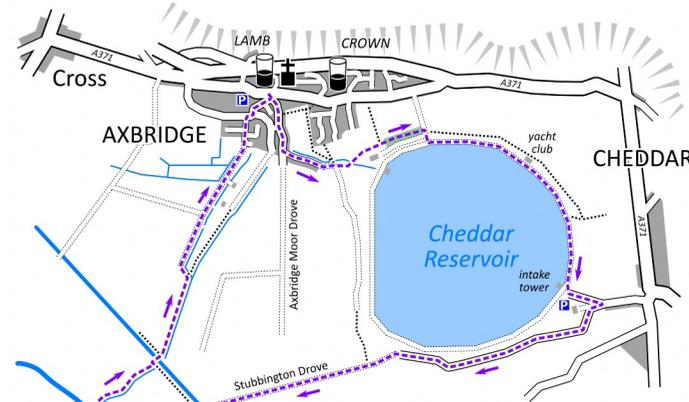


into a narrow hedged lane that bends left past a business premises, then curves right to run parallel to the reservoir embankment. **29** The tarmac ends at a parking area, where you turn left, away from the reservoir, onto a rough track (Stubbington Drove). **30** After a straight half-mile the track 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.



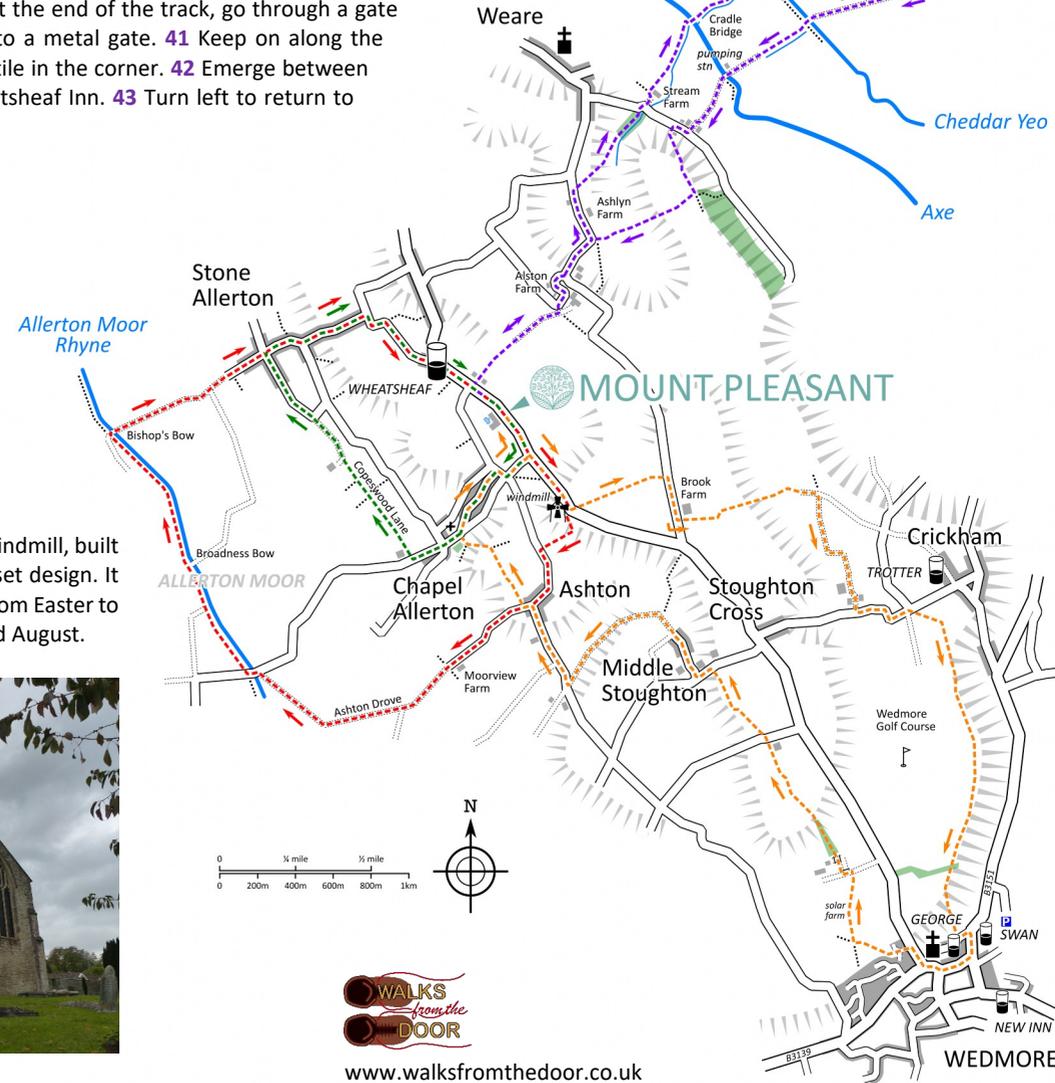
Axbridge, though now smaller than its famous neighbour Cheddar, is historically the more important settlement. The half-timbered King John's Hunting Lodge, built c.1460, houses a local museum.



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



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.

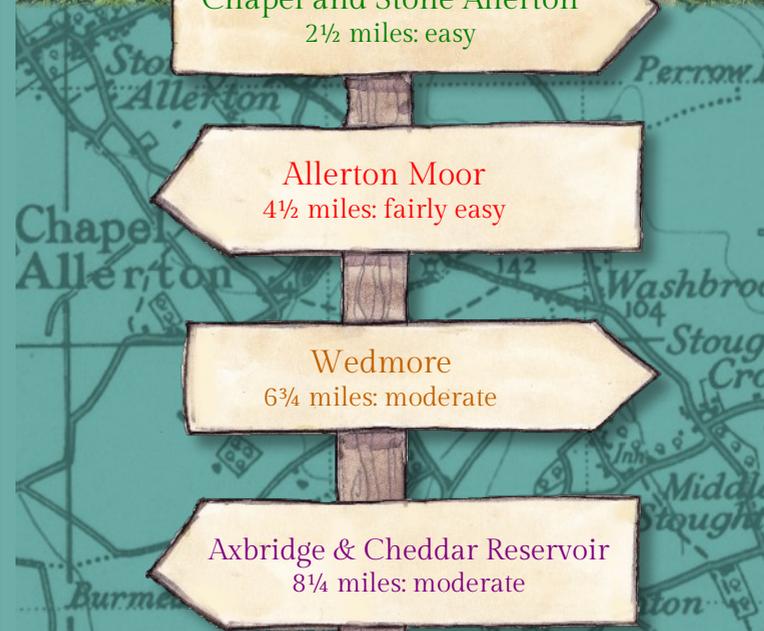
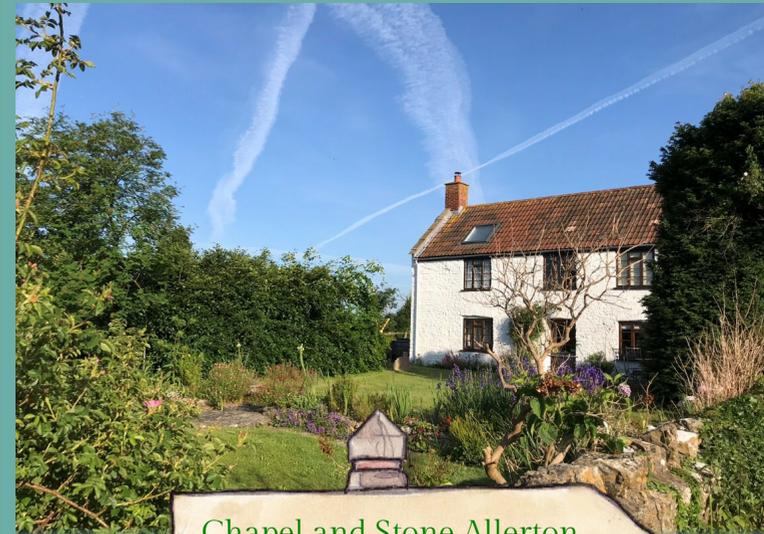


Chapel Allerton, Axbridge, Somerset BS26 2PP
Tel. (01934) 710285
mountpleasantfarmsomerset@gmail.com
www.mountpleasantbnb.com

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



www.walksfromthedoort.co.uk

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...

