

POINTS OF INTEREST

The **Coach Road** runs through a meadow to join the approach road to the Town Bridge.



This **graceful bridge** was built in the late 15th century, and widened in the 17th century. The metal plaque in one of the pedestrian refuges, threatens deportation for anyone who damages this bridge.



Installed in 2013, over 1000 **solar panels** feed electricity into the local grid.



Plumber Manor is a fine Jacobean house, beautifully situated alongside the River Divelish, and is run as an hotel/restaurant by the same family who built it in the 1600s.



Puxey Farm's courtyard of stone buildings has remained undisturbed for centuries.



'**Colber Bridge**' is named after a nearby settlement that has long since vanished. The 'J Conway 1841' inscribed in the ironwork was a clock-maker in the town who was paid £163 to design and build it.



Photo credits: John Lewis, Jan Wardell

STURMINSTER NEWTON WALKABOUTS

WALKABOUT 8

Rudge Hill / Plumber Manor / Puxey Farm

A scenic walk giving views from the higher ground to the south of the town, then back past picturesque Plumber Manor and Puxey Farm (approx. 5 miles).

This is one of a series of circular walks from Sturminster Newton which take in the surrounding area of the Blackmore Vale. They are mainly on Public Rights of Way, with some on paths with access permitted by the landowners.

These walks are intended to encourage exploration and appreciation of the variety and beauty of the countryside in this locality, on foot. Cyclists are not permitted to ride on public footpaths and by law must give way to walkers and horseriders on bridleways.

When walking, please remember the Countryside Code, particularly:

- respect the local community, farmland and others enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- keep dogs under effective control
- keep to the marked paths and cause no damage to crops, livestock or wildlife

Appropriate footwear is recommended, since wet or muddy conditions can be encountered at any time.

The Sturminster Newton Walkabouts have been developed by the Sturminster Newton Town Council in association with Dorset County Council and are available from Sturquest Community Office, Sturminster Library, the Museum and Sturminster Mill or can be downloaded from www.dorsetforyou.com/walkabouts

Further information can be obtained from the Town Council on 01258 475136.



Sturminster
Newton
Town Council



STURMINSTER NEWTON WALKABOUTS

Rudge Hill / Plumber Manor / Puxey Farm



RUDGE HILL / PLUMBER MANOR / PUXEY FARM

A scenic walk giving wide views from the higher ground to the south of the town, then back past picturesque Plumber Manor and Puxey Farm.

STARTING POINT

Station Road car park,
Sturminster Newton

DISTANCE

approximately
5 miles



All walks start from the Station Road car park (DT10 1BD).

This and the surrounding business premises are on the site of the former Railway Station. Opened in 1863, the old Somerset and Dorset Railway ran steam-hauled trains between Bournemouth and Bath.

Sections of the old railway line are now used as a walking, cycling and horse riding route which takes you through some picturesque villages of the Blackmore Vale. Known as the North Dorset Trailway, it features in many of the walks.

KEY

- Walkabout route
- Stour Valley Way
- Other rights of way

200 m
500 ft

Due to the road crossing near Plumber Manor, it is advisable to walk this route in a clockwise direction, as shown by the arrows.

For more information

SturQuest

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Sturminster Newton
Museum & Mill
Society

Visit www.sturminster-newton-museum.co.uk

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