# 🕑 Take time out – Walk

# Around beautiful Abbots Pool

A tranquil pool and leafy woodland provide the perfect place to explore on a sunny summer's day.

This is a walk of two halves – a route around Abbots Pool and woodland, followed by an exploration of the lanes

## Walk information

Distance: about 3.75 miles

#### Difficulty:

mainly flat. A few steps in places and kissing gates. It can get very muddy in certain sections so wellies recommended after recent rain

Duration:

About two hours for the full route

### How to get there

By car: from the A369, turn into Manor Road. The car park is signposted on the right. Manor Road is a narrow country lane so drive with caution.

For bus timetables visit www.travelinesw.com

Tranquil Abbots Pool nature reserve, in Abbots Leigh, has a long history. The track running through it is thought to have been used since Roman times and the pool was used by monks in the Middle Ages to provide fresh fish.

Now the area is owned by North Somerset Council and is a Green Flag site, meaning it meets the international high standard for open spaces.

From the car park, follow the main path into the woods to the pool. There are some benches to sit and enjoy the peace. No swimming is allowed.

#### Help keep Abbots Pool beautiful for all

Anti-social behaviour is being deterred at Abbots Pool through Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO).

No swimming, wading or jumping is allowed in the water, as well

Continue on, with the pool on your right, and follow the bridleway as it curves around to the left.

Continue with the fence on your right-hand side. Just past the old stone building, turn left onto the footpath, marked with a yellow waymarker.

At the top of this path is a gate into a field. It's private property apart from the public footpath, so keep to the right-hand edge.

Exit the field through the gate and continue on the path straight ahead. Exit the wood through the gate and then go through the next field.

# as no boats, dinghies, canoes, sailboards, inflatables.

General PSPO rules also apply. Visit

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/pspo

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Turn left onto the bridleway and follow this all the way back to Manor Road. It can get very muddy here.

At the yellow cottage, turn left into Manor Road. You'll go past the entrance to the car park so you can finish the walk here if you want to.

If you want to continue exploring the village of Abbots Leigh, carry on up Manor Road.

Turn left into Manor Lane. It's a quiet country lane but watch out for cars, especially on bends.

At the junction take an immediate right into Harris Lane, which leads to the A369. You'll catch glimpses of Avonmouth from here.

Turn right onto the A369, cross the road at the traffic lights, then go up Church Road past the village hall. There are historic properties along this road, such as Chantry House.

Holy Trinity Church is at the top of this road. This Grade II\* listed church was originally built in the 15th century but partially rebuilt in 1848 after being struck by lightning and a fire.

From the church, take the footpath next to Avonhurst House, through the park and down across the field. Turn right into Home Farm Road, right onto the A369, then cross the road at the traffic lights again and head left down Manor Road.

On your right-hand side is The Priory, a Tudor Gothic-styled country house with an impressive conservatory, built in 1831.

It was later owned by the Fry family, famous for chocolate making.

Just up ahead on the left-hand side is the impressive 19th century Manor House, now a nursing home.

Take the track on the right just past Manor Lane.

Follow it to the end and then reenter Abbots Pool nature reserve down the steps.

You'll come to another section of the pool, with water features, a small bridge and a picnic table.

Follow the path to the left, around the pool, to return to the car park.



