

Walking to town - LB to Tonedale

Take a little backpack and walk to the shops!

Almost all off-road. Around an hour, depending on the speed of your dogs!

From Langford Church, head south-east into Langford Lane but immediately fork right into the field, cross the stile and follow the hedge on your right down to the next stile. Cross the bridge over the little stream and another stile, then follow the hedge on your right again till it reaches a corner. From there, you need to head diagonally right across the field to the stile onto the road, turn right for 30 yards until you reach a stile on your left.

Cross the field along the line of electricity poles to another stile, continue to the next stile in a hedge and go straight on to a gate into the lane where you turn briefly right. Follow the curve left past the Cider Barn (Runnington Church is on the right), ignore the track to your left and go almost straight on over a stile to the right of a small garage; follow the hedge left to find a stile near the bottom of the field. Cross and turn right, then go through a metal kissing gate, leaving the cottage on your right, as you go down to the River Tone, spanned by a metal footbridge (which can be slippery in wet weather).

After the bridge, follow the River Tone leftwards, then turn left under the pylons onto the footpath which runs east to Tonedale along the line of the old canal. This straight path takes you over an old wooden stile, to a metal gate with a kissing gate and continues to the main road but you take a right through another metal kissing gate, before you reach the tarmac surface.

Follow this grassy path through the field and onto the road, turn right and almost immediately left, when you will see a small children's playground in front of you with the old Fox factory in the background. Follow the footpath round two sides of the playground and cross the bridge into Tonedale (dog poo bin here). Turn right and after the houses you will find yourself at the bottom on the road leading up to One Stop. Spare a glance for the magnificent Italianate buildings which, although subject to a conservation order, are being allowed to fall into ruin.

We prefer to do the walk in reverse, having been dropped off! It is then uphill and keeps you fitter!

Laurian Cooper

