

- A** **Westhay Moor** is now an important National Nature Reserve but was once a significant peat provider, it even had its own 1.4 mile stretch of canal known as Galtons Canal.
- B** Historically noted as **Counselles Wall** since 1327, this L shaped dyke separates cultivated land from the moors.
- C** Roger Wilkins and his family have been producing traditional **cider** at Mudgley since WWI; they have received the CAMRA Pomona Award (named after the Roman goddess of apples).
- D** The **Mendip Hills** were designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in 1972, they have been occupied since prehistory and mined for lead and silver in Roman times.

During the Dark Ages, **Nyland Hill** was known as Andreysey and in 670 it was given to Berhtwald Abbott of Glastonbury by King Kenwealh.

- E** **Barrow Hill** is also known as Panborough Hill and was noted as the site of a vineyard of Glastonbury Abbey as early as 956 in the Anglo Saxon Charters.
- F** The most extensive **drainage** of the moors occurred during and after the 18th century altering the landscape to what it is today.

A clyse, clyce or clize is an old Somerset word for a valve or door (such as a sluice) that allows fresh water egress but not tidal salt water ingress.



More information about this walk and others can be found at www.avalonmarshes.org

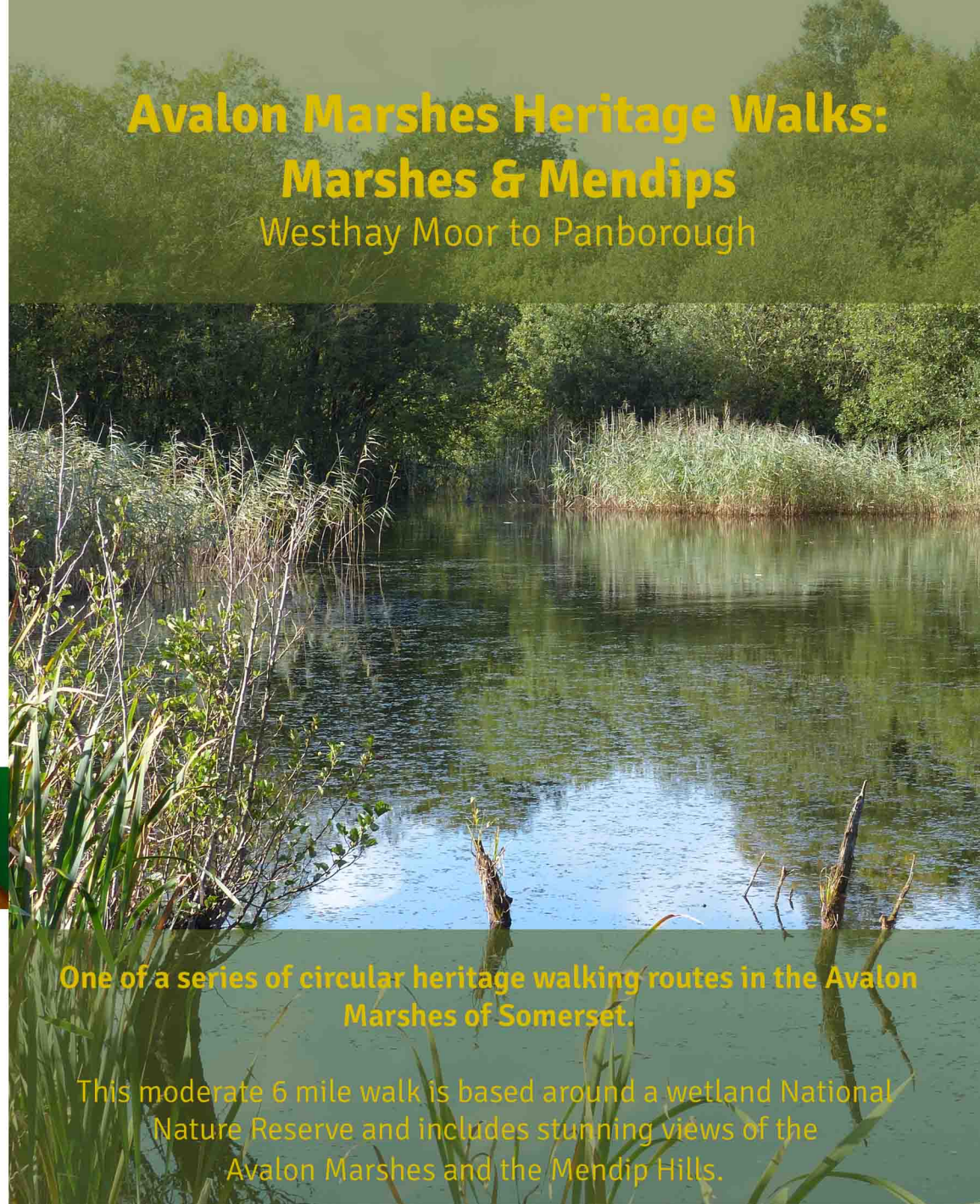
Acknowledgements:

Parking permission kindly granted by the Panborough Inn.
 Special thanks to the many local volunteers who have been involved in the surveying of walking routes across the Avalon Marshes.
 Route adapted from Walk 37 in the AA's 2002 publication: '50 Walks in Somerset'.

Feedback:

If you would like to comment on this walk route, please contact us at:
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 T: 01458 860556 E: info@avalonmarshes.org

Specific footpath faults should be reported to Somerset County Council.



The Walk: Parking is available at Westhay Moor (ST 456 437), which has no toilet facilities, or alternatively at the Panborough Inn in the lower car park (ST 472 456, BA5 1PN), where an adjoining footpath through a small orchard can be found across the road from the pub car park.

- 1 From the Westhay Moor car park walk along Dagg's Lane Drove and enter the reserve on the left where there is a large accessible hide and more information about the site. Please note that the site can often be very muddy.
- 2 There are various hides and habitats to explore within the reserve: to the left there is a restored lowland acid mire or a tower hide to the right looking out across the vast reedbeds.
- 3 Turn right into London Drove passing various pools and ditches as you head north towards the Mendip ridge.
- 4 The drove eventually meets a narrow tarmac lane (North Chine Drove). (To avoid the hill climb you can walk along this quiet road for about 500m and then turn right to return to the nature reserve along Dagg's Lane.) Walk east along the lane for about 250m and then turn left to cross the field and climb uphill towards the farmhouse (Wilkins' Cider Farm).
- 5 The path ascends a steep streamway and then turn right to follow the hedge line with views of Glastonbury Tor and Westhay Moor below.
- 6 As you walk towards Batch Farm, note that there is a permissive route that skirts the farm to the south (marked in red on the map). When you enter Dagg's Lane turn left and walk uphill until you pick up the path again on the right. Again these fields can be very muddy.
- 7 The route enters a lane which you follow until you see the path again on the left. This leads to Hare Acre Hill – the ridge at the top provides panoramic views of the Mendips and Nyland Hill.
- 8 As you come down the hill, look for the path on the right to avoid the farmyard.
- 9 The path enters a small copse and skirts a pond. If you started the walk at the Panborough Inn, looking down from (8) there is a stile at the bottom left of the field which links back to the farmyard orchard and main road.
- 10 Turn left to enter Dagg's Lane and return to the Westhay Moor National Nature Reserve car park.
- 11 If you started the walk at the Panborough Inn, enter the reserve on the right near the large accessible hide.

THE AVALON MARSHES WALKERS' CODE

1. Keep to the right of way to avoid trespass (drives are not rights of way unless shown as such on the map). If the path is obstructed you should seek a reasonable route around the obstruction.
2. Leave gates and property as you find them.
3. Keep dogs under close control at all times, and on a lead around farm animals and wildlife. However, if cattle chase you and your dog, it is safer to let your dog off the lead.
4. Where the route takes you onto a road, make sure you can be seen by traffic and be especially careful when approaching blind bends, using the verge wherever possible.
5. The marshes can be very muddy at times, so always make sure you wear appropriate footwear and clothing.
6. Respect the local community and other people enjoying the countryside, and take your litter home.

