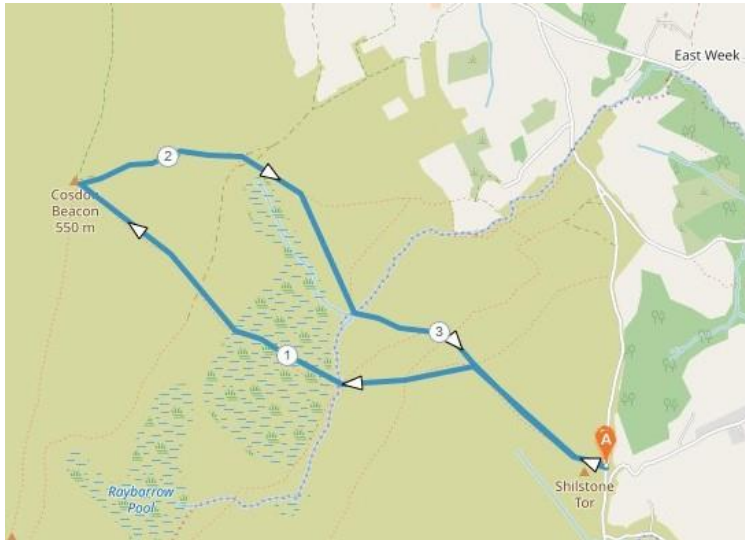


## Shilstone Tor and Cosdon Beacon

Distance: 3.6 m./6 km. Time: about 2 hours



Park at the base of Shilstone Tor and walk up towards the tor. Behind the tor you will see Codson Beacon in the distance and a track taking you to the moors through Throwleigh Common. Stay on this track until you see a row of bushes in front of you, taking the track to your left before you reach them. It runs towards the opposite end of the line of bushes, which should always be on your right-hand side. Once you reach the row of bushes, head straight across and down the

hill towards Blackaton Brook and the ford. It's a good spot for the dog to paddle or even swim if there's been rain.

Passing over the stream you will see a track in front of you which contours around the side of Kennon Hill to the right. Follow this track until you meet another stream, cross this and stay on the track up towards a dry leat – a nice flat spot to stop before the final ascent to the top! Even the views from here are pretty amazing, with Castle Drogo easy to spot.

Continue uphill now, a steady climb, staying on the track all the way to the top. It is one of those climbs where it feels like you are always saying 'nearly there'! Cosdon Beacon and the trig point will be a welcome sight here at Cosdon Hill on South Tawton Common. The views are really pretty amazing and worth the climb. Stay a while and take in the 360° view. It always makes us want to carry on walking further into the moors and reach the next tor – but we will save that for another day.

Head back down, starting with the Beacon behind you. Face towards the direction you have come from. You will be able to make out a grass-covered stone circle in front of you. To the left of this, you will see a grass track heading downhill – take this and as you walk over the ridge, you will clearly see the Triple Stone Row below and slightly to your left.

Standing at the top end of the row, looking straight ahead, you can see a wide track towards your right. Staying on this for about 300 metres, a further track on your right will take you back towards the Blackaton Brook in the valley. Crossing over the stream, you will be faced with several tracks – take the one on the right. At the start of this track, you will find a small piece of triangular-shaped granite which points in the direction you need to go.

Once over the brow of the hill, you will again see the line of bushes. The path heads towards the corner of this. With the bushes on your right, heading continually downhill, stay on the track back to Shilstone Tor. Looking up and to your right, you will see Kes Tor in the distance.