

DISCOVER



SKYLINE WALK



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Skyline Walk

Clevedon offers some spectacular views of town, coast and channel. This walk starts in the Alexandra road area. If you are driving, please park considerately.

Make your way into the park known as Pier Copse. Take the steps up from in front of the kiosk and admire the views from the terrace above.

STOP 1. The Sunset Terrace. After the end of the First World War an Austrian howitzer was given to Clevedon as a war relic. For many years it was located at the top end of Pier Copse overlooking Clevedon's beautiful Grade 1 listed Pier. Nowadays the terrace is a popular spot for enjoying sunsets and views of the grade 1 listed Pier and the Bristol Channel. The old gun is long gone.

STOP 2. Drop down onto the seafront, turn left and walk along the promenade towards the Bandstand. This was built in 1887 to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. After passing the famously windswept yew tree and a pebbly beach you

soon come to Salthouse Fields, where salt was panned in years gone by and, on the other side of the sea wall, Clevedon's famous Marine Lake, the largest infinity pool in the world!



The direct route takes you from the Salthouse fields to Victoria Road and Point 5

The longer route now follows Poets' Walk, which is well signposted. So, at the end of the promenade, start to climb the broad steps in front of you, beside the Salthouse Pub. After the first few steps, turn right along the wide path through the trees - still above the Marine Lake. Within 100 yards (90 metres) you come out of the trees and reach a viewpoint. Turn left to climb up more steps and a steep cliff path.

STOP 3. After a further 50 yards (45 metres) or so you reach the lookout, which was built as a garden gazebo in 1835 when the Salthouse was a private house with extensive gardens. Much of this land was sold at cost to the local council by Fred Nutting to allow for the building of the Marine Lake. The lookout was rebuilt recently by the Clevedon Civic Society.

You soon reach St. Andrew's churchyard, which you leave on your left. St Andrews is a Norman Church, which is well worth a visit. Follow Poets walk right up to Battery Point at the end, overlooking the Pill, a small harbour. All along the walk, there are fantastic views of the Welsh coast and on a clear day you can see Sugar Loaf mountain in the Brecon Beacons, which rises to almost 2000 feet. Pill comes from the Welsh, pwll, which means pool.



STOP 4. The gun battery overlooking Clevedon Pill was strategically positioned to prevent landings on the foreshore below. Two gun platforms used from 1859-1908 can be seen along with their restraining rings. The brick building behind the battery was built and used by the Home Guard, whilst they were spotting planes during the Second World War.

Drop down onto Old Church road turn left and continue walking, passing St Andrews Church and the last two thatched houses in Clevedon, both of which were originally farmhouses. Turn left where Old Church road meets Southern Way and pass the Salthouse Fields again on your left

When Old Church Road meets Elton Road, cross the road (with care), turn right and walk up Old Church Road, passing the petrol station on your right and turn left into Victoria Road. There is a bench at the bottom of a steep slope on your right.

Take the tarmac footpath heading steeply uphill, to walk along the back of the houses on Jesmond Road.

STOP 5. There are splendid views from the top to the Curzon cinema and across the town and to the sea. Look out for Clevedon Hall, which is very visible from here.

Take the footpath on the right, down a steep, winding path eventually emerging onto St John's Avenue. Turn right onto Hillside Right, passing the library on your left.



STOP 6. Turn left at the bottom and walk straight on through the town centre, which has a good range of cafes and coffee shops, if you are need of refreshment! The weekly Thursday market in Queen's Square was granted charter status in 1346 by king Edward III

Continue on through Old Street and then turn left up Highdale Avenue by the Fire Station.

As the road rises you'll see a rough track opposite leading straight on between the houses. Follow this to see Highdale

Farm to the left, which stands on one of Clevedon's oldest house sites, dating back to 1297. The farm was frequently painted by Doris Hatt, our most famous artist.

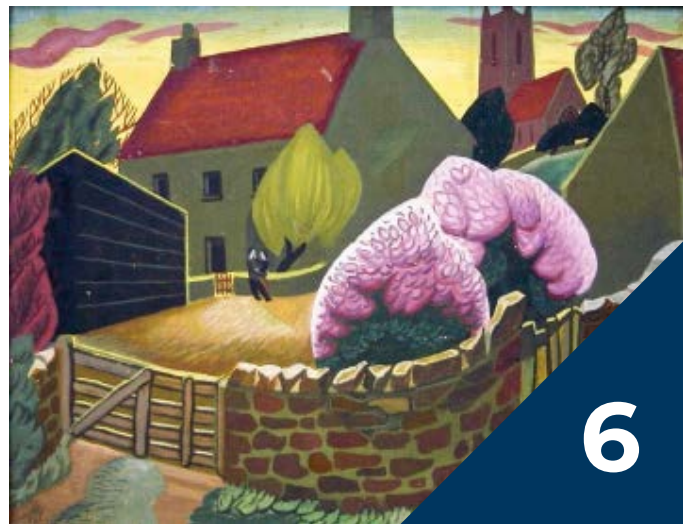
Just before the farm, turn sharp right on a narrow footpath running behind the houses on Highdale Avenue. The path curves up to the left, where there are steps and a stone stile, cross Highdale road here and walk into the woods. After 200 yards take the footpath on your right towards Strawberry Hill.

STOP 7. After half a mile , you come to a fork - choose downhill to the right for the path to Clevedon Court or uphill to the left to take you to Rippleside, which is point 10 on these instructions:

Route to Court Woods and Clevedon Court

Drop down to the end of the path and turn right onto Strawberry Hill. At the bottom of the hill, cross the main road and, turn left briefly and then turn right off the main road towards East Clevedon Church. Just to the right of the church, there is a narrow entrance into Court Woods.

STOP 8. Follow this footpath straight on, as it climbs gradually up the hill, avoiding the turns to the left, which go steeply up the hill. You pass through a cutting in the rocks. Eventually the path runs above the gardens at the back of Clevedon Court, which is run by the National Trust, but to enter the house and gardens, the only entrance is from the front of the property. It's an outstanding 14th century manor house, the ancestral home of the Elton family and well worth a visit!



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Now follow the path up the slope, until you come onto a clearing on the ridge and reach Keepers Cottage, which as the name suggests was originally occupied by a gamekeeper on the estate.

STOP 9. Opposite Keepers Cottage, there is a viewpoint with superb views over the Gordano Valley. Turn round at Keepers Cottage, heading back to Clevedon. At the end of the common, go down through the woods following the Zig-Zag path, back to the Church entrance through which you entered Court Woods. Clevedon's oldest pub, The Old Inn is just to your left if you need refreshments before heading back up the hill!

Cross the road and go back up Strawberry Hill, follow this road up until it reaches a private house, where you take the path up to the left. This rises steeply to rejoin the original route.

Continue straight ahead through woods, turning into a lane at the back and side of houses, and turn left on to Rippleside Road.

STOP 10. Where the road bends left, carry straight on ahead on a short tarmac footpath between houses. At the end of the footpath, cross Cambridge road and walk up Old Park Road.

Take the footpath on left opposite 77 Grove Cottage and emerge onto a stone driveway. Bear left on a footpath passing 2 modern houses on your left and then a very old one on your right. This is Old Park House, once upon a time the lodge where the warren keeper lived. Dial Hill used to be a deer park and rabbit warren.

The path here is quite rocky.

STOP 11. You then reach a junction, with Kings Road visible down to your right. Turn left doubling back on a higher path, which you follow round to the right through the woods to the top of Dial Hill.



STOP 12. At the top are 2 benches to take in the view of Bristol and a Trig point. You can see as far as Dundry from the bench, and that's a way south of Bristol.

At the single metal seat turn right downhill to T junction of footpaths and turn left to dial Hill Road.



STOP 13. Cross the road and walk down the Zig-Zig path to Hill Road, taking in the stupendous views of coast and channel and turn right at the bottom of the path. There are lots of interesting independent shops along Hill Road and a monthly craft market is held here on the first Sunday in each month in summer!



STOP 14. Halfway along Hill Road, turn left into Alexandra Gardens and walk downhill to Alexandra Road. There are lots of excellent hostelryes in the Hill Road area and on the Seafrent. You will have earned your refreshments!