

Walks from the


RIVIERA

LINE



EXETER *to* PAIGNTON

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INTRODUCTION

The Riviera Line offers great scenic train journeys along the South Devon coast between Exeter and Paignton.

The train is an ideal way to enjoy a walk in South Devon, and in this booklet we have put together a selection of what is on offer.

You can find more walks and practical information about travelling by train at **www.therivieraline.com**

There's something for everyone along the South West Coast Path National Trail. Take in a picturesque harbour, stride out along the exhilarating coast or relax beside a stunning river estuary. For details of over 400 walks around the Coast Path, both linear and circular visit **www.southwestcoastpath.com**

WALKING

Please remember all public rights of way cross private land, so keep to paths and keep dogs on leads. Occasionally short term work may mean diversions are put in place, follow local signs if necessary.

The maps in this book are intended as a guide only; it is always advisable to carry an OS map with you whilst out walking.

Thanks to the South West Coast Path for images and walk descriptions in this booklet. More detailed descriptions of the features to be found on the walks can be found on **www.therivieraline.com/more/walks** or scan the QR code for each walk.

Walks from



Starcross Station

The Cockwood Circular

Pages 4 & 5

Distance 3.3 miles

Dawlish Warren Station

**Dawlish Warren National
Nature Reserve**

Pages 6 & 7

Distance 3.2 miles

Dawlish Station

Dawlish Town Trail

Pages 8 & 9

Distance 2 miles

Teignmouth Station

Shaldon

Pages 10 & 11

Distance 3.2 miles

Torquay Station

Agatha Christie Mile

Pages 12 & 13

Distance 3.4 miles

Paignton Station

**Paignton Harbour and
Roundham Head**

Pages 14 & 15

Distance 2.7 miles

Walk from

STARCROSS STATION



THE COCKWOOD CIRCULAR

Distance 3.3 miles

Walk to Cockwood and then enjoy a circular walk from its harbour. This was created when Brunel built the South Devon line in the 1840s. Continue past marshland full of wildlife then climb up Cofton Hill for magnificent views of the Exe estuary.

From Starcross Station cross over to the right hand side pavement and follow the railway, river, coast path and road southwards. This road can be very busy so take care. Pass the golf course on your right. Turning the corner, carefully cross the road at the pedestrian lights. Take the left turn over the bridge to Cockwood. There is no pavement but the road is not as busy.

With the harbour on your left, follow the road. Before reaching the Anchor Inn take the right hand fork away from the harbour. Pass Cofton Parish Hall and at the Ship Inn turn sharp left and walk up Cofton Hill.

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The road loops round in a semi-circle, passing the primary school built in 1872. Continue up the hill. Leaving the residential area behind, you pass woodland on your left. The road levels, then starts to descend.


Look out for a signposted narrow footpath on your right. Cross a stile into a field. Continue downhill through a fir plantation. Eventually, you come out on the road alongside St Mary's Church.

Turn right at the church and follow the road back to Cockwood and then retrace your steps back to Starcross station.

**Take the time to explore
Cockwood and its harbour.
Refreshments are available at
either of the two inns.**

Walk from

DAWLISH WARREN STATION



DAWLISH WARREN NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE

Distance 3.2 miles

Enjoy an easy walk on paths around the Dawlish Warren National Nature Reserve, an internationally important wildlife site.

From the bird hide overlooking the mudflats it is possible to see 30 species of birds in view. Please exercise care around the Warren and check the excellent visitor centre for information, if open.

From Dawlish Warren Station, if approaching from Dawlish direction, head under the railway arch and then left to the car park. If approaching from Exeter direction, walk out from the station platform into the car park.

Going through the car park, pick up the footpath at the far end and follow it past the Visitor Centre and on

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through the reserve as it curves around to the right to meet the beach.

On the beach turn right and walk down to the sea wall. Dogs are allowed on Dawlish Warren Beach (between groyne 3 and 9) throughout the year.

From the sea wall, turn inland at the cluster of buildings which include a pub, and walk past the car park to return to the station.





Walk from

DAWLISH STATION

DAWLISH TOWN TRAIL

Distance 2 miles

The walk starts and ends at Dawlish Station and takes in both the development of Dawlish since the 1800s as well as the attractive Old Town.

The route is generally flat and undemanding along pavements or tarmac footpaths. Where there are no pavements, any roads walked on are quiet and usually traffic free.

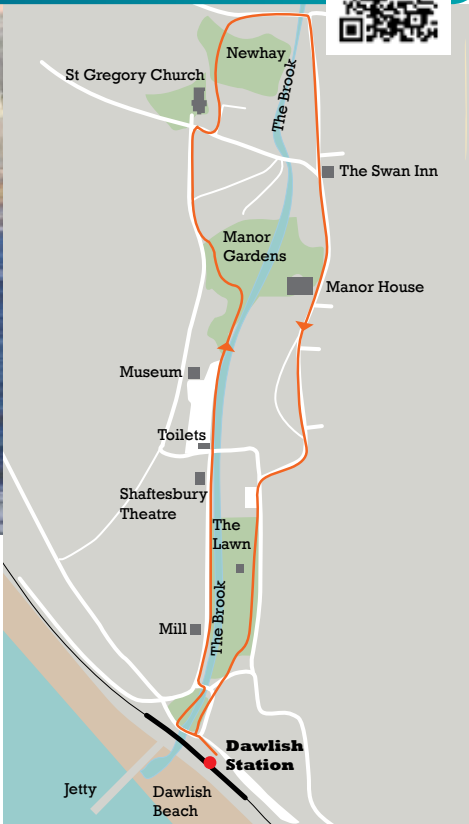
Coming out of the station turn left into Richmond Place. Continue past the railway viaduct. Cross the main road at the pedestrian crossing into Tuck's Plot. Stay on the right hand side of The Brook, the stream that flows through Dawlish, before crossing carefully over the main road again.

Continue into The Lawn. Follow The Brook as far as the path will allow you before turning left over a bridge and onto Brunswick Place.

Stay on the right hand side of the road. Cross Barton Hill and continue alongside The Brook past the bottom of the car park into Manor Gardens.

Keep on the path beside the Brook until it turns away to the left. The path leads up a slope for about 15 metres before turning right over a brick bridge along Overbrook. Pass by the Girl Guide HQ and come out onto Barton Crescent. Cross the road turning left on Church

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Street towards
St Gregory's
Church.

Turn right
into Newhay
Close before
you reach
the church.

Continue along the path through the popular open space of Newhay crossing Brown's Brook until you reach the road after the allotments at Aller Hill.

Turn right here, signposted Dawlish. There is no pavement here for about 100 metres but the road is quiet.

Cross the bridge over The Brook again before turning into Weech Road signposted to Dawlish town centre. Cross the road at any point before reaching Weech Close. Continue along Weech Road which changes into Old Town Street. Walk along Old Town Street until you take the right hand fork into Regent Street. This leads into King Street.

Passing Dawlish Baptist Church, turn right into Queen Street. At the bottom of the road turn left into the Strand. Either continue along the Strand to the sea front and Dawlish station or turn into The Lawn and make your way along the paths back to the sea front.

Walk from

TEIGNMOUTH STATION

SHALDON

Distance 3.2 miles

A walk from Teignmouth Station along a traditional promenade before crossing the River Teign by ferry. Visit the Smuggler's Tunnel before wandering around the picture perfect riverside village of Shaldon.

Apart from a brief walk up Ness Drive this walk keeps to flat pavements and paths. Check the ferry is operating before starting off on this walk at www.teignmouthshaldonferry.co.uk for further information.

Leave Teignmouth Station, cross the car park and roundabout and head down Hollands Road for the seafront and the Esplanade. Pass the pier on your left with the Den on your right.

At the end of the promenade cross the car park and pass beyond the Lifeboat Station down Lifeboat Lane to the Ferry. Cross to Shaldon on the ferry.

Reaching Shaldon near the Ferry Inn, turn left down Marine Parade.



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Follow the road past the Ness Hotel and branch left away from the car park. Take the path past a gift shop and the toilets to the Smuggler's Tunnel. Make your way down the tunnel coming out on Ness Cove. Retrace your steps back up the tunnel.

Climb up Ness Drive to the main Torquay to Teignmouth road. Turn right and taking great care (for this is a very busy road in summer) walk 100m before turning down through the traffic barriers into Horse Lane.

Follow Horse Lane down to its junction with Broadlands where a flight of steps on your left leads into the Botanical Gardens. Retrace your way down the steps and continue on Horse Lane emerging on Marine Parade near the ferry.

Here you have the option of spending some time exploring Shaldon village or returning on the ferry and retracing your steps along the promenade back to Teignmouth Station.

Walk from

TORQUAY STATION

AGATHA CHRISTIE MILE

Distance 3.4 miles

Immerse yourself in the world of the best-selling author, Agatha Christie. Starting at Torquay Station, travel along Torquay's seafront passing some of the places associated with her life and works. Each location is marked with a unique plaque.

Leaving the station, turn right towards the sea. Cross Rathbone Road and follow the pavement around the landward side of the seafront road heading towards Torquay.

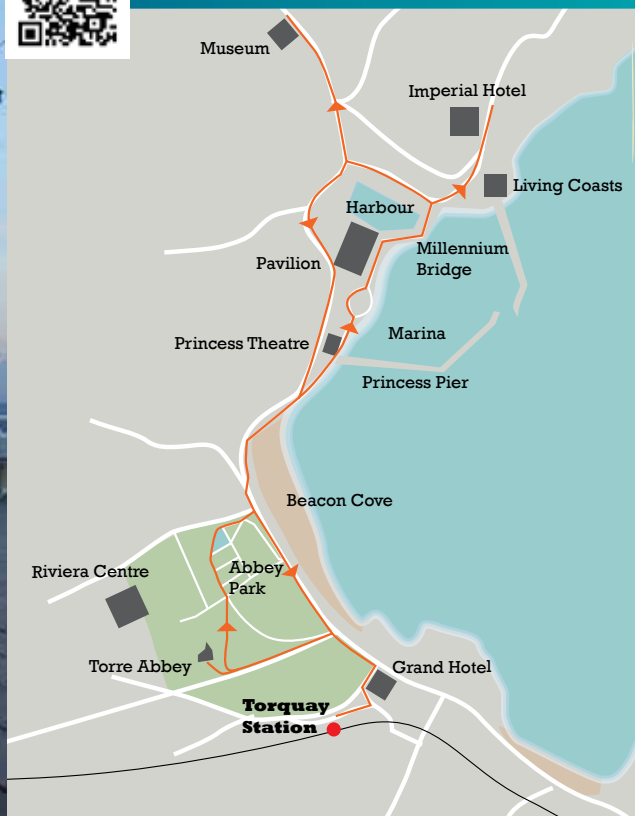
Almost immediately turn left along King's Drive. Continue along the road to Torre Abbey.

Retrace your steps and turn left into Abbey Park. Follow the path through the park down to the seafront. Cross the road at the traffic lights on the seaward side.

Follow the wide promenade around the bay. Pass



Download the walk to your phone



through the Princess Gardens with its Theatre and Pier. Keeping close to the marina, make your way towards the harbour. Turn right at the inner harbour and cross the Millennium footbridge.

Turn right at the end of the quay and go up Beacon Hill, keeping the Living Coasts Attraction and Beacon Cove on your right. On your left is the Royal Torbay Yacht Club.

At the top of Beacon Hill is the Imperial Hotel. Retrace your steps down Beacon Hill and follow the road around the east side of the harbour. At the roundabout turn right and walk up Torwood Street to Torquay Museum which is home to the unique Agatha Christie Gallery.

After your visit retrace your steps downhill to the roundabout and follow the harbour round past the Pavilion Theatre to the marina. From here, retrace your steps along the seafront to Torquay Station.

Walk from

PAIGNTON STATION

An aerial photograph showing a wide, sandy beach curving along a bay. The water is a deep blue, with white foam from waves washing onto the shore. In the background, there are residential buildings and greenery. In the foreground, there are pink flowers.

HARBOUR AND ROUNDHAM HEAD

Distance 2.7 miles

This very accessible walk around the centrepiece of the bay provides the walker with the colourful and varied activity of Paignton's picturesque harbour and a headland walk. Visit the pier, enjoy the promenade, and walk through the public gardens built by Welsh miners.

Leave Paignton Station and turn right on Victoria Street. Turn into Torbay Road by crossing the level crossing. Walk past the shops and take the third road on the right down Queens Road. Turn into Torbay Park and walk towards the seafront.

At the Esplanade cross the road onto the seafront. Turn left and walk, enjoying the seafront and Paignton Sands whilst passing the pier on your right and Paignton Green on your left.

At some suitable point retrace your steps and walk towards the harbour. Having explored the harbour come out onto Cliff Road.



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To access Roundham Head from the harbour there is a choice of routes. The paved route, suitable for wheelchairs is via Cliff Road, whilst another more difficult but interesting approach is along the South Quay and across Fairy Cove, climbing up the steps to join Cliff Road.

As the route rounds the head itself, Goodrington Beach comes into sight and soon another choice of pathways. In order to avoid steps, keep to the top path and this will eventually bring you to Roundham Road. For those who wish to descend to the promenade below, a well-constructed network of paths and steps lead the walker down over the red sandstone which gives this headland its attractive colouring.

Returning to the top of the cliff by any one of a number of routes, you join with Roundham Road and make your descent back down to the harbour. From the harbour, retrace your steps back to the station.

RAIL INFORMATION

For information about train times and fares, contact National Rail Enquiries on 08457 48 49 50 or visit www.therivieraline.com

Off Peak Day Return – these great value tickets are available Monday to Friday after the morning peak and at any time weekends and Bank Holidays. Off Peak fares are available all year round.

GroupSave

Groups of 3 to 9 people get a third off with a GroupSave ticket on Off Peak Day Returns on First Great Western trains. Groups must have at least one adult.

Unlimited travel tickets

Devon Day and Evening Rangers. For just £10, a Devon Day Ranger gives you unlimited travel within Devon (including on the Riviera Line) for the day.

Valid after 09:00 Mon-Fri, and any time at weekends.

If you are travelling after 18:00, a Devon Evening Ranger costs just £5.

Bus Links – for details of public transport links contact Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or visit www.travelinesw.com

Dogs and Cycles – Dogs and cycles can be taken free of charge (max 2 dogs, 2 cycles).

For more ideas for days out by train visit www.therivieraline.com



Timetable information can be found on a smart phone by scanning this code.

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INTERREG IV B

