# Exmoor Walk

EXMOOR Character Cottages

## Snowdrop Valley

February-only short walk

All photographs by Julia Amies-Green

February on Exmoor sees a spectacle of snowdrops, and no more so than Cutcombe near Wheddon Cross where thousands of the plucky flowers push their way through the frozen woodland floor to strut their stuff. The blanket of snowdrops was once a secret shared only amongst locals, but today hundreds of visitors are wowed by the snowdrops.

There's no parking at the site, so you'll need to leave your car at Wheddon Cross and hitch the Park and Ride to the Valley and then follow the walking route.

This is not a long walk, and the land you'll be walking on is privately owned so this really is your annual chance to experience Snowdrop Valley in all its glory. It is also a valley so do note it is quite steep and often very muddy.

### A Snowdrop Wood

*In the dappled light of a leafy wood*
*Pink hues of early morn*
*Under shaded trees of old and oak*
*Carpets of white are born*

*A woodland path meanders by*
*In a sea of pearly white*
*And into the depth it leads the eye*
*Though enchanting golden light*

*Tiny elf caps raise their hoods aloft*
*Red splashes greet the eye*
*The sound of water fills the air*
*Where the river tumbles by*

*A snowdrop in the morning sun*
*Aglow a golden hue*
*Soft petals of white raise up their heads*
*Through glistening beads of dew.*

**Julia Amies-Green**

## **The Walk** .5 mile 30 mins

**Directions:** Follow the A39 to Wheddon Cross. Park in the large car park at the 'Rest and Be Thankful' Inn. (Or behind the cattle market which is clearly signed). A park and ride bus service runs during February each year from 10.30am with the last bus back at 4.30pm (check online as start and finish dates change annually).

**Sat Nav: TA24 7DR**

You follow a roped-off walk on a riverside path. You will cross the river and come back on the other side. Look for the latest information here: wheddoncross.org.uk/snowdropvalley.htm

Buy 'The Little Book of Walks' online at:
Not Two Deer in Dunster village: https://rebrand.ly/LBOW

EXMOOR Character Cottages

Lucy Green, owner of Exmoor Character Cottages, researched this and 11 other walks, and her friend and talented photographer Julia Amies-Green supplied all the images. The routes are designed to suit all abilities, from short and easy to longer and more challenging. Most are dog friendly, but please always be ready to leash your dogs and close gates – and follow additional requests from farmers where you see them. Our maps are for guidance, and for more detailed maps we recommend the 1;12,500 versions sold in the Exmoor National Park Centres. Collectively the walks are published in 'The Little Book of Walks' which was created in response to requests from guests at our four luxury holiday cottages in Dunster and Minehead. You can find out more about the Book and holiday cottages here:
**www.exmoorcharactercottages.co.uk**