

# Mendip Hills AONB



## TRAIL TYPE

Walking

## GRADE

Moderate

## DISTANCE

6 miles (10km)

## TIME

4 hours

## OS MAP

Explorer: 141

Landranger: 182

## CONTACT

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## FACILITIES

Pub and café in  
Compton Martin

# Compton Martin and Yeo Valley

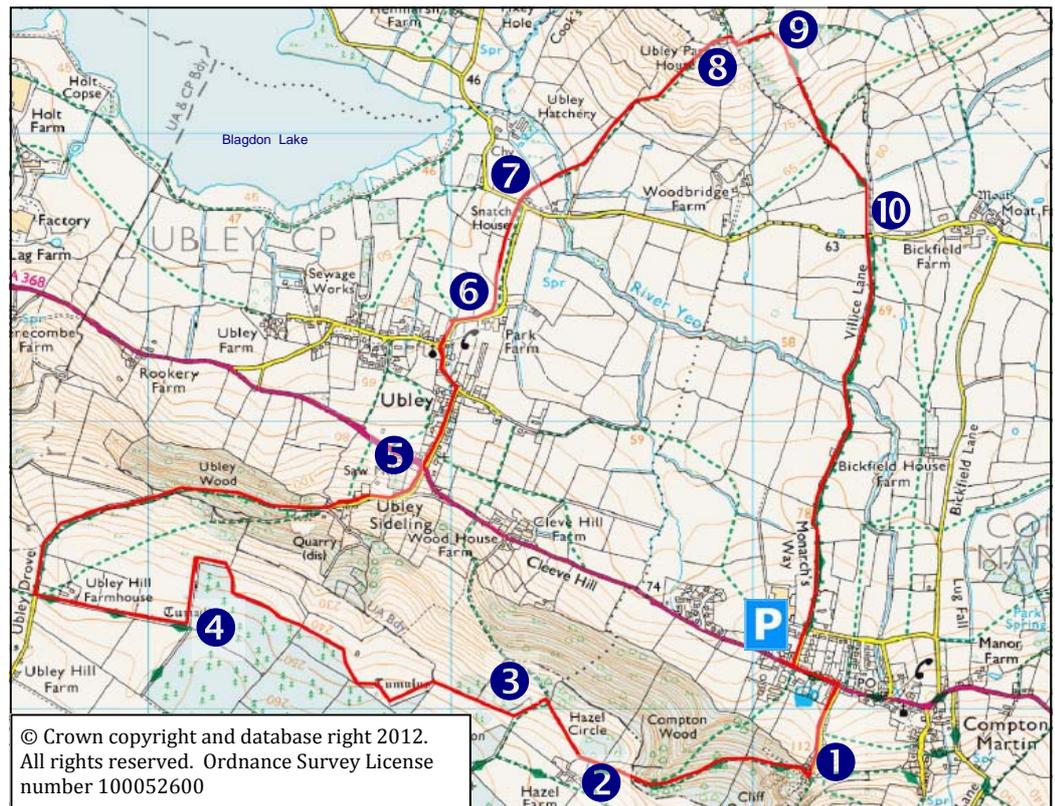
The River Yeo rises in the centre of Compton Martin and crosses a broad valley before reaching Blagdon Lake which was created in the 1890s by damming the river. A new permissive path created by Will Woodlands at Hazel Manor offers fine views of both valley and lake.

St Michael's Church in Compton Martin was described by Nikolaus Pevsner in 1958 as 'Perhaps the best Norman Church in Somerset'.



## TERRAIN

A moderate 6 mile (10km) walk along paths, tracks and minor roads. Several stiles and gates and some moderate climbs and uneven ground.



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## START/END

Car park at Big Rich's café in Compton Martin ST 540571

(Walkers are welcome to use the car park if using the café after their walk)

## HOW TO GET THERE

### BY BIKE

Compton Martin is ½ mile off the Sustrans National Cycle Route 3  
[www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)

### BY BUS

Service 672 Bristol to Compton Martin.

### BY CAR

Compton Martin is on the A368 between Blagdon and Bishop Sutton.

## DIRECTIONS

From the car park turn left onto the A368 and, after the Ring o' Bells pub turn right onto 'The Coombe' lane and walk up hill past the houses. At the top of the road look out for the Limestone Link waymarker and turn right onto a very narrow path opening next to a 5 barred gate and a driveway and garage **(1)**.

Follow the path uphill through woodland, crossing a stile part way through the woods. Go through a tall deer gate and continue to ascend through a field towards the corner of a stone wall around Hazel Farm **(2)** (if you reach a large barn you have gone too far). Follow the wall for a short while until you reach a field gate then bear right away from the wall, with a fence on your left, following the arrow out onto the grassy escarpment. Cross a stile with a dog gate alongside and continue, turn left following the wide grassy path, on the right the land has been planted in parkland style.

**(3)** Take the permissive path on the right through a kissing gate marked with a red disc and follow the new fenced path. Go through a kissing gate to a handy log where you can sit and admire the view then across a field to another kissing gate and continue along the fenced path.

At the end of the fenced path go through a metal deer gate and straight ahead joining a path marked with a yellow disc (don't go downhill here). Walk under a line of beech trees and over a stile with a dog gate and round a sharp left hand bend then go straight ahead until you join another track **(4)**. Turn right along this tree lined track following a dry stone wall and continue past Ubley Hill Farmhouse. At a junction of tracks turn right onto Ubley Drove marked by a purple arrow. The walk descends through woods into a valley; take care as the path can be slippery with loose stones. Where the track joins a road carry on ahead and downhill.

**(5)** Carefully cross the A368 walk down into the village of Ubley, following the road as it bends to the left. At the church and war memorial turn right along a road signposted to Nempnett and Chew Stoke. Follow the road past Park Farm on the right and follow the road round a left hand bend. Look out for a waymarker on the right pointing left and take this footpath on the left going up stone steps to a wooden stile set high in the hedge **(6)**. Cross the stile and turn right following the hedge on your right, go through a metal kissing gate and continue to go through a wooden kissing gate in the corner of the field then drop down to a lane opposite Snatch House. Take the footpath ahead to the left of the house, the entrance is narrow but clearly marked **(7)**. Follow the waymarked path through two fields with the hedge on your right.

Cross a stream via 2 metal gates then ahead and uphill through 2 more metal gates. Walk uphill through a narrow strip of land between a fence and a hedge to a wooden stile and footbridge between 2 ash trees. Bear left and uphill towards a field gate in the hedge at the top of the field. Go through the gate and then right uphill aiming at the corner of the garden wall of Ubley Park House **(8)**. Follow the rear wall of the garden and go across the drive and then right down to a metal gate.

Turn left along the top of the field and then pick up the path that leads downhill across the field **(9)** (this is the Monarchs Way) aiming for a metal kissing gate to the left of a tall oak tree in the middle of a hedge. Go through the gate and aim for a metal kissing gate in the far right hand corner and go straight ahead (not through the kissing gate on the right) across the field to a stile in the corner facing you then continue ahead with the hedge on your left.

Go through a metal kissing gate onto a lane, cross over and take the waymarked byway called Villice Lane **(10)**. Carry on along this wooded byway which crosses the river Yeo. The byway ends at Undertown Lane, go straight ahead up Yew Tree Lane then turn right onto the A368 and back to the start.