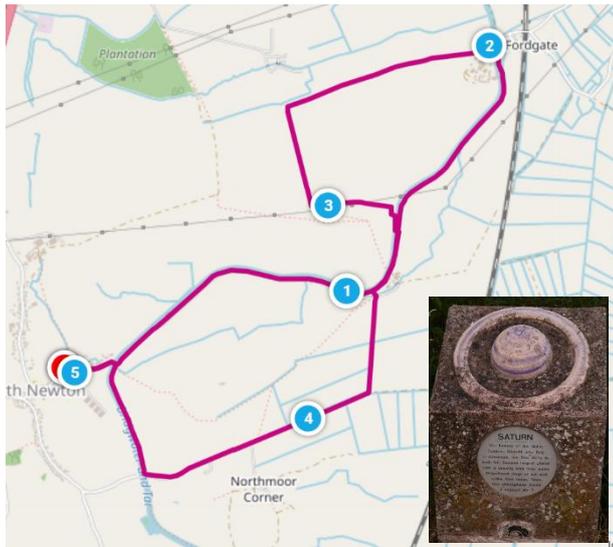


Walks from Newton House

2) Taunton & Bridgwater Canal Loop via Fordgate & Middlemoor Drove – Distance 5.2 miles



Turn Left out of the drive and follow Church Road down to the canal. Cross the swing bridge turn left along the canal tow path. Follow the path for just under $\frac{1}{4}$ mile until you reach **Kings Lock**



Continue along the tow path for another $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. At Whites Farm keep an eye out for "Saturn" by the side of the path. It forms part of the **Somerset Space Walk** (this a true scale

model of our Solar System with the planets placed along the Bridgwater to Taunton Canal with the sun centred at Higher Maunsel Lock. The planets go both ways along the tow path from there)



Follow the tow path until you reach Standards Lock. This is a great spot to have a picnic. Continue along the canal path for another $\frac{3}{4}$ mile until you reach Fordgate.



Turn left over the swing bridge by the farm, go around the gates and follow the farm track up the hill. After $\frac{1}{2}$ mile just past the Warren House (on the right hand side) there is a footpath on the left on the field boundary. Follow this path keeping the hedge on your right. Turn left at the end following the field boundary on your right. This takes you back down to Standards Lock. Cross over a small brick bridge & cut through into the picnic area.

Cross over the canal bridge and turn Right onto the tow path, after about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile there is a small gate in the hedge on the left-hand side. (If you reach Whites farm on the left you have gone 200m too far) Go through the gate over the stream bridge and then go straight over the track to the left of the farmhouse.



Follow the path between the trees until it opens out onto the moors. After $\frac{1}{4}$ mile turn right at the end onto Middlemoor Drove. Keep your eyes and ears open for the Skylark, Sedge Warblers, Reed Buntings or even a Roe Deer along the rhynes.



The Dirt track across Middlemoor eventually ends up back on the canal path after $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. Turn Right and follow the canal path back to the swing bridge at North Newton. Turn left back up to

Newton House

On route you will also come across some of the World War 2 Pill box's that formed part of the "Stop Line" A defensive line designed to stop the enemy's advance from the West.



