



# 02 DORSET DURDLÉ DOOR

▶ Distance: 14.6km/9 miles ▶ Time: 4½ hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



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FEATURE  
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On the South West Coast Path  
looking back to Lulworth Cove.



PHOTO: TOM BAILEY



CHOSEN BY...

**JENNY WALTERS**

This walk takes in two of the most famous and beautiful sites in Dorset – Durdle Door and Lulworth Cove. It also explores the quieter side of the Jurassic Coast as it ventures west from Durdle to the lush White Nothe Undercliff, and inland through tranquil fields.

## 1 Start

From car park, take South West Coast Path (SWCP) west signed 'Durdle Door 1 mile', through gate and ahead on main cobbled path. Follow it up across hillside and over crest, passing fork to L (closed due to landslip). Continue ahead down wide path with fence to L. Go

through gate near car park and turn L downhill on track towards Durdle Door. When coast path forks R at stone sign, go L out onto headland where steps lead down to explore the beaches below.

## 2 1.8km/1 mile

Return to stone waymarker and turn L to continue west on SWCP. Follow it up and down the rollercoaster clifftop, past two footpath turns on R, and bear R with SWCP to climb up (past another path on R) to reach a beacon.

## 3 4.4km/2¾ miles

Continue along clifftop on SWCP with fence to R: this section is a little more level. Go straight on past footpath to R,

## PLAN YOUR WALK



## ROUTE

**Start/parking** Lulworth Cove car park (charge), grid ref SY821800

**Is it for me?** Plenty of up and down; steep in places  
**Stiles** 1

## PLANNING

**Nearest town** Weymouth

**Refreshments** Lulworth

**Public toilets**

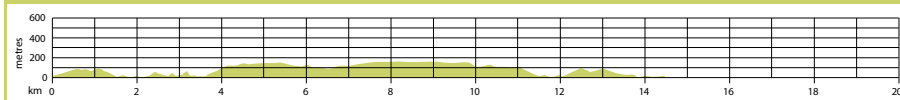
Lulworth Cove

**Public transport** Bus 104 from Wareham and Wool (station) to the cove (infrequent service; not Sun). X43 from Swanage and Weymouth in summer

**Maps** OS Explorer 15; Landranger 194

to reach Whitenoth Cottages. Turn L to reach lookout on cliff edge. There is an optional detour down steep path to L signed 'Smugglers Path to White Nothe Undercliff' – it's well worth the effort. Return the way you came to lookout. ➔

## GRADIENT PROFILE



02 DORSET  
DURDLÉ DOOR► OS Explorer map 15 ► Buy maps at: [ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapshop](http://ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapshop)**4** 5.4km/3¼ miles

From lookout, return to Whitenothe Cottages and turn L to continue west on SWCP along cliff top and through gate. Keep ahead across grass (ignore faint path R), then down steps and through gate. Turn R signed 'Ringstead 1¼'. Walk up to junction and go ahead signed 'Holworth'. Go past first gate on R, a postbox on L, to next gate on R.

**5** 7km/4¼ miles

Turn R, signed 'W Lulworth' and follow track past thatched barn on R and through gate. Continue past bridleyway turn to L and on through another gate. Keep with track as it bends R then L and continue with fence to L. Keep going past gate into access land to L, and continue ahead to go through gate by info board at Chaldon Down.

**6** 8.8km/5½ miles

Head straight on across field, ignoring turns to R and L, later joining fence to L and passing a trio of stone sculptures. Continue along field edge and through gate and on beside fence on L to reach a path junction.

**7** 10.1km/6¼ miles

Turn R signed 'The Warren and Coast Path'. Walk beside fence to R and when it ends, continue across field in same direction to reach fence. Turn L beside it to go over stile in corner and on to meet fence ahead. Turn L and follow faint path beside it (fence to R) around top of valley to gate in corner. Go through it, then soon L through another gate. Head diagonally down across hillside into valley and through gate to meet SWCP again.

**8** 11.8km/7¼ miles

Turn L signed 'Lulworth Cove 1½' to retrace your steps back along the SWCP to the start. To see the cove, go through car park and past visitor centre on R and turn R signed 'Stair Hole'. Walk along road and fork L on path signed 'Stair Hole'. Follow path past sea arch to viewpoint by World Heritage sign then take path down to L to reach cove. Turn L on road to car park. **CW**



**TRAILZILLA ID:**  
TZID26752

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