

Exeter's Green Walks

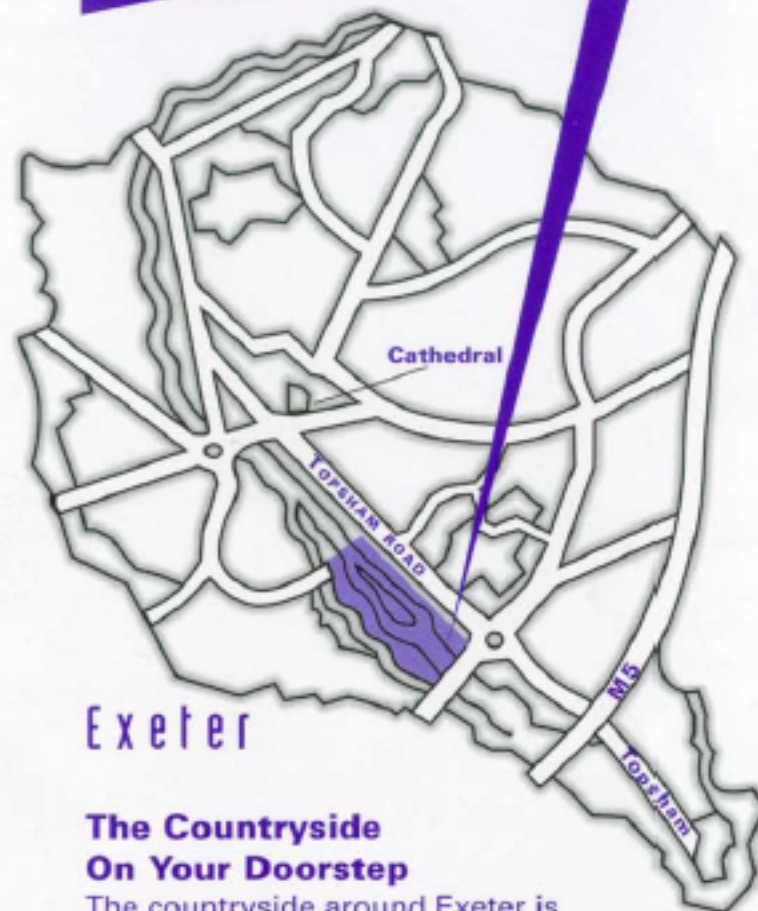
Introduction

The ancient Countess Wear bridge, shown on the cover, is the lowest crossing place on the tidal River Exe. Walk time: This 1 1/2 hr walk around the Exe floodplain includes wildlife 'hot-spots' and the fascinating historic paper mill area at Countess Wear. Terrain: mostly good paths and flat.

Directions

- 1 K or T bus to School Lane, off Topsham Rd. Along School Lane to Mill Road and then right into Mill Lane.
- 2 Illustrated boards about old paper mills. Follow road round to left over small bridge and turn right at Public Footpath sign
- 3 Follow the leat and then turn left at end of playing fields.
- 4 Straight on over Duckes Marsh Bridge.
- 5 Then left through the kiss gate and veer left to go along track through the fields.
- 6 At Double Locks pub veer right, go through stile, leave the field, and join canal bank footpath and turn left along canal.
- 7 At main road turn left, follow Bridge Road, over canal Swing Bridge and Countess Wear River Bridge and then left again into Countess Wear Road at 8
- 8 Countess Wear Road leads back to School Lane.

Countess Wear and Double Locks



The Countryside On Your Doorstep

The countryside around Exeter is there to be enjoyed but it is also a place where many people make their living so please respect the rights of landowners - keep to footpaths or bridleways and only enter fields where a signed stile or kissgate is provided.

Countess Wear and Double Locks



Countryside walks in Exeter

City View from Duckes Marsh Bridge

One of the best views of Exeter and its cathedral with quay in foreground.



St James Weir

Built to create the leat that provided power for the Mills of Countess Wear. Watch for leaping salmon in summer.



Grey Mullet

From Duckes Marsh Bridge large shoals of grey mullet and perch can be seen feeding in the shallows.



Otters

Along this stretch of the Exe look out for tracks and droppings, called spraints, used to mark their territories.



Snipe and dragonflies

This wetland below the canal bank is a fantastic place to view a variety of wildlife including snipe, herons and dragonflies.



Countess Wear Paper Mills

Old mills, leats, wheel pits, sluices and woodland walk.

