# **Aust to Thornbury**

(Via the Severn Way and Jubilee Way)

Starting near the old Severn Bridge at Aust, this walk follows

the Severn Estuary northwards before heading inland to Thornbury.

It passes through the Severn Vale and over the limestone ridge at

Sacks Hill. There are magnificent views over the Severn Estuary to

Distance: 6 miles
Walking Time: 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours
GRADE: Easy/Moderate 3

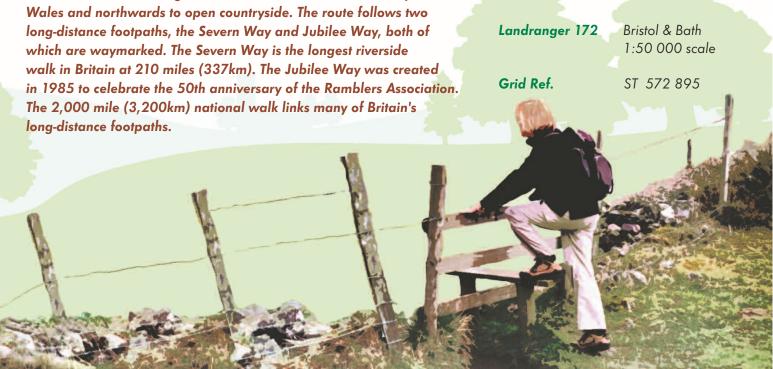
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Maps:

**Explorer 167** Thornbury, Dursley

and Yate

1:25 000 scale



#### **PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

#### **Bus to Aust**

Bristol - Newport Service X14 operating four journeys per day Monday to Saturday provide a service to Aust M48 Interchange. **No service on Sundays and Bank Holidays**.

## **Bus back from Thornbury**

Services 309 and 310 provide a half hourly service from Thornbury to Bristol Bus Station on Mondays to Saturdays. We recommend you check your journey times by logging on to www.firstgroup.com or by calling the Traveline number below.

### **PUBLIC HOUSES/CAFES EN ROUTE**

The White Hart, Littleton-Upon-Severn Tel. 01454 412275 Thornbury - various pubs and cafes

#### **PUBLIC TOILETS EN ROUTE**

Severn View Service Station

Thornbury - opposite The Plough public house, St Mary Street back of Morrisons

## **CREDITS AND FURTHER INFORMATION**

Information for this walk was originally compiled by the Ramblers Association and is reproduced with kind permission of South Gloucestershire Council.





### PLACES AND FEATURES OF INTEREST

## The Severn Estuary

The Severn Estuary is a conservation area of international importance and has the second largest tidal range in the world. This produces strong currents, high turbidity and large amounts of liquid mud. Only plants and animals adapted to this harsh environment can survive. Consequently the estuary is a unique and fragile habitat providing the necessary conditions for at least 85,000 wildfowl and significant numbers of over-wintering birds. It is also very important for migratory fish including the rare and endangered allis shad.

# **Oldbury Nuclear Power Station**

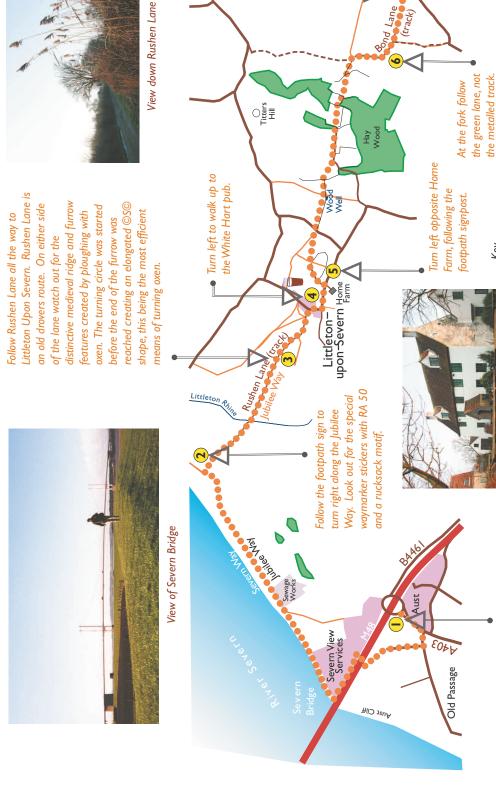
This Magnox gas cooled reactor can be seen in the distance. Built in 1968 the gas cooled reactors require water to produce steam in order to drive the turbines. This is why it is located next to a water supply. The power station uses 50 million litres of water per hour and returns water to the estuary at a slightly higher temperature.

## **Thornbury**

The Manor of Thornbury is mentioned in the Doomsday Book of 1086 but it was not until 1217 that a writ established ownership enabling Gilbert De Clare, Earl of Gloucester, to lay claim to 10,000 acres of land around Thornbury and thus establish himself as Lord of Thornbury Manor. To the north west the spire of St Mary's Parish Church can be seen adjacent to the prominent tower of Thornbury Castle. Both buildings date from the sixteenth century.

## **Oldbury Parish Church of St Arild**

Oldbury Parish Church is a prominent feature in the landscape to the north, being located on top of a natural mound. The tower and north porch date from the fifteenth century but the remainder was rebuilt in 1899 after a fire in 1897. St Arild is one of the least known Saints but her name suggests a Saxon origin. Leland records that she was a virgin who the tyrant Muncius beheaded because 'she refused to do his wicked will'. She was martyred at Kington, a mile from Thornbury and her remains were taken to St Peter's Abbey, Gloucester. Her image is now amongst the virgin saints in the glass in the east window of the Abbey.



Jornbur

The Plain -

Kington Lane

*Yumbleys* 

route and crosses Mumbleys Lane. The latter is Thornbury and Elberton. If you examine closely (Grade II Listed Building) can be seen amongst built in the seventeenth century and extended reputed to be part of a Roman track joining the trees. This was formerly Kyneton House there is evidence of stone cobbling near the intersection. To the North, Westwing School Bond Lane. This lane continues the drovers in the nineteenth century.

Where the Green Lane meets the tarmac road bear left and carry on to the T-ijnction with Mumbleys Lane

(track)

Leave the Jubilee Way at this

Bristol Road

Sootball pitch. Follow the tarmac bath up past the children©s play Turn left and walk along to The area to Thornbury High Street. Plain to catch buses back to boint and walk around the Bristol. Mumbleys Lane.

public house

Key

walk route

• • • •

The White Hart Pub, Littleton-upon-Severn

Please take care as you will need to cross a

driver if you are unsure where to get off.

busy dual carriageway. From the bus stop

walk along the A403 and turn right at the

signpost to St Augustines Vineyard. Take the

first right and join the Severn Way, crossing

the motorway footbridge to Severn View

Start the walk at Aust Interchange, ask the

Services. Follow the Severn Way around the

back of the service area and then along

side the estuary.

lkm 500m 0m

field boundary

roads

urban area motorway

woodland

other paths

bridleway

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