



# TRAIL DESCRIPTION AND ROUTE MAP

Hidden Corners - a photography trail from Wheathill Car Park.

Approximate walk time: 90 minutes.

Difficulty: moderate (some rough tracks and climbs).

*“We’ve all got our favourite spots on the heaths. While I love the expansiveness of open heathland, it’s the hidden corners that draw me in again and again. Whether it’s the depths of a plantation, an old building being consumed by brambles, or a scramble down to a stream bed, these places take me back to the stories of my childhood and get me dreaming. On my Hidden Corners trail, you’ll be exploring East Budleigh Common and hopefully finding some new spots to exercise your imagination. Along the way, you’ll see work inspired by walks on the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths on those long, dreamy evenings leading up to the summer solstice.”*

Andy Thatcher, Photographer



Follow the trail to find 6 photos that show hidden places on the heaths. Do you recognise the places in the photos, do you know which common they are on? Once you have made your guess look in the back of the sign for the answer.



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1. Leaving Wheathill Car Park, CROSS ROAD carefully and take footpath past barrier. Almost immediately the path forks. Take the right-hand path and continue until you reach a clearing with an old military bunker to your left. You will find Image 1 here - and some great graffiti!  
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2. Take narrow path on left to pass behind the bunker and follow ribbons through woodland, crossing a wider track and taking another to continue onto open heathland. At crossing continue straight (look for the reservoir just visible through the trees) Join path from right going down to left towards the road and a vehicle barrier. Just before the barrier take the narrow path to your right alongside the road, continuing alongside woodland to a gap in an earth bank. Cross this and follow path marked with ribbons to a clearing by a fallen tree (check out the wood ants too!). You will find Image 2 here.  
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3. Retrace your steps and CROSS ROAD to Squabmoor Car Park. \*\*Leave the car park by a path in the far-left corner and follow a woodland path, turning right at the first main stony track, then almost immediately left at the next, which is very sandy. Look out for a narrow track leading alongside the edge of East Budleigh Common to your right, which you must follow. Look out for Image 3 in a small clearing on your left.  
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4. Continue along the edge of East Budleigh Common for a good distance (approx 1km) ignoring paths to left and waymarked footpath to right until the path through the trees meets a broad stony track. Turn left up the track, looking out for a small, roofless brick building. Inside is Image 4.  
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5. Continue up the broad track, turning right at end of woodland on the right. Follow this track keeping the woodland to your right. Pass the old brick firing range and follow the broad sandy track towards a vehicle barrier on the road. You'll find Image 5 in amongst the bracken.  
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6. Before the barrier take the path on the left After it cuts through the red sandstone in several places, look out for a very narrow path on the left, marked with purple ribbon. Follow the path up to lookout from a small hill. Continue down track and bear right up towards the woodland. When you reach a main track in the trees, turn left and continue along. In a short while the path comes to a clearing, which usually has a den or two, here you'll find Image 6.  
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7. This part of East Budleigh Common is full of military ruins - including a flight of steps, from an old mess (dining hall) building. You can either explore here and find your own Hidden Corners, or carry on along the woodland paths, looking out for purple ribbons, until you join the wide stony track. Turn right here and follow the track past a big puddle to the barrier and back to Wheathill Car Park.





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You can also start the trail from the roadside parking at Frying pans, Bystock, and Squbmoor.  
Please follow the addition guidance below.

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i. From Fryingpans Old Car Park: Walk through the car park away from the road and into woodland. Turn left at the first path. After a short while, turn right onto the heath. Follow directions from \*.

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ii. From Squabmoor Car Park. Join the trail from \*\*.

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iii. From Bystock Fish Ponds: Follow the path past the Ponds and up to where the path splits. Turn right past South Heath and into woodland. Image 2 is along this path, in a clearing by a fallen tree. Continue along the path, through a gap in an earthen bank, and cross the road to Squabmoor Car Park, picking up the trail from \*\*.

