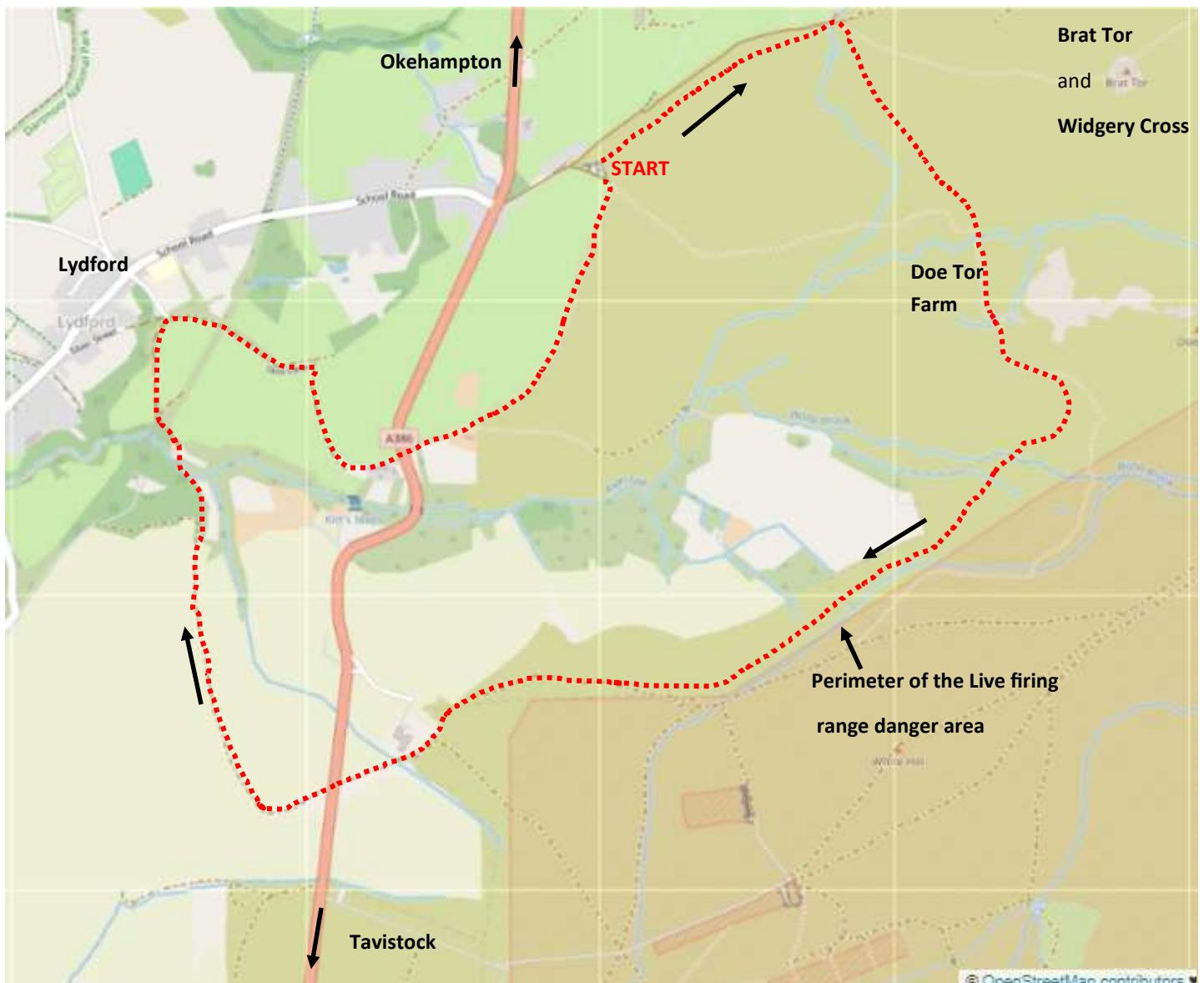


Lydford Viaduct Walk

The 5.75 mile walk will take you out along the river Lyd below Brat tor and Widgery Cross to the long since abandoned Doe Tor farm. Then skirting the Wilsworthy ranges but staying outside at all times we go past Wilsworthy camp across the A386 and on to Lydford viaduct returning to the car park via Skitt lane.

This walk starts at High Down Carpark SX 525 853. To find the car park coming from Tavistock on the A386 as you approach the left hand turn to Lydford with the Dartmoor Inn on your right turn right to go up a rough track. At the top of the track open the gate and drive on up into the car park.





This is Lydford viaduct that crosses the river Lyd. It's hidden in a wooded valley and not visible from anywhere other than this track/public footpath. It carried London and South Western Railway (Dartmoor Section)



Set off by going through the gate in the top left hand corner of the car park



You have a lovely view of Brat Tor and Widgery Cross as you walk along the track towards the river



On reaching the river Lyd cross over either by stepping stones or foot bridge



Then turn right and take the path that starts to run next to the river although it soon veers away.....



.....and becomes a wide level track that was at one time the main access track to Doetor farm.

Keep following the track and after rounding a bend go over the bridge and through the gate. If the gate opens in a puddle there is a ladder stile on your left but it's a bit rickety.



Head towards the quite prominent Scotts pine tree.



Go through a gate way and fork left to reach the pine tree. Then go through the gate next to the pine tree and into a small paddock with some stock protected trees.



Then through the next little paddock....



...and when you reach the row of 4 trees go left through the gate and back out on to the open moor.

If you are lucky you may come across the flock of black sheep that live here





With the moor gate behind go diagonally right for about 30yards then go left up hill to follow a grassy path

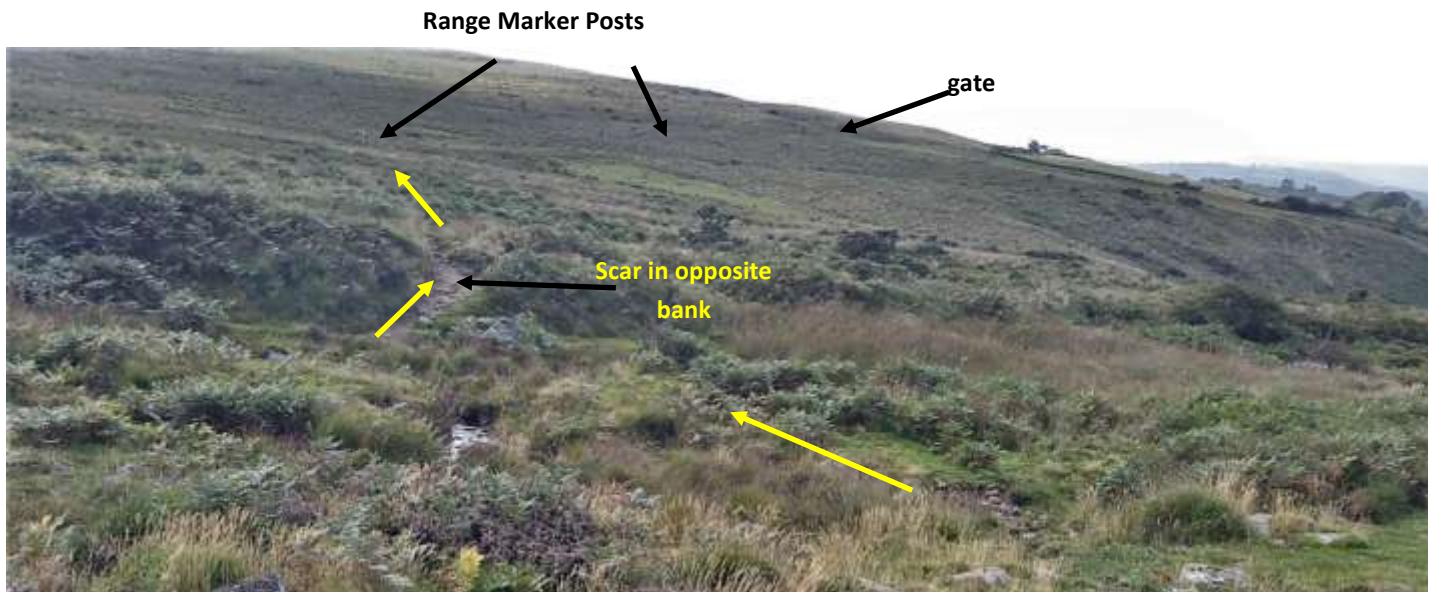
The path bends slowly right. When you reach this prominent upright stone look right and you will see a row of red and white range marker post and a gate in the middle distance.



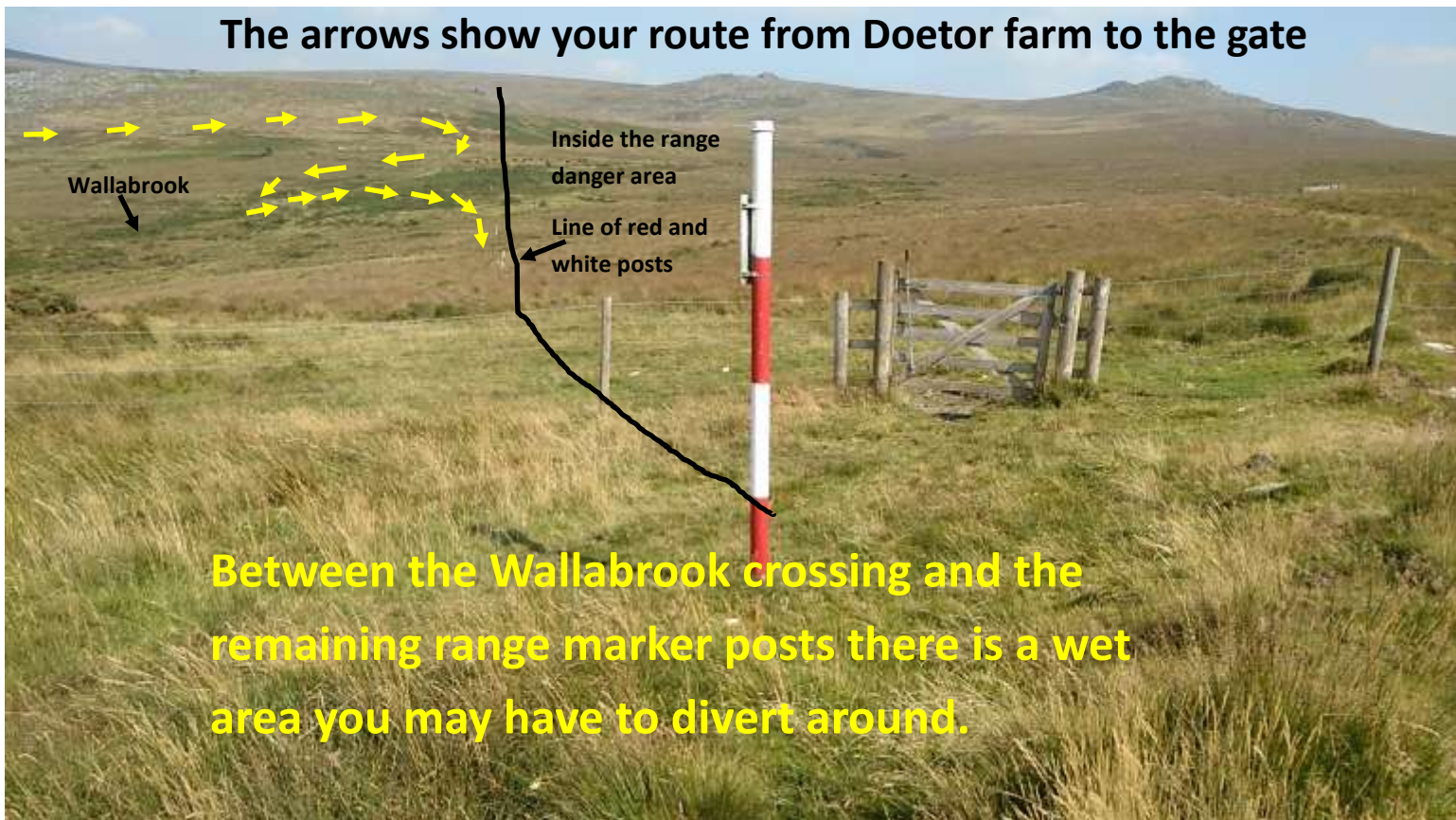
Walk to the nearest post on your right. Then keeping the posts on your left at all times especially when the red flags are flying walk towards the gate (and Brent Tor in the far distance)



However to get to the gate you have to negotiate the Wallabrook a fast flowing stream. Getting over the Wallabrook is not hard but first you have to go down hill a bit away from the line of posts to just past a hawthorn tree where there is a scar in the gully bank on the other side of the Wallabrook. Cross and go up the scar. Then walk back to the ranger marker posts and carry on following them heading for the gate.



The arrows show your route from Doetor farm to the gate





Having gone through the gate keep following the range markers by taking the grassy track that runs parallel to and just below a leat.



When the track forks keep left and make for this stone building . The track will take you to it.



Passing the building on your left turn right and walk along it's access track all the way to a gravel road. Keep following those posts.





Join the gravel track at a sharp bend and keep straight on until you see the back of a range notice board



As the gravel track bends right keep left of the range notice board to reach a wall corner

Keeping the wall on your right walk on down to a stream and gate.



Cross the stream perhaps using the two stepping stones and go through the gate.



Go through the next gate and straight across the A386 taking great care crossing this very fast section of road.

Having gone through the gate on the other side of the A386 keep following this wide track going through 3 more gates and along a delightful sunken lane.





Keeping the barn on your right walk down the farm access track



After about 300m turn right to go down an easy to miss narrow woodland path.



Soon you will join the Lych Way to go over the Lyd up past some houses and under...



If you would like to make a detour into the village and see the castle or visit the toilets have a pint in the pub then turn left but come back here to complete the walk.

The track will take you





Having gone past a few cottages you will meet once more the A386. Again taking great care as it is a very fast road go straight across and up a track



Go through a moor gate and out onto the open moor. Follow the stone wall on your left all the way back to your car