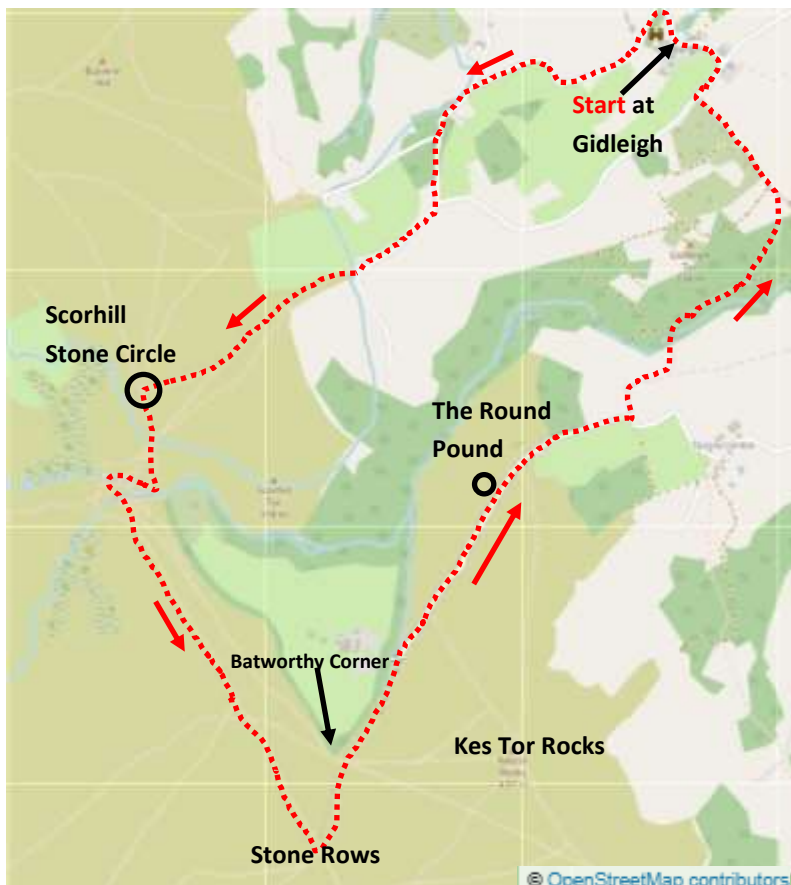


Gidleigh

Scorhill stone circle, stone rows and an ancient settlement



This 4.75 mile walk will take you out from the little village of Gidleigh to Scorhill stone circle said to be the finest example on Dartmoor. You will then go to find the Tolmen stone and a clapper bridge before trekking off to see some equally fine stone rows. You can if you wish do an excursion up to the top of Kes Tor Rocks where you will find some most interesting natural rock pools right on top of the tor.

On the way back to Gidleigh you will pass by an ancient settlement known as the Round Pound and walk through a pine forest.

It may be a short walk but packed full of interest.

Make your way to Gidleigh the post code is TQ13 8HR and the grid reference is: SX 67212 88363. Park where you can I found plenty of space outside the village hall.



With the red phone box behind you and on your right set off to walk along the road passing Gidleigh Castle on your left. Said to have been built in about 1300.



At the first junction turn left and start your gentle ascent up to the moor.



At the next junction keep left and follow the road signs to Scorhill ignoring the road to Creaber. Finally turn right and walk up to the moor gate .



When you reach the moor gate go through and follow the wide track to the crest of the hill ahead of you.



Stay on the wide track after you have crested the hill and when you reach this fork in the path keep right.



The grassy track takes you straight to the stone circle.



Having come down the grassy track and viewed the circle now turn left and head towards the bank of trees . You are aiming for the right hand corner of the wood.



Head towards the river bank using the sheep paths to look for the Tolmen Stone (*a huge rock with a large hole in it caused by erosion when the water level was much higher.*) which is just below where the Wallabrook meets the Teign. From here walk back up the banks of the Wallabrook and cross over using a granite bridge.



Having crossed this bridge follow the well worn track to a second clapper bridge



.....that goes over the river Teign and cross over this one as well.



Having crossed the bridges walk on up the slight rise and take the path on the right that runs parallel with the forest on the left which is about 400m away.



It's a reasonably well walked track, just make sure you are walking parallel with the forest and not walking towards or away from it.



When you reach this clearing you can if you want now take the track that leads towards the forest corner (Batworthy Corner) but if you want to see some magnificent stone rows bear right slightly.



Having visited the stone rows and there are more than one then head on back down the hill towards the corner of the forest (Batworthy Corner). *(If you want to do an excursion to Kes Tor Rock and see the natural rock pools then carry on up the hill and take the path that leads to the tor. Come straight down the hill from the tor to rejoin the walk .)*



With the trees on your left walk along the well used track to the road. Then continue along the road for just over a kilometre which is about 0.7 miles.



On your way you will pass The Round Pound part of a prehistoric settlement comprising a building 12m across surrounded by an outer wall.



When the road bends right turn left and walk on down the hill.



Then follow the way markers down the steep hillside eventually arriving at a bridge



Cross over the River Teign for the second time today, walk on up to a wide woodland track about 10m away and turn right.



After passing this huge rock on your right turn sharply left to go into the pine forest. A few yards into the forest the path turns right and goes diagonally up through the trees.



You will arrive in a large clearing. Here go straight across and down the access track.



Turn right when you reach the road and then take the first left to walk back to your car.