

Staple Fitzpaine Herepath Trail – Walkers Route Instructions

The trail can be followed in either direction starting from any access point on the trail but by starting at **Castle Neroche Car Park** and following these instructions, lunch can be had at a pub just over half way, allowing a shorter journey back to the start.

The trail follows bridleways and is signed with wooden 'Herepath' posts and Neroche way markers. **It is recommended that you use the map and route instructions in conjunction with an OS Explorer 128 map.**

1. From car park follow path through gap in hedge and across bank into Castle site. Follow track below grass area R down hill. Continue to junction with forest track.
2. Turn L along forest track to road. Cross road and follow wide forest track opposite, eventually bearing right downhill.
3. At end of wide forest track continue along smaller path ahead. Pass through gate and turn L across grass fields passing through two gates. Cross small stream and continue along obvious path across Britty Common. Bear L opposite wooden gates up steep stone track.
4. At track junction at top of hill take R track and follow path along Staple Hill until eventually reaching gate. Pass through gate and continue along stone path to junction with forest track.
5. Turn R down hill along forest track and through gate onto tarmac road. Continue downhill on road then take forest track on L into Staple Park Wood (just after cottage).
6. Continue along forest track bearing R downhill to gate at Staple Lawns Farm.
7. Turn R through gate then follow track around to L left before turning R into field.
8. Keep hedge on R and continue along edge of field. Pass through gateway into next field and turn immediately L uphill keeping hedge on left. Bear right at top of field and then left through gates into woodland.
9. Pass through bridle gate and continue downhill. At junction with forest track continue downhill on wide forest track. On corner (bottom of hill) take path straight ahead, crossing bridge and passing through two metal bridle gates.
10. After second bridle gate follow wide track on R towards Netherclay. Continue to tarmac road passing riding stables on L.
11. At road junction cross road into field directly opposite. Continue along headland with hedge on R until road. Turn L along road towards Thurlbear.
12. Turn R at Church Farm (before reaching church) cross ford and continue along track uphill into woods. Turn R at 'T' junction with other path and continue uphill through the woods to road.
13. Turn L along road until junction then turn R (Pub on L). Continue along road until woodland on L. Enter woodland and follow stone path into fields. Keep hedge on L and continue along field edge until entering woodland on L.
14. Follow winding path through woodland to road. Turn L along road until taking path into woodland on R. Continue along forest path into field.
15. Once in field, turn immediately L then R through gap in hedge. Keep hedge on R and continue to road.
16. Cross road and pass through bridlegate into field opposite keeping hedge on L. Pass through gate then keep L (woodland on left) to next gate.
17. Turn R through gate into field. Continue along field edge with hedge on R and cross small bridge into next field. Continue along field edge with hedge and river on L. Follow path down slope into woodland and out onto road.
18. Turn L along road then R right on corner at top of hill (Curry Mallet Drove). Continue until road then turn L then R after 100m onto Middleroom Lane.
19. Continue along the lane bearing L then R, then follow stone track along edge of woodland uphill towards Castle Neroche.
20. At top of hill cross forest track into woodland opposite and follow path uphill, bearing R onto stone path until track junction and finger post.
21. At junction and finger post turn L uphill to return to Castle Neroche car park.

- **THE TRAIL WILL TAKE UP TO A FULL DAY TO WALK OR HALF DAY TO RIDE SO TAKE SUFFICIENT FOOD AND WATER.**
- **MOST OF THE TRAIL IS ON GOOD FIRM SURFACES BUT SOME SHORT SECTIONS MAY BE MUDDY EVEN IN SUMMER SO TAKE APPROPRIATE CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR.**
- **PLEASE LEAVE GATES AS YOU FIND THEM AND KEEP DOGS UNDER CLOSE CONTROL AT ALL TIMES.**
- **TO REPORTS FAULTS OR IF YOU ENCOUNTER ANY PROBLEMS – CONTACT 01823 680846 OR EMAIL INFO@NEROCHESHEME.ORG**

PLEASE EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION WHEN CROSSING AND WALKING ALONG ROADS