

Tavistock Country Bus – Bus and Boots walks

TCB Bus & Boots Walk No. 1 Tavistock Viaduct Walk.

Distance: 1 mile (approx.) **Time:** 20 mins. **Grade:** Easy. (Wheelchair/pushchair/child/dog friendly). Why not let the Tavistock Country Bus kick-start your walking adventure?

Let the Tavistock Country bus take the strain by transporting you to the highest point of the Tavistock Town trail. From here, a gentle stroll along the traffic free cycle track (No. 270) will bring you back to your starting point in Bedford Square. Along the way, as well as communing with nature, you can enjoy a birds-eye view over Tavistock Town and a panoramic view of Dartmoor and the surrounding countryside from the impressive viaduct. A delightful walk!



116 Service. 09.34 Bedford Square. Tuesdays & Fridays (except Bank Holidays). 14.45 Bedford Square. Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays (except Bank Holidays). **Wait by the bus stop with TCB on top of the post.**

1. Catch the 116 Tavistock Country Bus Town Service. Get off at Uplands. Walk NE to the junction with Crease Lane, then turn right. After 50m, look on your left for the entrance to the cycle path, marked with a granite post.

2. Follow the cycle track back towards Tavistock Town centre. Look out for fantastic views to your right over the Catholic Church to the 'Pimple' across the valley on Whitchurch Down. It is a lovely, quiet, peaceful walk.

3. Ignore the side-track going off to the right and continue along what was the track bed of the London and South Western Railway (LSWR). Despite a valiant campaign from local people, this line was axed and British Rail despatched its last train along this line on 5th May 1968.

4. After about 15 minutes you should reach the viaduct. This impressive structure comprises eight arches, five spanning 50 feet and three of 30 feet. Throughout, the structure curves slightly to the south; its height is 75 feet. Built by Sir James Weeks Szlumper in 1887, the viaduct is 420 feet long and made of granite quarried from King's Tor Quarry on Dartmoor.

5. At the far end of the viaduct, follow the road as it curves around to the right passing back under the viaduct and joining Kilworthy Park. Continue left onto Drake Road and pass under the viaduct for a second time as you drop down into Bedford Square. We hope you have enjoyed your walk.