

A walk from Langford Budville to Chipley, Bindon, Langford Heathfield and back

Start at St Peter's church, Langford Budville. From the back gate of the churchyard, walk a little way down the road towards the school, but branch off to the right down the lane in front of the thatched Old Rectory. This leads into Butts Lane. Proceed down Butts Lane to the bottom, turn right down the drive to Oddmeads and go through the gate on the right of the entrance to the house. Go diagonally across the field (good views of the Church from this path), and down the hill along the edge of the field onto the B3187 at Chipley. It is a fairly busy, fast road, so take care.



Turn left, cross the small stream, and then, where the road does a bend to the right, go straight ahead into the small lane going up the hill (Mousey Lane). This narrow lane can be muddy, but in the summer and spring the banks are full of wild flowers. Follow this lane up the hill and around to the right for about 1/2 mile, until you see the sign for the footpath which branches off to the left, along the bottom of a large arable field. Follow this to a gate, and along a track, past the remains of the old lime kiln, which in high summer is thickly draped with Old Man's Beard. Go through another gate, and branch left down the hill past Bindon Farm.



Don't take the track on the left, but just beyond it, go over the stile on the left into the field. The footpath runs along the bottom of the field to a small bridge across a side-stream, and over another stile into a grazing paddock. The path runs diagonally across the field, back up the hill towards Langford Budville. Exit the field through the gate. At this point you can head back up the track to Langford Budville (a shortish walk of about 45 minutes altogether).

Extend Your walk to the Heathfield:

You could also elect to extend the walk and return via the Langford Heathfield Reserve. When you have gone through the gate, a public footpath branches off sharp right along the hedge at the bottom of a field almost doubling back. There are good views to be had from this path, back towards the lovely old farmstead at Bindon Farm. Go over a stile and through a rough grassy field. Cross another small bridge and follow the footpath diagonally across a large arable field. Depending on what crop is planted in this field the views can be lovely.



At the top of the hill the path goes along a hedge and out onto the track past Langford Lakes and Middle Hill to the road. Cross the road, and follow the path that runs up to the pony field in the Heathfield. If the ponies are present, you can cross a stile over the electric fence here, go left and exit the field by another stile, or you can walk left along the edge of the field until you reach the main path and the boardwalk. If there are ponies in the field be aware that the foals may be curious and approach dogs, and the mares will be protective, so keep dogs on a lead, and give the ponies a wide berth. In June the pony field is full of spotted orchids, and in early May it is carpeted with pink lousewort. Later in the summer you will find clumps of devil's-bit scabious here.



Follow the boardwalk to the end, then go diagonally up toward the road. In May this part of the woods is full of bluebells. Violets and bugle, orchids, yellow rattle and many other wildflowers grow in the clearings. Cross the road at the parking area and follow the footpath across the arable field, and into the Crown field which will bring you out into the village near the school.

