



Pebblebed Heaths CONSERVATION TRUST

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS WALK



HISTORY

World War Two Royal Marine Camp In the area behind Wheat Hill car park are the ruins of a World War Two Royal Marine training ground called Dalditch Camp. At its height the camp contained over 5,000 personnel. Today the remaining buildings have been converted into bat hibernaculums.



ANIMAL LIFE

Silver-washed fritillary The World War Two camp has made the soil structure into a haven for butterflies. It is one of the best locations in East Devon to spot several stunning species including; silver-studded blue, small pearl bordered fritillary and the silver-washed fritillary—a Species of Conservation Concern in Britain.



PLANT LIFE

Bee Orchid The heathland supports a diverse range of floral species including the bee-like structure of the Bee Orchid. This species is thought to have evolved as a means to dupe amorous male bees into pollinating the flower, but is now largely self-pollinating.



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Walk 5: Wheat Hill Car Park Circuit



World War Two military training



THE EAST DEVON PEBBLEBED HEATHS CONSERVATION TRUST

The establishment of the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust is a landmark in the history of the heaths and an important opportunity for their future. The Trust has been established to ensure that a sustainable plan is put in place to safeguard the future of the Pebblebed Heaths.

To date responsible management has resulted in dramatic heathland improvement with the return of many rare wildlife species. The heathland is located in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and has been recognised by both UK and European designations including a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Protection Area (SPA) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).



Silver-washed fritillary

Bee orchid



EAST DEVON PEBBLEBED HEATHS CONSERVATION TRUST

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Walk 5

Wheat Hill Car Park Circuit

- 1) From Wheat Hill car park face the entrance and walk through the barrier on the opposite side of the road. Carry on up the straight track in front of you and walk past Upper Thorn Tree car park which is on your right.
 - 2) Carry on to the Y junction and take the left hand route up the slope.
 - 3) Walk past the L junction.
 - 4) When you reach the T junction, take the second left and walk down the hill.
 - 5) Turn left at the junction by the bank.
 - 6) Follow this track all the way along and come out through the bank and turn right on to the road.
 - 7) On the bend look for the green barrier on the left and walk through it. Carry on uphill along a wide track. If you walk further along this track you will reach the viewpoint.
 - 8) Before reaching the bank by the viewpoint take a left hand turn and follow the track downhill towards the plantation.
 - 9) At the cross junction there is a short cut which can be used by walkers only. To take this short cut turn left and follow the track to 9a and 9b.
- Unfortunately horse riders and cyclists are not permitted to take the short cut please go to point 10.
- 9a) Short cut: Cross over in front of the reservoir, walk straight up hill and to the right.
 - 9b) Short cut continued: Turn left through the gate and follow the walk from point 12.
 - 10) Along this track you will see the old brick works kiln. Walk out on to the road and turn left down the hill.
 - 11) At Dalditch triangle go left through the gate and walk up hill along the pebbly track past the flat grassy area.
 - 12) Turn right through the gate and walk along the tracks with the fields either side of you. At the next gate turn left and walk past the trees on the left.
 - 13) At a junction in the track turn right and walk uphill.
 - 14) At the T junction by the small wall turn left and walk straight back to the car park.

ROUTE: 5 km
 TERRAIN: Easy to Moderate
 PERMITTED:

