

North Coast 110km - 1st October 2021



Overview

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

The North Coast 110km begins with an exciting night time start. This will take you along the bank of the Taw estuary, through Braunton Burrows and onward to Croyde Bay and Baggy Point. From here, the route continues through the sandy sweep of Morte Bay and Woolacombe, becoming increasingly hilly as you approach Ilfracombe. After another couple of notable hills, you'll pass the stunning Water Mouth cove and arrive at Combe Martin, your half way point. The next section will take you along the entire length of the Exmoor Coast.

The route is approximately 110km and almost entirely off road. It is generally well marked, as it follows the South West Coast Path.

This event should not be underestimated, as it 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 the North Devon and Exmoor Coasts. 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 four locations where food and drink will be available. 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. You will need to be self-sufficient for stages at night of up to 29km (18 miles) between checkpoints. Please see the table below.

Name	Postcode	Distance to next CP	Food available	Notes
Barnstaple rugby club, Barnstaple	EX31 1JH	29km	Water Hot drinks	Start for North Coast 110km
Woolacombe Esplanade	EX34 7DF	22km	Hot drinks, coke, water, instant pasta, instant soup, sweet and savoury snacks	Cut off here 2am (Shelter)
Dolphin Inn, Combe Martin	EX34 OAW	21km	Hot drinks, hot food	Indoor space for participants only Drop bags Cut off here 8am Registration and start for Exmoor Coast 55k.
Flood Memorial Hall, Lynmouth	EX35 6EL	19km	Hot drinks, coke, water, savoury snacks, homemade cakes	Cut off here 1pm (Shelter)
Porlock Weir	TA24 8PB	15km	Hot drinks, coke, water, savoury snacks, homemade cakes	Cut off here 5pm (Outdoors)
South West Coast Path marker, Minehead	TA24 5UJ	N/A	Pubs, Cafes and takeaways near finish line.	Finish line for all distances

Support Crew and drop bags

We encourage the use of support crews at this event. They can meet you as often as you like but please take care on the roads and park responsibly. **We ask that support crews do not enter our indoor checkpoints unless it's an emergency.**

You can prepare a small drop bag and give it to us at the start. It will be taken to Combe Martin and then moved to the end. It will be available for collection in Minehead from 10am.

Map

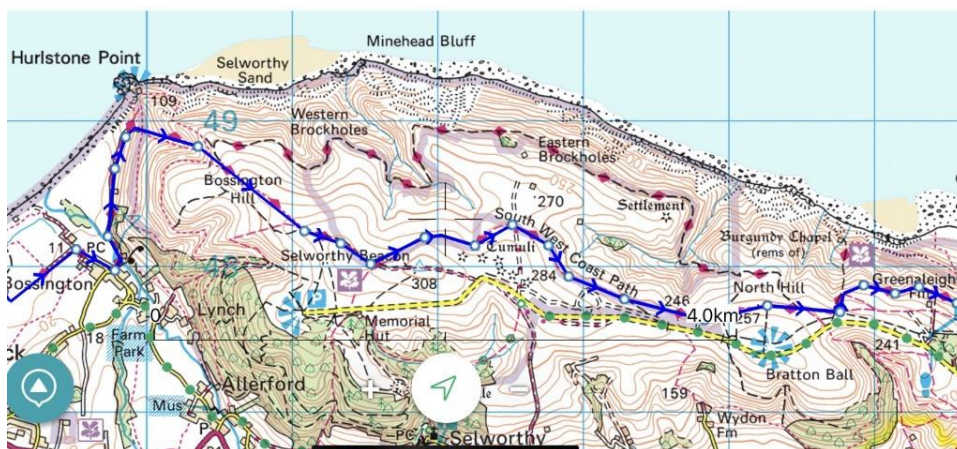
Most of the route follows the South West Coast Path, with navigation being reasonably simple. It is generally well marked with South West Coast Path signs with an acorn symbol.



The South West Coast Path should be followed as closely as possible without attempting to shorten the route. The only exceptions are below.



After leaving Woolacombe CP, continue on road with care until a South West Coast Path sign directs you towards Morte Point. Ignore new SWCP sign that attempts to send you inland just before Watersmeet Hotel.



After Bossington Hill, take the high level “South West Coast Path” not the “Rugged coast path”. Continue following signs for “Minehead via Coast Path”.

The full North Coast 110km route can be found on ViewRanger:

<https://my.viewranger.com/route/details/MjYxNzY1NA==>

The Viewranger app is well worth downloading turning 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. This app is particularly useful if you need to pinpoint your exact location at any time. See example below.



(Currently off route but heading in correct direction to reconnect with intended path)

Avoid using the “start route/follow route” feature as this will drain your battery.

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, near The Quay Inn, TA24 5UJ. Lots of parking options, south and west from here. Please allow plenty of time to park your car.

If you have booked a place on the coach, you will need to meet on Minehead seafront, near the Quay Inn, ready for departure at **6:00pm** on Friday 1st October. **Please bring a face covering for this journey. You will not be able to travel without one.**

Timings for the 1st October

North Coast 110k

- **6:00pm** Coach leaves Minehead seafront.
- **7:00pm** Registration opens at Barnstaple rugby club, EX31 1JH.
- **8:30pm** Safety briefing and start for all participants
- **8am (2nd October)** Cut off at Combe Martin
- **1pm** cut off at Lynmouth
- **5pm** cut off at Porlock Weir

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

Mandatory Kit

- Base layer (long sleeved, thermal properties)
- Additional warm layer
- Trail shoes / walking boots
- Waterproof jacket with taped seams

- Mobile phone
 - Rucksack, race vest or similar
 - Hydration system (bladder or bottles, min capacity 1ltr)
 - Survival bag, not a blanket (a £2.50 plastic bag that could save a life, available from any outdoor retailer / lightweight more expensive versions available)
 - Basic first aid kit (min 1 x wound dressing and selection of blister plasters)
 - Headwear (e.g., cap or buff)
 - Whistle
 - Headtorch and spare batteries
 - Spare headtorch
 - Nutrition (packed lunch / energy foods, gels, bars, etc.)
- **You must also have a face covering with you. Mask, buff or similar is fine.**

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.

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 staff who are there to provide first aid cover and support you during the event and at the four mandatory checkpoints. You must not proceed beyond these locations without checking in with our team first.

We have arranged for a minibus to be used for safety cover at this event. It can take you forwards to the next checkpoint. From here, we recommend being picked up or taking public transport to the end. Anyone timed out at Porlock Weir will be taken to Minehead. This minibus will **not** return to Barnstaple after the event

Our event mobile is 07966654867 and is for emergency use. This will also be on your race number. 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.

COVID 19

- Please don't come to the event if you or any other member of your household have recently experienced any of the symptoms associated with Covid 19. This would also be the case if you had recently had close contact with someone with Covid 19 or similar symptoms. See <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> for specific guidance.
- You will be asked to wear a face covering on the bus and sweeper vehicle.

Ending your participation

The event finishes at the South West Coast Path marker, near The Quay Inn, Minehead.

This is also where you will collect your finishers medal.

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?

We'd love to see you again in 2022 on one of our single or multi day events, distances from half marathon to 120 miles. Full details on our website.

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.

