

Sea Mills to Shirehampton

Distance: 5 miles

Walking Time: 2 1/2 hours

GRADE: Easy/moderate 3

18

From the ancient port of Sea Mills, this walk follows the River Trym upstream through the nineteenth century tourist attraction of Coombe Dingle to Blaise. It climbs to Kings Weston Down and crosses Shirehampton Golf Course to finish along the banks of the Avon following the Severn Way Link. For most of its length the walk is away from roads but some roads must be crossed. As these can be busy please take care when doing so and use safe crossing points wherever possible.

Maps:

Explorer 155 Bristol & Bath
1:25 000 scale

Landranger 172 Bristol & Bath
1:50 000 scale

Grid Ref: ST 549 759



PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Train

Both Sea Mills and Shirehampton are stops on the Severn Beach Line Railway. A regular service departs from Temple Meads approximately hourly throughout the main part of the day, Monday to Saturday.

There is no Sunday service.

Bus

The 902 Portway Park & Ride service operates to/from Portway near Sea Mills and Shirehampton Stations every 15 minutes Monday to Saturday during the day from Rupert Street in the Centre. Journey time is approximately 20 minutes.

For further information on bus services log on to www.firstgroup.com and rail services call 08457 48 49 50 or call the traveline number below.

PUBLIC HOUSES/CAFES EN ROUTE

Millhouse Pub, Shirehampton Road Tel. 0117 968 2913

The Lamplighter Pub, Station Road, Shirehampton Tel. 0117 982 3549

Kiosk at Blaise Estate

PUBLIC TOILETS

Blaise Estate

CREDITS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Sevenside Ramblers have provided information for this walk card.



traveline
public transport info
0871 200 22 33

PLACES AND FEATURES OF INTEREST

Sea Mills

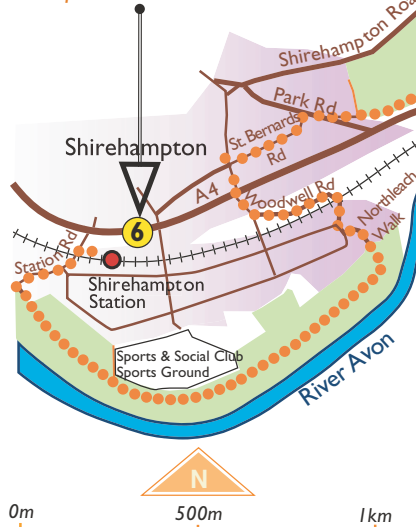
Standing at the head of the harbour, looking through the rail and road bridges to the River Avon, it is difficult to imagine that this harbour dates back to the third century when it was part of the Roman settlement of Abona. The modern harbour was built in 1712, when it was one of only three in Britain where boats could remain afloat regardless of the tide. However, the distance from Bristol and lack of a good road link meant that Sea Mills was not popular with merchants and its use declined in favour of the city docks development. Today you can still see some remains of the harbour walls but the harbour itself is used only for mooring pleasure craft.



Severn Beach Railway Line across River Avon

Kings Western Hill Fort is a small uni-valliate earthwork, which means it has a single row of ramparts. Its inhabitants may have been slaughtered by raiders from the grander fort at Blaise Castle, armed with sling shot.

Finish the walk at Shirehampton Station and take the Severn Beach service back to Temple Meads.



0m 500m 1km

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Blaise Castle Estate

The landscape of Blaise has been changed by its inhabitants throughout its history. The area has been home to an Iron Age hillfort, a Roman temple and a medieval chapel on Castle Hill. The landscape seen today was designed by the famous landscape architect, Humphry Repton, creating what is seen as an oasis amidst Bristol's ever growing suburbs. As you walk along the top of Kings Weston Hill, consider that all these trees are a fairly recent addition to the landscape and that you could see for miles in most directions. No wonder a fort was built here!



The Folly in Blaise Castle Estate

The section of the walk between Blaise Estate and Shirehampton Park follows the Community Forest Path. This is a 45 mile path encircling the green spaces of Bristol and its surrounding countryside.

Shirehampton

At Shirehampton the remains of the Lamplighter's Ferry to Pill are still visible. The name comes from the fashionable Regency Hotel, built by a street lighting contractor. The ferry was economically important until the M5 bridge opened. Shirehampton Railway Station was built to serve Pill rather than the genteel village of Shirehampton itself.



Penny Well Pool in Blaise Castle Estate

Stratford Mill was moved to the Hazel Brook when its Chew Valley site was flooded to make the reservoir.

