

Notes on Place Names, continued...

Strath - as in Strathculm: 'strath' means an area of flat land next to a river or stretch of water. Another example is Strathclyde. But until around the mid 1700s 'strath' was a word used mainly in Scotland.

So - suggestions and ideas welcome as to why there is a Strathculm in Devon...

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

The map is from the open date 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 / Loews Corner / Ellerhayes / Worth

Distance – 4 miles

Start/Finish Point – The Guildhall

Difficulty – 2/5

An anti-clockwise walk out towards Silverton, then following quiet roads through Worth and back to Bradninch. After heavy rain parts of the road from Ellerhayes to Worth can fill with water, so check your footwear if you are planning a wet walk.

1. From the Guildhall go down High Street and follow West End Road to the edge of town and Higher Hill Cross.
2. Turn right here along the road towards Silverton.
3. The second gate on the left about fifty yards after the turning for Back Lane is where there was once a cottage. It disappears from maps at the end of the 19th Century. All that remains is the ornate capped stone and brick garden wall to the left of the gate. From here on a clear day there is a great view of Killerton and across to Dartmoor.
4. Follow the road down the hill and past the turning for Higher and Lower Coombe; as the landscape opens out you pass Moorland Farm on the left and Caseberry Hill on the right.
5. At the the bend in the road, Loews Corner, keep to the left.

6. Next there is a bend to the left and another to the right at Stockwell Farm; this is followed by a short incline, passing the entrance to Stockwell Manor, up to the T junction at Stockwell Cross.
7. At this junction turn left towards Ellerhayes; stay on this road for about 600 yards.
8. Just before you enter the built up area you will see a 30mph sign and the Ellerhayes sign. Look for the turning on the left signposted for Worth.



9. Take this turning into Worth Lane: you are now entering a quiet narrow lane that winds up and down towards Worth, passing a farm and then Worth Cottage.

10. At the bottom of the slight hill, after the road turns to the right, there is a T junction. Turn left here and follow the signs for Bradninch, going straight on at Potters Elm Cross (Strathculm is to the right).

11. It is a little under a mile from here, uphill and downhill, back to Higher Hill Cross, from where you return to the Guildhall along West End Road.



Notes on Place Names

Berry - as in Caseberry, is Old English: a hill or hillock (related to 'barrow')

Culm - derived from the Old Cornish 'colm', meaning a knot and describing the river's twists and turns

Hays / Haies - as in Ellerhayes is Middle English: a hedge or fence (by the mid-1650s it also includes an enclosure)

