



## Information

Distance: 14.9km (9.25miles)

Average Time: 4hrs 30mins (time may vary depending on pace)

Gradient: Mostly gentle but steep in places

Starting Point: Weymouth Park & Ride

Public Transport: N/A

Parking: Free parking at Weymouth Park & Ride operated by Dorset Council.

Accessibility: Most of this route is accessible by wheelchair except for the route through Nothe Gardens as access is via steps. Some of the gravel paths might be prone to become muddier in the winter/wet months.

Cycle: Most of the route is open to cyclist although there is a ban on the seafront where no cycling is allowed between 10am-5:30pm 1st May to 30th September. Please note no cycling is allowed in all the gardens except through Lodmoor.

## Facilities

Eating: There will be many points along the route where you can access a variety of eateries offering a light lunch to a full meal, many offering local delicacies.

Toilets: There are toilet facilities in the in the Lodmoor Car Park, along the Esplanade, the Nothe Gardens, and most open all year round.

1. From the Weymouth Park & Ride, walk towards the roundabout, then take the path to your left by the Weymouth and Portland 'pineapple' gateposts, before you reach the roundabout. You should be able to see the metal sculpture call the Torpedosaurs designed and created by Andy Kirkby. Continue along path until you reach the Rugby Club.
2. At this point you can stop for something to eat or drink, otherwise continue along the paved path for about 0.75 km until you reach Lorton Valley Nature Park.
3. Continue to follow the path left across a bridge bordered by wooden posts and then take the right-hand side path which will take you past the Green Gym equipment where you can give them a try.
4. Continue along the paved path, there is the option to stop at the play park if you have children to let them have a play and the start the **Tree Trail/Orienteering course (map)**, otherwise just continue on the path which will become more gravelled, and there is access for cars so please ensure children are supervised.
5. When you reach the end of the path take the route to your left which will take you past a variety of activities such as Sea Life Centre, Sandworld, Leisure Ranch and Pirate Adventure Mini Golf. Continue until you reach the traffic lights.
6. Cross the traffic lights, take a left and then right until you reach the seafront, then take a right along the Esplanade. There is an opportunity to use the toilets or stop for refreshments at the Café up the stairs by beach huts.
7. Continue along and there are a set of stone steps leading into Greenhill Gardens, wheelchair access is further down. You could try your luck at the Greenhill Putting Green or just sit on the benches to take in the beautiful gardens. Upon leaving Greenhill Gardens, continue along the Esplanade towards town, passing the war memorials and the Jubilee Clock towards Weymouth Harbour.
8. As you near the end of the Esplanade, just past the red mine, cross the road in front of the Pavilion and turn right along the harbourside. Continue along Custom House Quay until you reach the Town Bridge. You can either take the steps up towards the Bridge or turn right into St Mary Street and then take the first left into St Edmund Street and continue until you reach the bridge.
9. As you cross over the bridge turn to your left and continue along the harbour wall following the signs for the Nothe Fort and keeping the harbour to your left. Just after the path bears right, you will see some stone steps. You can continue along the harbour wall until you reach the Stone Pier Café for a bite to eat or drink, then retracing your steps a couple of metres, there is a steep set of stairs taking you into the Nothe Gardens. Alternatively, you can take the steps up to the entrance of the gardens.

10. You can explore Nothe Gardens, or just continue along the outer path which banks down to a concrete path which features a number of carved stone artwork depicting sea creatures. There are toilets at Nothe Gardens but they are the last for 4.5 kms when you get back to Weymouth Town. Follow the path until you reach some steps leading to a metal bridge over the road. After crossing the bridge the path has a steep incline and becomes gravel.
11. Continue along the path until you reach Bincleaves open space which will give you spectacular views over towards Portland Harbour. There is also a monument dedicated to Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton who played a very significant role in the abolishment of slavery. Continue until you reach the road and at the first junction take a left into Belle Vue Road. At this point you are following the Coast Path.
12. Continue along Belle Vue road until you reach a junction, turn left down Old Castle Road and continue until you reach Sandsfoot Gardens and Castle. Stop for a rest or perhaps some refreshments from the Café. More details about Sandsfoot Castle can be found on their **website**.
13. Upon leaving the Gardens turn left then right where signposted Coastal path. When you reach the Rodwell Trail turn right and continue for about 2 kms until you reach the end identified by two stone pillars. Turn right and continue on to the dual path, pass under the subway and as you come out turn right on the path which brings you up to Westham Bridge over Radipole Lake.
14. Cross over the bridge and take the path to your left. Continue under the road bridge until you reach the car park, follow the path to the right circling the car park past the public toilets until you reach the second set of traffic lights. Cross over the traffic lights and turn left, continue along pavement until you reach the end of the Retail Park. You will now be at the entrance to the Radipole Park and Gardens. Take a gentle stroll through these tree lined gardens which are always filled with a variety of shrubs, herbaceous perennials and bulbs.
15. As work is being done to improve the rest of the gardens and park you will need to cross the road as you reach the tennis courts, then turn left and continue along the dual pathway that runs along the RSPB Nature Reserve'. Just before you reach the bend in the road you will see a notice saying "Welcome to Radipole Park & Gardens" – cross over at this point and take the path which will bring you out onto Coronation Crescent. Continue right along Coronation Crescent/Road and take the second road on the right. Continue along Kings Road until you come to Spa Road, cross at the traffic island and turn right.
16. Cross the main road (using the traffic lights), turn right and take the left turning into Monmouth Avenue which will bring you back to the Rugby Club. Then retrace your steps to the Park & Ride.