

Reflection and Prayer

As you embark on this final stage of The Archangel's Way, you'll walk across both wild, open moorland and wander through more gentle surroundings, small villages, winding lanes and woodland paths along the river.

We draw closer to the busyness of the world as we enter the market town of Chagford at the end of our journey.

During this final stage thoughts might turn to the lives we are returning to.

We may have travelled alone or in the company of others.

We have followed the route, but what journeys have our meditations, our prayers and our conversations taken us on?

Perhaps there have been unexpected moments of clarity or comfort?

Perhaps you are simply grateful to be refreshed after some time out.



Lord of every pilgrim heart,
bless our journeys
on these roads
we never planned to take, but
through your
surprising wisdom discovered
we
were
on.

Peter Millar. A Book of Blessings (2014)



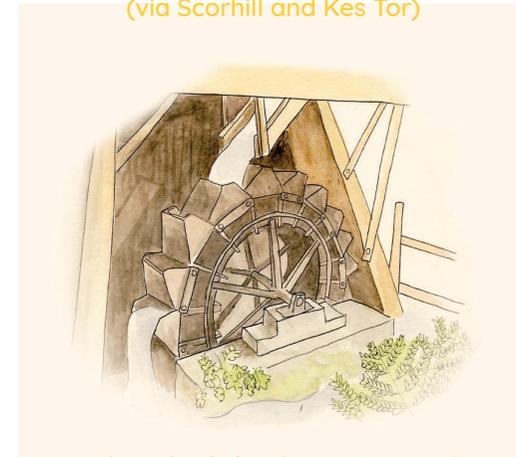
The Archangel's Way

wander and wonder

STAGE 5A

St Mary the Virgin, Throwleigh
to St Michael the Archangel, Chagford

(via Scorhill and Kes Tor)



'Look and ask for the ancient paths,
where the good way lies; and walk in it,
and find rest for your souls'

(Jeremiah 6:16)

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STAGE 5A

Throwleigh to Chagford



Between Throwleigh and Chagford, there are two possible routes.

This card includes a detour via Scorhill Stone Circle and Kes Tor, whereas Stage 5 describes the more direct route.

With Throwleigh Church porch at your back, take the steps up onto the grass path. This leads away from the church into the upper south east corner of the churchyard, where you exit via a metal gate.

An enclosed path takes you to some steps down to the road, where, opposite, you will see another wide track

Cross the road and take the track that will lead you to Forder along Deave Lane and continue until you reach the road where you turn left.

Stay on this lane until it takes you through Providence and alongside the Chapel on your left. WC facilities can be found to the rear.

Leaving the Chapel, shortly turn right down the footpath to Coombe.

After passing some cottages, the path joins a tarmac lane where you turn left. Cross a bridge and then turn right up a signposted track at Gidleigh Mill.

A long uphill stretch will bring you into Gidleigh where you turn right to reach Holy Trinity

Church. The church and churchyard sit in a place of almost perfect peace.

After visiting the church, turn around and head back on the road, past the village hall to reach a T-junction. Turn right here and continue on the lane past Berrydown. Carry on, signposted Scorhill, past Scorhill farm where the end of the lane is reached.

Follow the clear track out onto the Moor, but ensure you head right approaching the top of the hill in order to come down the path above Scorhill Stone circle. After admiring the circle turn left to take the path towards the river. This is well defined and crosses the leat shortly before curving around to the right to the clapper bridge over the Wallabrook.

Before crossing this, you may wish to take the narrow path down to the left that will take you to the mysterious Tolmen Stone in the river, used by Druids for purification. Then follow the track back along the riverbank and to rejoin the track back to the clapper bridge over the Wallabrook.

Cross this clapper bridge and follow the clear track to the next, larger Teign a Ver clapper bridge over the North Teign River.

From here the tracks and paths lead up the hill with the wall and woods to your left, eventually reaching Batworthy Corner. You will see the clear track leading up to Kes Tor.

From the top of Kes Tor, head down on the track towards a small rock outcrop due north. Do not follow the line of stones. From the rock outcrop head down to the stone wall, through and past several old settlement circles and huts. Keeping the wall on your left, follow it downhill to go through a gate into a lane in the trees.

Follow the track downhill, go past the buildings to reach the road where you shortly turn right at Teigncombe. The road curves right, left and right again - where you should go straight on down the track to eventually reach the road again at Leigh Bridge.

Carry straight on crossing Leigh Bridge and then follow the road past Holystreet Manor, where you will then come to a crossroads past the kennels and old mill.

Turn left and cross the bridge before taking the footpath through the gate on the right.

Follow the left-hand bank of the river along the well-trodden paths. Keep going, though some gates, passing the weir.

You will cross a footbridge, taking you across the fields to the right before joining the road at Rushford Bridge.

Turn right and then right again at the main road into Chagford. This will bring you into the centre where you turn left to find St Michael the Archangel Church, the end of The Archangel's Way.

Take time at this journey's end to reflect on the pilgrimage you have undertaken.

What have you seen? Who have you met along the way?

What have you heard? What have you learnt?

How will this pilgrimage change your onward journey?

May our God of the high moor, of tor and of the singing rivers

guide you, protect you and inspire you

with truth, goodness and beauty until your journey's end.

Amen