road near the Wheatsheaf Inn. **43** Turn left to return to Mount Pleasant Farm.



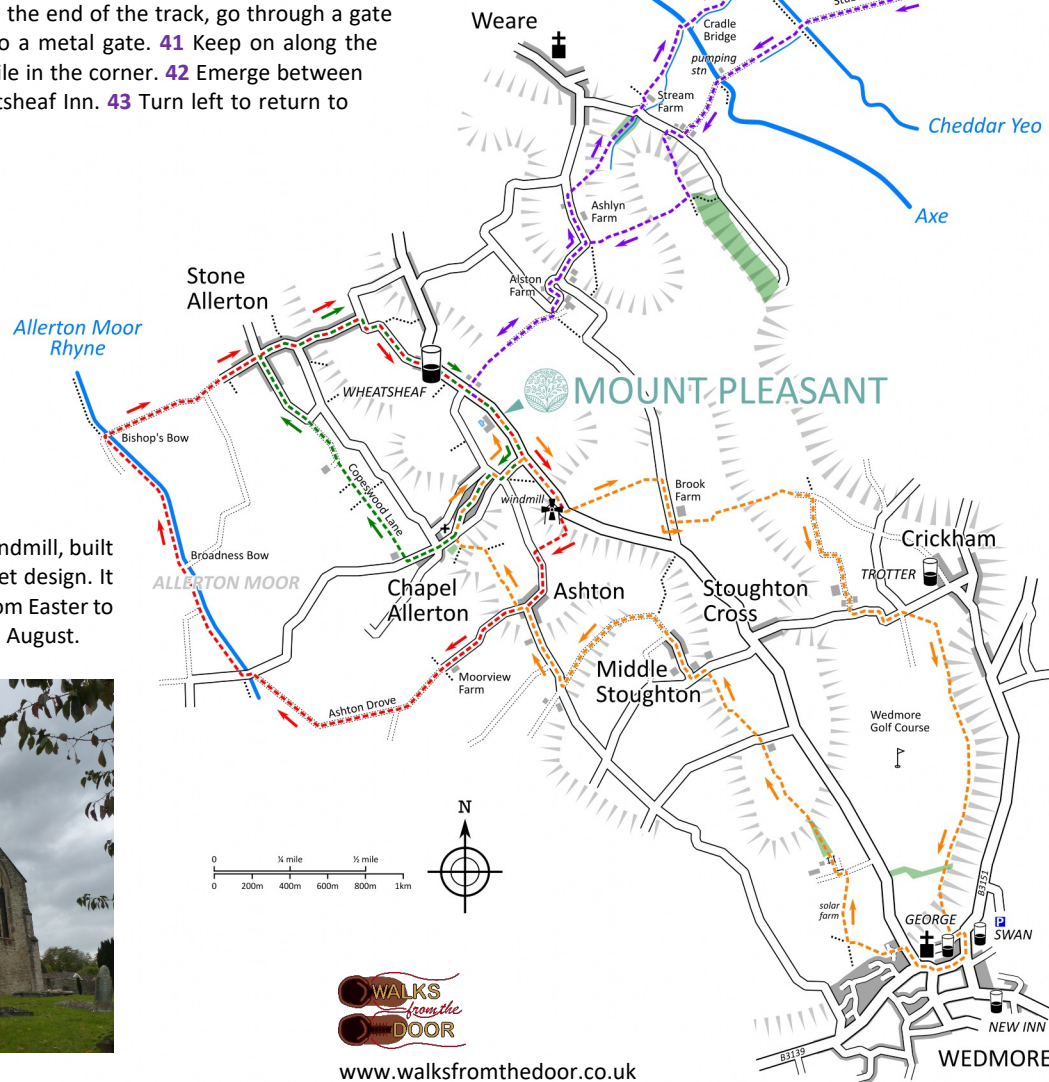
**Ashton Windmill** is a Grade II\* listed windmill, built in the 18th century to a typical Somerset design. It is open from 2.30 to 4.30 on Sundays from Easter to September and Wednesdays in July and August.



**St Mary's Church, Wedmore**



**Axbridge**, though now smaller than its famous neighbour Cheddar, is historically the more important settlement. The half-timbered King John's Hunting Lodge, built c.1460, houses a local museum.



**Cheddar Gorge** forms an obvious defile in the southern slope of the Mendip Hills and is well seen across the Axe valley section of the Somerset Levels from the Isle of Wedmore.



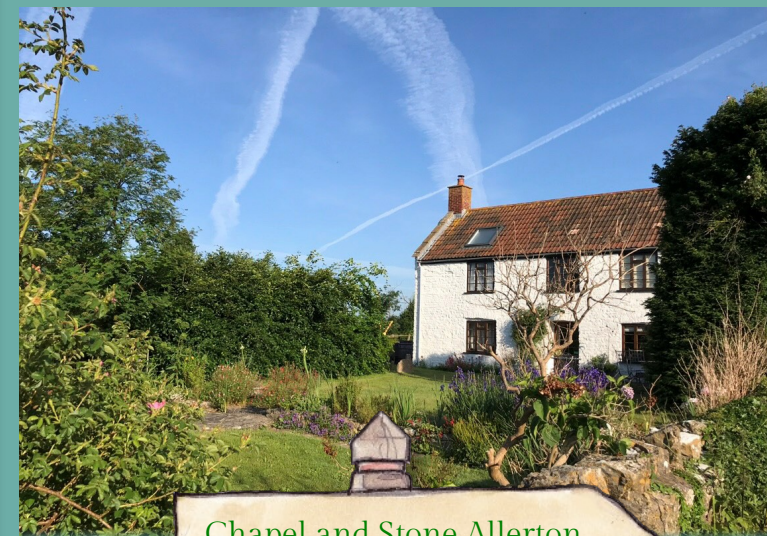
**MOUNT PLEASANT**  
BED AND BREAKFAST

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four circular walks from



**MOUNT PLEASANT**  
BED AND BREAKFAST



**Chapel and Stone Allerton**  
2½ miles: easy

**Allerton Moor**  
4½ miles: fairly easy

**Wedmore**  
6¾ miles: moderate

**Axbridge & Cheddar Reservoir**  
8¼ miles: moderate



## Chapel and Stone Allerton

2½ miles: Easy

*Allow 1–1½ hours. Mostly on quiet country lanes, with one stretch of bridleway with wet grass and muddy spots after rain.*

**1** From the entrance to Mount Pleasant Farm, turn right along the road for 150 yards. **2** Turn right into Rawlings Lane (optionally continue ahead to Ashton Windmill, returning the same way). **3** At the T-junction at the bottom of Rawlings Lane, turn right to pass the entrance to Ham Lane and Harewood House, then turn left into Front Street. **4** Walk down the main village street, passing the parish church on your right. **5** Keep straight on at a crossroads (signposted to “Mark”). **6** Just beyond Moorland Farm on your left, turn right into a bridleway (Copeswood Lane). **7** Follow the hedged bridleway for a little under half a mile, joining a rough-surfaced track at a turning into a farmyard. **8** Continue for a further quarter-mile to the public road at Heatherfield House, where you follow the road ahead for a further quarter-mile. **9** At the staggered crossroads in Stone Allerton, turn right (signposted to Chapel Allerton and Mark). **10** Follow the road as it bears right to the junction with New Road at a house called “Corners”. **11** Keep along the road, with the war memorial on your right. **12** Pass Sycamore Farm on your right and walk between cottages and out of the main village. **13** At Wayside Cottage, turn right and follow a winding lane between hedges (ignoring paths to right and left). **14** At the next junction, turn right past the Wheatsheaf and continue beyond back to Mount Pleasant Farm.



## Allerton Moor (4½ miles: Fairly easy)

*Allow 2–3 hours. Paths on the Levels may be muddy, or even impassably flooded, after rain. There is one stile to negotiate.*

**1** Turn right from the entrance to Mount Pleasant Farm and walk along the road for 150 yards. **2** Continue along the larger road at the junction with Rawlings Lane for quarter of a mile to Ashton Windmill. **3** In the left-hand corner of the windmill compound, climb a stile and walk along the hedge beyond past a water trough. **4** In the corner of the field, turn right and walk down (with the hedge on your left) to the farm buildings. **5** Officially speaking, the right-of-way passes between hedge and barn, but if this is overgrown walk out to the road through the farmyard. **6** Turn left along the lane and follow it as it curves right into the hamlet of Ashton. **7** At the road junction beyond Hillview Farm, take the no-through road on the right. **8** Follow the lane for half a mile, passing Moor View Farm, beyond which the tarmac ends and the lane becomes a farm track. **9** When the track turns left, leave it for

the grassy drove ahead of you. **10** This narrows and swings to the right, with views over the Levels to the church tower at Mark. **11** The path runs beside a drain before widening and meeting a metalled lane. **12** Turn left over the bridge then immediately right through a gate into fields, with the drain now on your right. **13** Follow the drain through three fields, whereupon a track joins from the left by an overgrown footbridge. **14** Ignore the bridge and continue along the left bank of the drain to an arched stone bridge (Broadness Bow). **15** Again, stay on the left bank of the drain and continue for a further half-mile to a concrete bridge at a junction of tracks. **16** Turn right here and follow the track for half a mile into Stone Allerton (ignoring a bridleway off to the right where you meet the tarmac). **17** Follow the lane between cottages and farmhouses to a junction. **18** Carry straight on at the junction (signposted to Chapel Allerton and Mark).

Now follow steps **10–14** of the **Chapel and Stone Allerton** walk, above.



## Wedmore (6¾ miles: Moderate)

*Allow 3–4 hours, plus time in Wedmore. Field paths may be muddy in places and there are numerous stiles on this route.*

**1** From the entrance, turn right along the road. Pass the end of Rawlings Lane and continue to Ashton Windmill. **2** Take the footpath through the gates on the left and follow the right-hand edge of the field. **3** Towards the end, leave the field edge, aiming for a stile in the bottom hedge. **4** Cross the field ahead to a gate into Quab Lane. **5** Turn right and walk down the lane for 300 yards. **6** Beyond Brook Farm, take the signposted footpath on the left, which runs down a garden wall then swings left to a bridge over a ditch. **7** Walk up the middle of the field beyond to a gap in a hedge, then turn left to a stile. **8** Turn right and follow the field edge to a gate into the corner. **9** Beyond this gate, follow the hedge on the left then, when it turns left, cross to a gate near the far corner of the field. **10** In the next field, turn right to the next gate. **11** In the far right-hand corner of the next field, another gate gives access to a farm track which swings to the left. Before



it does, take the narrower, tree-lined path on the right. This path bends left after 350 yards, then right into a wider farm track that leads out between farm buildings to the road. **12** Turn left and follow the road right and left to a road junction. **13** Turn right through a metal gate, just beyond a track opposite the side road. **14** Head diagonally through a cider orchard to a metal hand-gate. **15** Turn right along the brow of the hill (with a hedge on your right and views to the Mendips on your left). **16** After three fields, cross a stile on the right and switch

to the other side of the hedge, passing over two further stiles. **17** Keep right of a hedge corner onto a track that leads to a further stile at the end of a projecting finger of the field. **18** After a further stile, leave the hedge and strike out along the contour below a golf green on your right, crossing a golfers’ path. **19** On meeting the corner of a thick hedge, go through a gap and turn briefly right, before emerging and following the hedge on your left. **20** The path runs parallel to the 13th fairway, passing a bin and bench, to a wooden kissing gate and stile within a belt of woodland. **21** Beyond this, walk down the left-hand side of a field to a gate into Manor Lane, Wedmore. **22** Turn left to the B3151 and then right past the village hall. **23** Beyond the Swan on your left, turn right into Church Street and follow it past the George. **24** Walk through the churchyard and exit next to the war memorial, continuing along Church Street. **25** Take the first right (Lascot Hill), signposted to Stoughton and Weare. **26** After 100 yards, turn left into a driveway with a footpath sign. **27** Beyond a house called Lynwood, take a hedged path to the left of a driveway, which leads between gardens to a stile on the right into a field. **28** Cross the field diagonally to a hand-gate within a metal field gate. **29** Follow the field edge for a short distance then turn right through another gate. **30** Walk up the field to the right of a small solar farm to a double stile in the corner. **31** Follow the left-hand side of the next field to a stile into a driveway. **32** Turn left past a private gate then right onto a grassy track to another metal gate with a hand-gate built into it. **33** Proceed along a tree-lined path to a stile, and a second in quick succession, then head diagonally to a third and fourth stile either side of the end of a grassy track. **34** Keep left to a fifth and sixth stile, then walk along the right-hand edge of a narrow paddock and an old orchard, to emerge into a lane by a house. **35** Turn left for a few yards, then turn right over another stile in the opposite hedge. **36** Bear left to another stile, then cross diagonally left to a gap in the hedge. **37** Go through the gap and turn right along the right-hand edge of a couple of fields out to another lane. **38** Turn left past Snow Meadow Farm then right into a no-through road. **39** After the last house, follow a hedged byway which bears left and descends to a road. **40** Turn right and follow the road to Ashton village. **41** At the road junction in Ashton, turn left into a no-through road then almost immediately right onto a footpath just beyond a driveway. **42** Walk down through paddocks to a stile in the bottom right-hand corner then cross a narrow field to a second stile. **43** Follow the left-hand hedge to a double hand-gate either side of a plank footbridge. **44** Turn half-left across the field beyond and walk down to the right of a small copse to a stile into the lane opposite the parish church in Chapel Allerton. **45** Turn right and walk up through the village. **46** At a T-junction by Harewood House, turn right then left into Rawlings Lane. **47** At the top of the lane, turn left to return to Mount Pleasant Farm.



## Axbridge and Cheddar Reservoir

8¼ miles: Moderate

*Allow 4 hours, plus sightseeing time in Axbridge. Some sections on the Levels may be muddy or even impassably flooded after rain.*

**1** From the entrance, turn left along the road towards Stone Allerton. **2** Just before a turning on the left, take a narrow fenced footpath between two houses on the right, which leads to a stile into a narrow field. **3** Walk down to a gate in the far left-hand corner, and continue along the left-hand edge of the next field into a farm track. **4** Just before the farm, turn left to a gateway into a lane. **5** Turn right and follow the lane as it winds left and right past Alston Farm to a junction. **6** Turn left and follow the lane downhill and then bend left to pass Ashlyn Farm on your right. **7** Just beyond Marina House (left), turn right through a hand-gate onto a footpath that runs diagonally through a vineyard. **8** Go through a gate on the left in the bottom corner, and bear right to a metal hand-gate in the far right-hand corner of the next field. **9** After another hand-gate a wooden stile leads into boggy woodland alongside a small stream, which you follow out to a road. **10** Turn right then, when the road bends right, walk down the drive of the farmhouse in front of you, turning left past a waymarked post onto the Somerset Levels. **11** Turn right and walk down to a stile in a fence. **12** Beyond it, pick up a drain ahead with occasional trees. **13** Follow the drain until you reach the River Axe, which you cross via a footbridge (Cradle Bridge). **14** Follow another drain beyond to a footbridge over the Cheddar Yeo, and again follow the drain ahead. **15** Ignoring a concrete bridge with metal handrails, bear left instead to a stile by a field gate, which leads to a grassy track heading off to the right. **16** Follow this track, alongside its drain, to Matbriran House, beyond which the lane is surfaced. **17** Pass the entrances to Mill Stream Close (right) and Walnut Close (left) to reach a T-junction in Axbridge. **18** Turn right then follow the road round to the left and right, passing a car park on your left. **19** At Moorland Street, turn left to the square in the centre of Axbridge. **20** Depart



down Moorland Street, which passes a school on the right and then the former police station (renamed Peelers Court). **21** Pass the entrance to Bailiffs Close then turn left by Moorland Farm. **22** Pass Walnut Farm on your right then, when the track bends right, go through the gate straight ahead, heading towards the embankment of Cheddar Reservoir. **23** Go through a gate on the left, crossing a drain, and head half-right across the field. **24** A gate leads into woodland, then through a kissing gate into a reservoir access road. **25** Turn right and walk up the road to overlook the reservoir. **26** Turn left and follow the reservoir perimeter, passing the yacht club, until you reach the intake tower. **27** Leave the reservoir here, following the access road past a car park. **28** After a set of metal gates, turn hard right cont/d...