

Car Free Ideas for Dunster



A great car-free day out around Dunster, taking in the town and the surrounding countryside on foot with options to take the bus to local villages and attractions nearby.

Highlights

- Dunster Castle
- The Yarn Market
- Gallox Bridge
- Dolls Museum
- Working Water Mill
- Dunster church and Dovecot
- Scenic walks overlooking Dunster
- West Somerset Railway train rides
- Train ride to Washford and walk back
- Bus ride to Timberscombe and walk back
- Bus ride to Wheddon Cross or Dulverton and bus back

Explore Dunster

Enjoy the morning discovering the medieval village of Dunster with its wonderful collection of old buildings. Go to the Yarn Market in the High Street and find the cannon ball hole in the roof beam. See the Dunster Dolls Museum on the right towards the castle. Visit the Castle (01643 821314) and its sub-tropical gardens. Then go across to the Priory Church and the Dovecot, next to the Tithe Barn, now restored to serve as an impressive meeting hall.

With the Dovecot behind you, go to your right along Priory Green to the end by the school. Turn left along St George's Street to the end and turn right along the main road, West Street. Soon turn left down Mill Lane, soon following the mill leat to the end of the lane to the working Water Mill (01643 821 759).

Return along Mill Lane, shortly turning left along Mill Gardens, a footpath between bungalows, to the end and bear left along the road to reach Gallox Bridge, an ancient pack horse bridge. Either return the way you came, or cross the bridge and take the permissive footpath to the left beside the river, taking the next bridge over the river to then pass through the deer park and the grounds of the castle back to Dunster car park and village.

If you fancy a 3.5 mile, 2.5 hour walk then you can continue ahead to walk up Gallox Hill to Bats castle. A walk leaflet can be obtained from the National Park Centre.

Explore further afield by public transport from Dunster

Using the 400 Exmoor Explorer bus service from Dunster Steep Car Park (Weekends Mid May - September and Tuesday & Thursday August only).

- Enjoy a circular open top vintage bus ride taking in Porlock, Exford and Wheddon Cross.

Using the 399 bus service from Dunster High Street (2 days a week August - September):

- Go to **Timberscombe** for a 6.5 mile, 3 ¾ hour walk back to Dunster. Walk description available from www.exploremoor.co.uk or from the National Park Centre.
- Go to **Wheddon Cross / Cutcombe**, the highest village on Exmoor for a lunch out, return by bus.
- Go to **Dulverton** to visit the charming village on the river Barle and plenty of delightful shops. Return by bus.

Using the West Somerset Railway (01643 704996)

From the National Park Centre in Dunster, walk away from the village and use the subway under the main road. Bear left as you exit the subway and shortly bear right along the road through Marsh Street. Soon bear right again towards Dunster Station (approx. 1 mile, 20minute walk from Dunster).

- **Take the train to Washford** and take a 7.5 mile, 4.5 hour walk back to Dunster. Walk description available from www.exploremoor.co.uk or from the National Park Centre. Or visit Cleeve Abbey, a half mile, 15 minutes walk from the station at Washford, to the 13th century monastic site. Then walk on to Torre Cider (free) another 15 minutes walk further along Abbey Road. Enjoy the animals and cream tea before returning to the station to take the train back to Dunster (check return train times before leaving the station).
- Take the train to **Minehead** (harbour, sea front, amusements, Butlins, golf course, shopping) and return by train or walk back to Dunster along the Somerset Coast Path (3 mile, 1¾ hour).

Visitor Information

Dunster National Park Centre, Dunster Steep, Dunster, 01643 82183

Public Transport Information

For further information, ideas and inspiration for exploring Exmoor without the car visit www.exploremoor.co.uk. For up-to-the-minute public transport information and to confirm timetables call Traveline on 0871 200 22 33.

Disclaimer

Whilst all information is correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of going to press we cannot be held responsible for any errors or changes over the lifetime of this leaflet. We strongly recommend that you check the current bus timetables and opening times of attractions before travelling.

