Exmoor Walk

EXMOOR Character Cottages

Bossington
Circular 2 mile walk

All photographs by Julia Amies-Green

Coastal panoramas at Bossington
Where Exmoor drops into the sea

Bossington has to be one of the most beautiful places on Exmoor. At once rugged and romantic, with windswept open moorland, and far reaching views to Devon and beyond, this is countryside where the national park appears to drop into the sea. The pebble beach seems to go on for miles and boasts almost intact WW2 Pillboxes.

Despite its beauty, Bossington is not on the main tourist route so is often deserted, particularly out of season. For this two mile walk, you'll need about an hour. However tempting it is, the sea here has dangerous currents, so we advise that you and your four legged friends keep your feet dry here.

The Walk 2 miles 45 mins

Directions: Leave the A39 towards Allerford and continue until you see the Exmoor Owl and Hawk Centre. Continue on this road and when it forks, stay right. Continue until you see the NT pay and display car park on your right.

Sat Nav: TA24 8HQ

Turn right out of the car park. Continue along the road until you get on the track then look out for the sign with a yellow acorn on it pointing down the pathway on your left.

Follow this pathway and keep following the signs with the yellow acorn until you reach a Kissing Gate. Go through this gate and turn right towards the beach. When you get to the bottom of the pebble bank, you have the choice of following the pathway on your right or walking up the pebble bank and turning right along the beach.

On the beach you'll see Hurlstone Point on the cliff in front of you looking over the Bristol Channel. This is the site of the old coastguard station built in 1902.

Walk along the beach until you see the track on your right, where you'll also see a sign highlighting the dangers of bathing in the sea. Walk along this track until you get back to the road and follow it until you see the car park on your left.

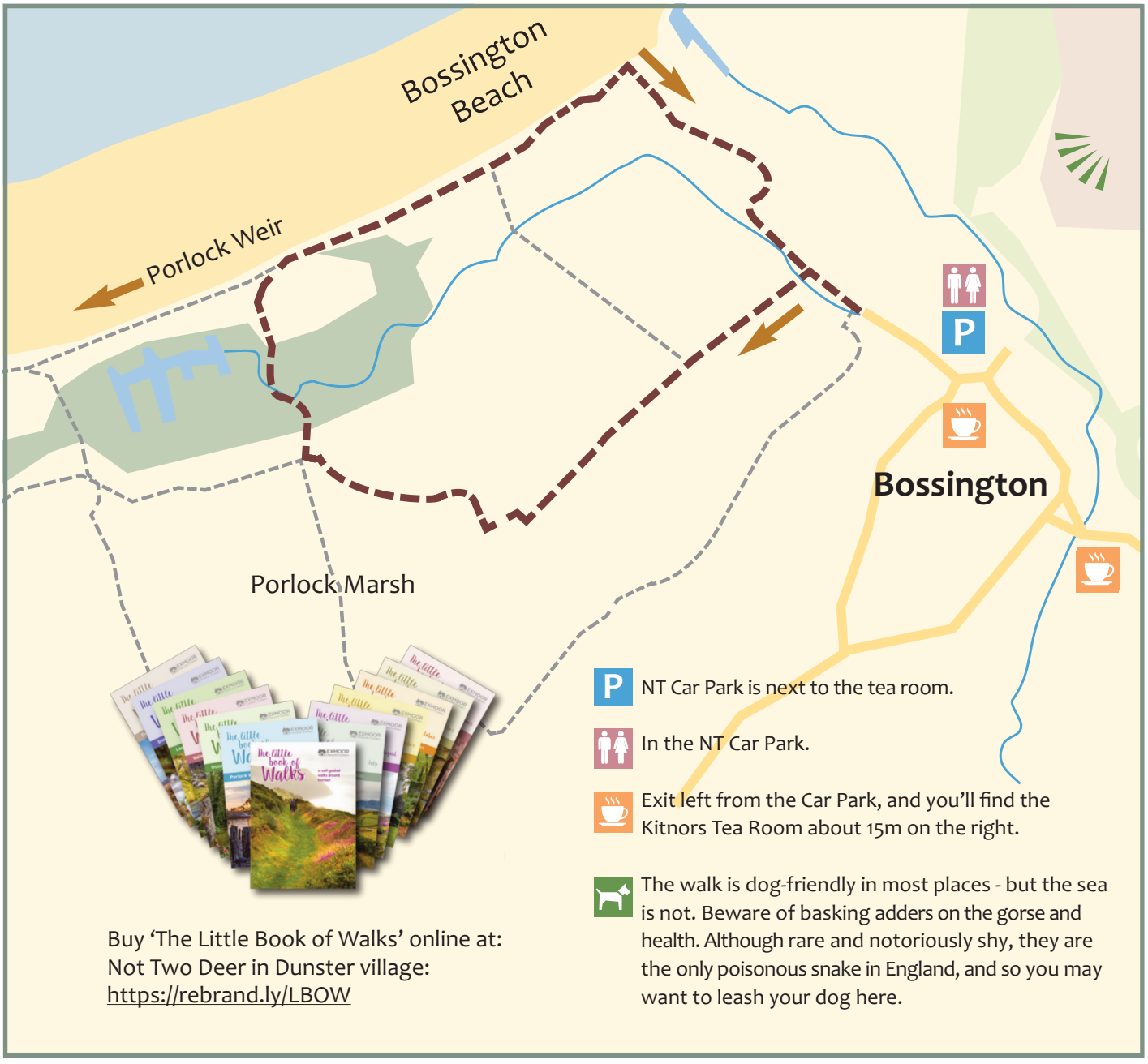
Cob cottages in Bossington village

National Trust-owned Bossington village has thatched cottages painted in matching lime-washed cream. Most of these cottages are 14th and 15th Century (Kitnors Tea Room and Tudor Cottage), and some have the distinctive tall chimneys you'll be becoming familiar with as you travel around Exmoor. The village has a pretty Green.

En-route in the car you'll pass Allerford village with its much-photographed packhorse bridge. There's a reason for that – it's perfect for a Facebook or Instagram moment.

The high brown fritillary butterfly

The maritime heath on Bossington Head and in Hurlstone Combe is the habitat for this extremely rare insect. The caterpillar feeds on violets before transforming into a nectar-collecting butterfly, landing on wild flowers such as foxgloves. This area is carefully managed by the National Trust to ensure the survival of this, and other beautiful butterflies.



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