

Walk 5

Compton Durville/Rydon

(Peter & Jean Kidner &

Matthew Shooter)

From St James's St Car Park, turn R onto St James's St before turning L at the Blake Hall and along West St. After some 400m, after Summer Shard and Lamprey's Lane, when entering the area of Little Petherton, turn R at a track entrance (37) next to a cottage with the footpath sign set back off the road and pointing to Whitfield Lane. Follow this twisting track for 100m until emerging into Whitfield Lane (87), adjacent to the allotments. Turn L, and either descend into Partway Lane (38) and turn R uphill, or follow the field edge round to the R above Partway Lane and walk up to Ben Cross. Here go onto the road and turn R immediately for no more than 20m before turning L up the track, Gorefield Lane (34), to Compton Durville. Follow along the field edge and down to the kissing gate, then through the sheep pasture to the road below Compton Hill. Rather than turning L towards Compton Durville, turn R uphill for 75m to the road junction on your L, then walk above Compton Durville on Rydon Lane to Rydon Farm, a fine hamstone farmhouse. Walk past the house and follow the track round to your R (not straight on (22) to Mid Lambrook), and you will be able to see a stile straight ahead. Either cross over the stile and across the field (23) to the stile visible on the other side, or take the permissive route along the fence line around the field. Cross over the second stile, then cut across the field (this used to be plum orchards) to the first gate below the bank. Passing through this gate, continue straight on and the track (still 23) will soon be lined by hedges on either side, until you reach a large oak tree at the head of The Droveaway. Turn R downhill on Droveaway, which becomes North St, and then emerges opposite the Post Office on St James's St, at the end of which is the Car Park.

3 miles, minimum 1 stile, 1 hour

