

### Difficulty Ratings

Just about any walk from the Guildhall in Bradninch is going to involve some ascents and descents.

A 1/5 rating indicates this will be an easy, comfortable stroll.

A 3/5 walk will be a non-severe, moderate challenge.

A 5/5 walk will be longer and more arduous, with the possibility of steep climbs and drops, uneven surfaces and mud, overgrown lanes, and stiles.



This walk is one of a series produced in collaboration by Bradninch Together and the Bradninch Town Council.

Further details can be found on the 'Bradninch Walks' section of the Bradninch Together website, and on the Town Council's website under 'Walks and Public Footpaths'.

The routes and guides were walked and written up by Sue Jackson and David Kennedy.

We welcome any comments and suggestions: please send these to the Bradninch Together website via the 'Contact Us' link.

Always keep to and respect The Countryside Code:

[www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/countryside-code](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/countryside-code)

The map is from the open data website OpenStreetMaps, available under the Open Database Licence, "© OpenStreetMap contributors"

Design and additional text by Ms L.Honeybee, 2021.

A Three Beech Trees production



## Guildhall / Beacon Hill / Stokehouse / Bunneford Cross

Distance - 6.25 miles

Start/Finish Point - The Guildhall

Difficulty - 4/5

A walk on tarmac, but with only the sounds of birds and farm animals for most of the 6.25 miles (10k).

1. From the Guildhall cross over to the Spar and head straight up Beacon Hill, ascending fairly steeply and slowly to Beacon Cross.
2. Once you have taken in the views at Beacon Cross, carry on up the road, passing a green door in an old overgrown wall and start to descend to the forked junction. A broken sign points left towards 'erleigh'; take the right fork towards Stokehouse. Along this stretch of road you will see Rode Moors off to your right.
3. You will then arrive at the crossroads at Forward Green. Keep going straight ahead towards Stokehouse.



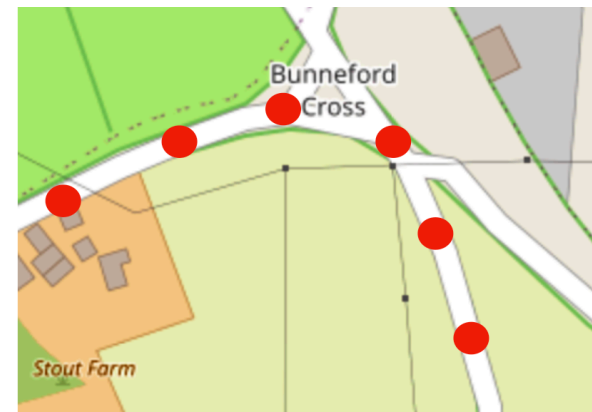
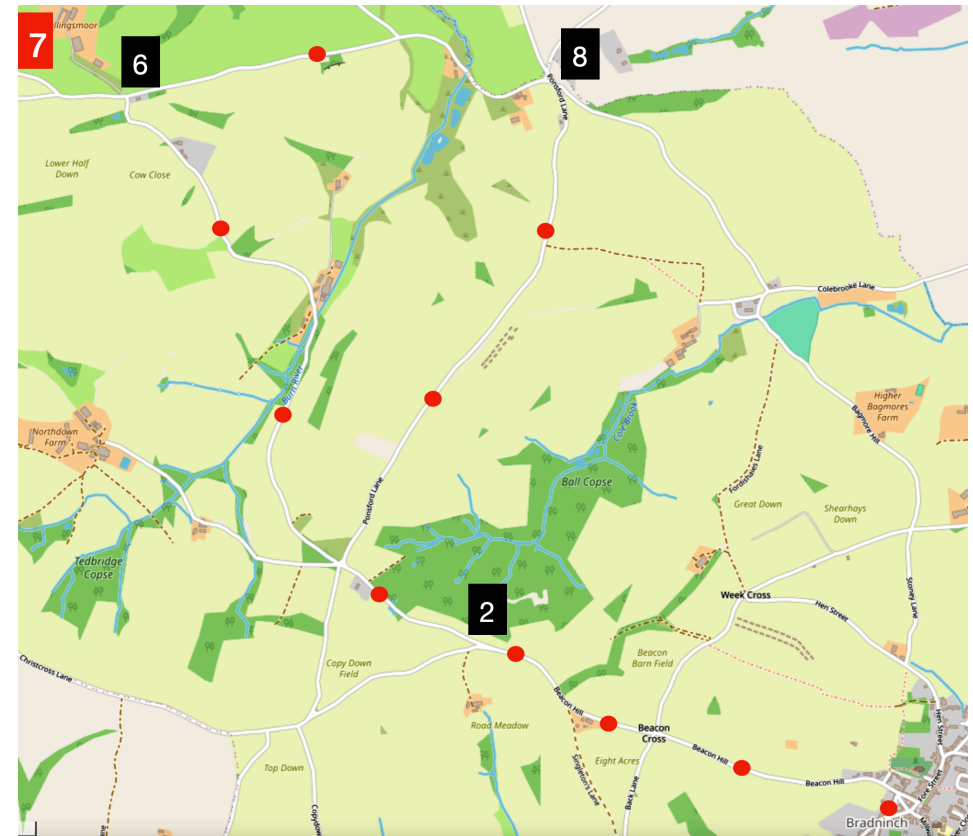
4. Follow the road that winds its way down to Stokehouse, crossing a stream that becomes the River Burn, running into the Exe south of Bickleigh..
5. After the farm buildings at Stokehouse the road heads up a short, steep hill. Carry along the road and, after another short drop and rise, you arrive at a T junction.
6. Here you turn right, to the east, and head gently downhill.
7. This mile-long stretch has views to the left towards Butterleigh. The road twists to the right, past Shevishaies Farm, and then to the left: you will pass Stout Farm and go up to Bunneford Cross.



8. At Bunneford Cross there are two roads off to the right. Take the first one, the right fork onto Ponsford Lane. There is a brick built house called Stout Cottage on the right about 100 yards along.
9. Follow this road for just over a mile, first rising gradually and then dropping down back to Forward Green.

10. Here you turn left and retrace your steps to Beacon Cross and down the hill back into town.

Bunneford is possibly from the Middle English 'bunne', meaning a boundary line: Bunneford Cross is right on the boundary of Bradninch and Cullompton



**Bunneford Cross:**  
This meeting of five roads crops up regularly in the circular walks. The red dots running left to right indicate the route for this walk.