Where is the Drake link?

Sir Francis Drake returned from circumnavigating the globe in 1580, aboard his ship the Golden Hinde.

In his capacity as a 'privateer' licensed by Queen Elizabeth I, he plundered great riches from the Spanish merchant fleet, including gold, silver and jewels that would make him a very rich man.

With the proceeds of his adventures, Drake purchased Buckland Abbey for £3,400 in 1581 and with it a 500 acre estate stretching from the abbey down to the banks of the River Tavy at Lopwell. He lived at the Abbey until his death off the coast of Panama in 1596.

The Abbey is now run by the National Trust and is open to the public.

Other local information...

This walk starts with a section across the former airfield of RAF Harrowbeer. The second world war had a large impact on Yelverton, changing the shape of the village and adding thousands of people to the population.

The airfield was built after large parts of Plymouth had been destroyed as a result of countless air raids in early 1941. Some of the rubble from the bombings was brought to Yelverton as a base for the new runways, and also to re-route the A386 to Tavistock.

Still want to know more?

Buckland Abbey visitor information:

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/buckland

RAF Harrowbeer history and guided walk info:

www.rafharrowbeer.co.uk

Drake's Trail website for more recreation routes www.drakestrail.co.uk



find out more through the Drake's Trail podcasts available at: www.drakestrail.co.uk or www.drakestrailpodcasts.info

Accommodation & local services

There are numerous places to stay in and around Yelverton, from campsites to hotels catering to your every whim. Check the following websites for details and booking information:

www.drakesdartmoor.co.uk www.dartmoor.co.uk

Or contact the **Tavistock Tourist Information Centre** 01822 612938

email: tavistocktic@westdevon.gov.uk



How to get here

A regular, daily bus service runs between Plymouth and Tavistock, stopping at Yelverton. Most frequent are the 83 and 84 services. Other local services link Yelverton with surrounding villages. Timetables and more information are available from Traveline:

0871 200 22 33

www.traveline.org.uk

There is free parking at Yelverton along the edge of RAF Harrowbeer and also at designated places on the edge of Roborough Down.

There is short stay, pay and display parking by the village shops and also at the Leg O'Mutton corner.

Additional travel advice can be found at:

www.travelwise.org.uk

This document can be made available in large print, Braille, tape format, other languages or alternative format upon request. Please contact West Devon Borough Council on 01822 813600

Or email: services@westdevon.gov.uk



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Drake's Trail Walking Spur 3

Yelverton to **Buckland Abbey**



Start: Eastern edge of RAF Harrowbeer

Duration: 2 ½ - 3½ hours

Distance: 9 miles / 14.4 kilometres

Grade: DIFFICULT

Surface: Mainly firm off-road footpaths and

some minor roads. Includes steep

hills and frequent stiles.

Also see OS Explorer map OL28

Route directions and other advice / instructions are shown on the map inside.

Walking Spur 3 - Yelverton to Buckland Abbey Key At the stone seat, **A** junction on-road walking route turn right and - off-road walking route narrow road section continue downhill At the bottom of bus stop Drake's Trail cycle route the uneven steps turn right onto toilets Drake's Trail information the small road refreshments board podcast location Turn right as the path meets the Cross the road and road and continue along the verge walk on the cycle path, marked 27& As the track turns back to Yelverton to the left, take the As the path reaches There are five stiles to climb footpath on your a T-iunction, the Just after the twin right and follow village of Buckland on this section of path gates, take the small signs straight on Walk into the Monachorum is on gate on your right car park and your left. Turn right and walk across the out on the to continue the walk old airfield back to main path the start 14 downhill Turn right for a detour to the Garden House or continue over the small stream After a short Follow the footpath distance turn right Walk along the edge of into the hollow and RAF Harrowbeer and onto a footpath along the wall on past Roborough Rock the other side Go over the stile and down Opposite the turning the steps. Look for traffic for Venton, turn left before turning left onto the At the junction. onto the footpath road turn right and BUCKLAND MONACHORUM CP then immediately Turn left at the end of left into Golf the drive and go straight 11 Course Road over the crossroads Turn left Walk on the into verge where Buckland possible, Abbey taking great Turn left onto 16 17 care where the quiet road road narrows Climb the stone stile Walk uphill to the footpath sign and follow and continue in this direction the footuntil reaching the road path Turn right onto Roborough Down Milton and follow the Keep left as the Turn right onto wide middle path roads merge at a the footpath and "triangle" junction over a small bridge Jil. Opposite the end of the pub. take the small footpath between houses. Cross the road Follow through the woods Take the right fork and follow the where the path splits When the path ends Turn right onto the central path for road at the end of turn right onto the another 350m small road the path To Plymouth Scale: © Crown copyright. All rights 1km 250m 500m reserved. License number. Published 2009 100023302