



# Dig deep into Shipham's mi

Cross North Somerset's border into Shipham to discover the pretty former mini

## Walk information

Distance:  
4.75 miles

Difficulty:  
easy with some stiles, ups and  
downs, and one steep-ish short  
hill

Duration:  
About 2-3 hours

Map:  
OS Explorer 141



## How to get there

Start at map ref: ST 444528

Car:  
Park in the village hall car park.  
If busy, park further into the  
village around the green.  
Please park sensibly

Miles More Mendip,  
by Sue Gearing and  
Les Davies, features 10  
circular walks ranging  
from 3 to 7.5 miles.



Life readers are being offered  
discounted copies. Send a  
cheque for £8.99 per book,  
plus a flat fee of £2.50 postage  
and packaging, to Sue Gearing,  
33 Garstons Close, Wrington  
BS40 5QT. Allow 10 days for  
delivery.

It is also available from  
Waterstones, other bookshops and  
some tourist information offices.

This circular walk features in the new  
book Miles More Mendip, by Sue  
Gearing and Les Davies.

From the car park, head towards the  
village hall entrance. Immediately turn  
right on a footpath which goes down  
under trees.

The path comes out onto the open  
playing field. Continue on, cross  
a stile, and descend through the  
bumpy land, the remains of former  
lead mining.

Go to the right of a closed reservoir  
and head down to the wall below.  
Turn left on the path alongside the  
wall. Cross right over a pipe stile  
and go through the field and onto the  
main road.

Cross to the Star Inn (#1 on map).  
Take the No Through Road to the  
right.

At the top, reach a bridleway track  
(#2) going left, with a Bristol Water  
installation on the corner. The pure

Mendip water is thanks to filtration  
through many layers of limestone.

Follow the track to Lyncombe Hill.  
Ignore side paths. Gently climb to a  
gate, bringing you out at the top of  
the hill (#3).

Continue across the open land to a  
gate into Sandford Woods.

Follow the track through the woods  
(#4) with a fence on the right around  
the former quarry.

Quarrying began in the mid-19th  
century and Sandford stone was  
reputed to have been used in the  
Avonmouth Docks construction and  
Temple Meads station expansion.

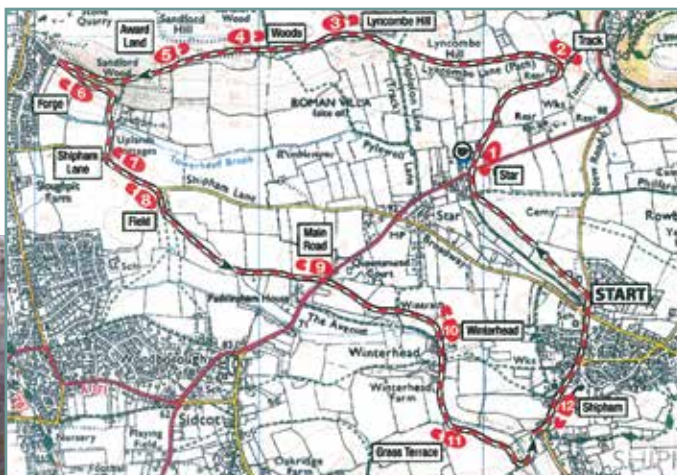
Start to drop down and pass a  
sign on a tree for Winscombe and  
Sandford Award land (#5).

This land was awarded to the parish  
in 1799 so they could dig out stone to  
rebuild local roads.



# ning history

ng village.



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Reach a large metal gate on the right and a sign for Mike's Path, and take this.

It is named in memory of local man and dedicated naturalist Mike Stone who did a lot of work in the area.

Take the left fork down some steps. At the foot, turn right for a quick detour to old lime kilns.

Turn back to the forge (#6). This was originally used to build steam crushers and later reopened in World War 2 for Italian prisoners of war and local men to make tools for the quarry.

Continue ahead to a choice of paths. Take the grassy one on the right, known as Uplands Path.

Pass a former toilet used by prisoners of war and turn right down some steps to join tarmac. Keep straight on then bend left by a large barn, and then right up the drive.

Turn left on Shipham Lane (#7) for a few minutes. Then, just before a track

on the right, turn right over a stone slab tile into a field.

Follow the left edge of the field (#8). Ahead is the edge of Winscombe.

At the corner, bear left along a narrow field. Cross onto a track and continue ahead to the A38.

Cross the main road (#9) to the drive opposite, and maintain direction.

Reach a junction in Winterhead (#10), formerly a lead mining settlement.

Continue on through the hamlet by a stream and join a rough track leading into a field.

Go towards the hill and bear up a grassy terrace (#11). Go into a field and follow the left edge.

At the end come onto a crossing track and turn immediately left, steeply downhill with steps to the stream and footbridge.

Climb up the other side, bend left and continue to rise. Cross a stile and carry on to the main road (#12).

Turn right after a few yards and cross the grass bank opposite.

Go left on the footpath, which becomes a raised tarmac path alongside the road.

Follow this down to join the pavement and continue into the centre. Find the Penscot Inn for refreshments, or Lenny's coffee shop by the Square.

Continue past the primary school on the left and old Turnpike Cottage on the corner of Broadway. Cross back by the 30mph sign to return to the village hall.

