

16 Five Acre Grove

Distance approx. 5 miles, time approx. 2 1/2 hours.

Terrain includes roads, pasture with livestock, stiles, and gentle slopes.

Items of interest are the streams, woodland nature reserve, railway history and old buildings.

From **King's Stanley car park** turn left into Church Street and St. George's Avenue. Bear right past St. George's Church, Old Brook House and **Stanley Mill**.

By the **electricity substation** turn left onto a footpath west over water meadows alongside a stream. Go through a gate into another field and on until you meet the road for Stanley Downton.

Cross over to another footpath across two fields with views right towards St. Cyr's Church and Stonehouse Court. Ahead is an impressive **viaduct**. Leave the field by the gate into a lane. It may be of interest to divert right at the lane to walk up to **Oceans Bridge** to see the pool where barges turned round on the canal. Otherwise turn left following the lane under the viaduct and past **Beard's Mill**. Pause at the stream near the viaduct. Herons, dippers and kingfishers can be seen here.

Follow the lane past the **sewage works** to a point where the lane turns left under the railway line. Ignore the turn and go straight ahead into a field. The footpath follows the edge of the field, next to the railway line.

At the edge of the wood, bear right to find a stile into **Five Acre Grove**. This wood is spectacular when bluebells are in flower. It is worth sitting awhile to hear the birdsong.

Follow the path through the wood to some steps down the embankment. Cross the railway line with care and up the other side.

Step over the stile into a field. Cross the middle of the field to join a footpath bearing left. At the corner of the field turn right and follow a path across two fields towards houses at **Severn Waters**.

Turn right onto the road for a few yards and then at the T-junction turn left for **Leonard Stanley**. Walk through Severn Waters, past the old tannery and former post office. Take the next turn right for **Church Road** and **the Priory**. This old part of the village is delightful and worth a pause.

Pass Gipsy Lane and continue along Church Road until you turn right into **Marsh Lane**, then left into **Dozule Close**. Look for a kissing gate on the right. On the footpath bear left, which will take you past Leonard Stanley school to another kissing gate at **Bath road**.

Cross the road and follow **Bubble Lane** back to the car park opposite "**the King's Head**".

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Key
||||| embankment
- - - footpath

