



Exmoor Coast 50 / 30 - October 6th 2018

Overview

The route starts at Combe Martin, and heads east to finish in Minehead, at the official South West Coast Path start/finish marker.

Tucked away in the Bristol Channel, this section is more sheltered than other parts of the 630 mile South West Coast Path. It has the longest stretch of coastal woodland in England and Wales, the highest point on the coastline at Culbone Hill (433m) and the highest sea cliff, Great Hangman (244m). When you're not surrounded by coastal woods, there are dramatic views across the Bristol Channel to the Welsh coast and Lundy Island.

Other highlights include Hollow Brook – one of the highest waterfalls in Britain which drops 200 metres to the sea and, Nestled away up some winding tracks, Culbone Church, which is 10.7 metres in length and only seats 30 people; only the most dedicated make it to the services here! You will also pass through the twin villages of Lynmouth and Lynton, the finish point for the 2 Moors Way and our Devon Coast to Coast event.

Just after Porlock Bay, the path flattens behind marshland, these wetlands have helped 'preserve' an ancient forest, it's worth a few pictures of these eerie trees sticking out of the ground.

A few more ups & downs of exposed path, woodlands, sharing your journey with sheep, ponies, and cows and you will pop out in Minehead, a mere 55km from where you started!

As this is a challenge event rather than a race, cut off time at our final checkpoint (Porlock Weir) will be very generous. This will be communicated clearly at our event safety briefing. Transport to the end of the event will be available if anyone doesn't manage to complete the full distance.

The route is approximately **55km** (33 miles) and almost entirely off road. In addition to this, we are also offering a shorter **32km** (20 mile) challenge; a perfect stepping stone for those new to such events. Both routes are fully marked, as they follow the South West Coast Path. There will however be additional event markers to keep you on track where the route is less clear.

The 32km walk option is achievable by anyone with a good level of walking fitness but there are still some significant hills to climb. The 55km should not be underestimated; this is a tough section of coast! As with all climb South West events, you will be supported by our team of qualified Mountain Leaders with extensive experience and local knowledge of Exmoor. They will also provide first aid cover at key points along the route, with sweepers on the course in between.

Food and Drink

There will be checkpoints at two locations on the route where light refreshments will be available; at Lynmouth and Porlock Weir. Both of these locations are perfect for spectators to offer support and to cheer on loved ones. This isn't a fully catered event but we will have a range of drinks and snacks available to supplement whatever you bring with you.

Map

Most of the route follows the South West Coast Path, with navigation being reasonably simple. The route can be viewed in detail on ViewRanger or Strava below (this is also available to download from our website as a PDF). If you'd like a more detailed map, we'd recommend 1:25,000 OL 9 Exmoor.

[Exmoor Coast 50 on ViewRanger](#)

[Exmoor Coast 50 on Strava](#)

Please note that these are live links to our event route, which we will update with further information as we get closer to the day. For those that would like to use GPS, you should be able to download the GPX file from either of these or our website, and use it on your device. You could also consider downloading the **Viewranger** app and turn your Smartphone into a GPS device. Once you have downloaded the route, the app will continue to work without the need for mobile reception. It is possible to download the route "without purchasing premium map" as the basic one works fine. You can however choose to download an OS version.

If you'd like to learn more about navigation, we can tailor our navigation workshops for individuals or groups of walkers / runners. These are available at any time of year and they are suitable for beginners through to more advanced skills for mountainous areas.

Parking and coach arrangements

Transport to the start - Before the event

There is ample, unrestricted free roadside parking in Minehead, near the event finish line. This will be at the South West Coast Path marker, opposite The Quay Inn, TA24 5UJ. Lots of parking options, south and west from here. Map link below.

[The Quay Inn](#)

If you have booked a place on the coach, you will need to meet on Minehead seafront, by the Quay Inn, ready for departure **at 5:30am for the 50km or 9am for the 30km.**

If you haven't booked a place on the coach but would like one, please find the booking form on this page: [Coach booking](#)

Timings for the day

50km Walk and Run

5:30am Coach leaves Minehead seafront.

6:30am Registration opens at Kiln Car Park, Combe Martin, EX34 0DN.

7:00am Event safety briefing and start.

5pm Cut off at Porlock Weir (CP2)

30km Run and Walk

9am Coach leaves Minehead seafront

9:30am Registration on Lynmouth Seafront, next to Rock House Hotel, EX35 6EN.

10:00am Event safety briefing and start.

5pm Cut off at Porlock Weir (CP2)

There is no transport back to the start after the event.

Mandatory Kit

- Base layer (long sleeved, thermal properties)
- Trail shoes / walking boots
- Waterproof jacket
- Mobile phone
- Rucksack or waist pack
- Hydration system (bladder or bottles, min capacity 1ltr)
- Survival bag (a £2.50 plastic bag that could save a life, available from any outdoor retailer)
- Basic first aid kit (min 1 x wound dressing and selection of blister plasters)
- Headwear (eg, cap or buff)
- Whistle
- Headtorch
- Nutrition (packed lunch / energy foods, gels, bars, etc.)

Please make sure that you have all these items with you. They are for *your safety* and there *will* be spot checks at the start.

Recommended Kit

- Sun cream
- Sun glasses
- Spare socks

This is not an exhaustive list, but a list of essentials. Through training, we suggest that you find out what works for you in terms of additional clothing and food. Our advice is that you don't experiment with a different diet or new shoes on the day.

Your safety

We have experienced guides who are there to support you during the day and **two mandatory checkpoints** (Lynmouth and Porlock Weir). **You must not proceed beyond these locations without checking in with our marshals first.**

We are happy for you to use headphones during the event but they **must be removed at all road crossings and sections of road.**

We have arranged for a minibus to follow the challenge. Should you need to leave the event, we can get you back to Minehead. **This minibus will not return to Combe Martin or Lynmouth.**

Our event mobile is **07966654867** and is for emergency use. For medical emergencies, please use 999 in the first instance and contact us after.

Please make sure that you are well rested before continuing your journey home, or possibly stay overnight.

Ending your participation

The event finishes at The Quay Inn, Minehead.

This is also where you will collect your event T shirt.

If you need to end your participation before the end of the route **you must contact us** on the event mobile **07966654867 / info@climbsouthwest.com** . Please store this number in your phone so that you have it available.

What's Next?

This event will be a great warm up for our **Dartmoor Winter Traverse** on January 12th, or the **Welsh 3000 challenge** (over 2 days or 24hrs), dates in June and July 2019. You may also like to consider the **Jurassic Coast 100M/100K/50K** or the **Devon Coast to Coast Ultra**. There will be run and walk options for all of these events. Details will be posted on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

After the event.

We welcome any feedback about our events and strive to make them as safe and enjoyable as possible. If you have something that you'd like to share with us, please contact us by email info@climbsouthwest.com.

If you've enjoyed the event then we'd love it if you could tell people about it on social media. Please use **#Exmoorcoast50 #EC50 #climbsouthwest @climbsouthwest**.