

Walks from the Railway

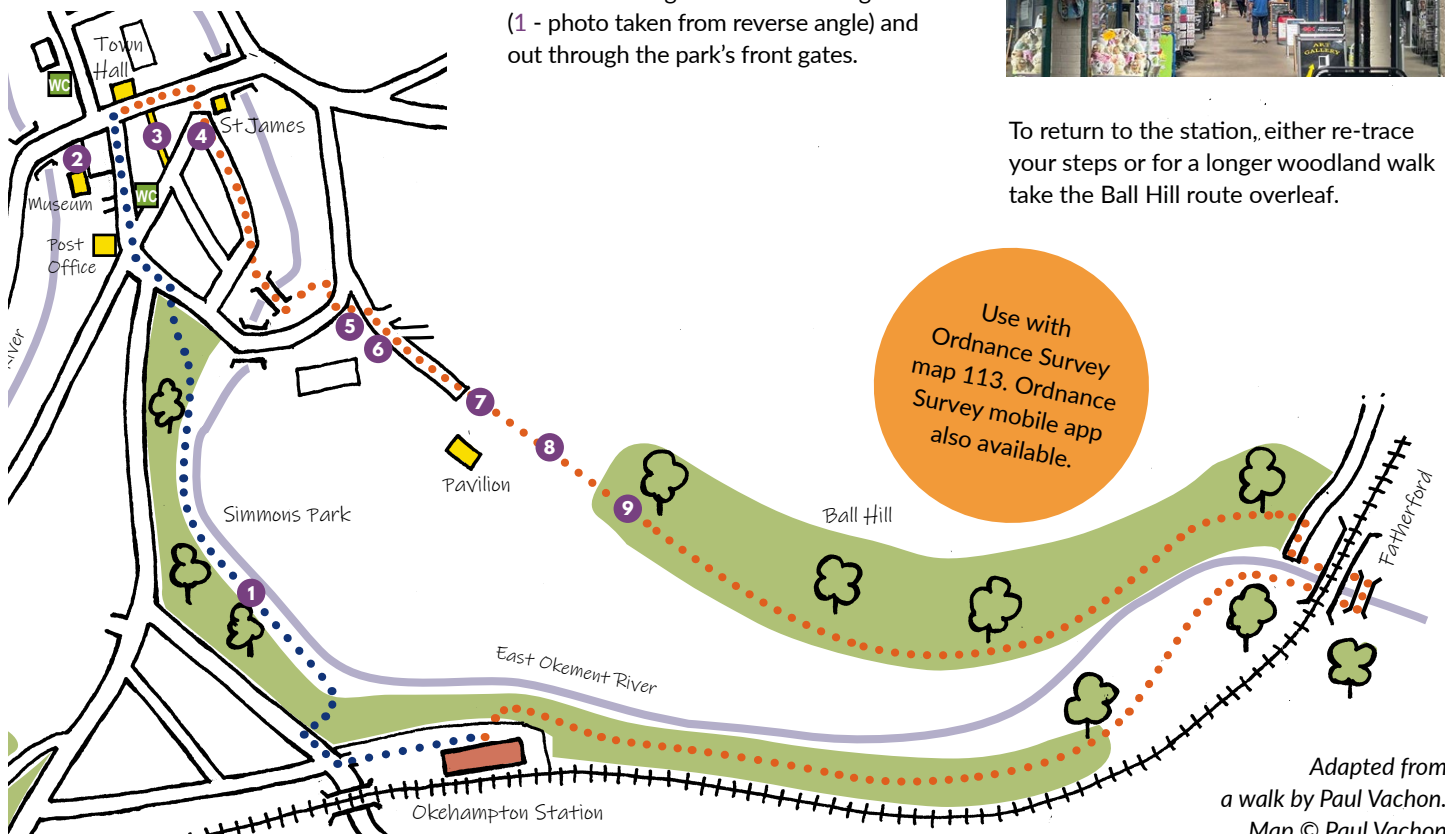
OKEHAMPTON

An attractive walk from the station into town through Simmons Park (uneven under foot in places). Then a countryside stroll back via Ball Hill woods and Fatherford.

● **TOWN** 0.6 MILES | 15 MINUTES

● **WOODS** 1.8 MILES | 1 HOUR

Line	Dartmoor Line
Start/End	Okehampton station
Facilities	Cafe and toilets at Okehampton station Amenities in town centre
Train times	GWR.com or 03457 484950



Station to town via Simmons Park

Bear in mind that the station is a lot higher than the town. This means an easy route down (albeit with some rocky steps to navigate in the woods down to the park), but a steady climb back up.

Turn left out of the front of the station and head down the slope towards the road. Turn right down the road, and after about 30 metres there is a gated narrow gravel path on the right that leads into Simmons Park.

After 30 metres you will come to a junction. Take the middle path with the rugged steps. This will take you down to the main Park path. You will pass the ornate Chalet Treloar on the left and here the path runs alongside the river.

Continue through the ornamental gardens (1 - photo taken from reverse angle) and out through the park's front gates.

Continue on past the Post Office on your left and into the town. When you reach the traffic lights you are on Fore Street - once the main road into Cornwall.

The stone building facing you is the Town Hall, originally built in the 17th century. To your left is the White Hart and to the left of that is the entrance to a courtyard which leads to the Museum of Dartmoor Life (2) and Tourist Information.



Back up along Fore Street on the right is the Victorian Shopping Arcade (3) and further along is St James Chapel.

On the opposite side of the road you will find the entrance to the Red Lion Retail Village. The town has many cafes, pubs, restaurants and fast food facilities.



To return to the station, either re-trace your steps or for a longer woodland walk take the Ball Hill route overleaf.

Adapted from
a walk by Paul Vachon.
Map © Paul Vachon

Return via Ball Hill woods and Fatherford

Sensible footwear may be required for this route. It has occasionally been known to be waterlogged and slippery - not unusual being this close to Dartmoor!



Head behind St James Chapel (tall and easy to spot at the end of the high street), and turn left at the large three-dimensional mural (4) on to Park Row.



When the road forks, take the left path. Go over the bridge. As you leave the bridge turn immediately left, passing the old mill on your right.



Follow the path round and just before the car park turn right, bringing you back round to the road. Cross carefully and mount the steps to the left of the 19th century water wheel of Town Mill (5).



At the top of the steps, turn right. The road very soon splits several ways. Keep towards the right, ignoring the residential Courtenay Road, and instead take the road with the marked pedestrian lane (6).



Continue along this road with Okehampton College on your right. At the end, go through the gate on to the public footpath (7). Continue passing fields on your left (8). Carry straight on until you enter Ball Hill woods (9).

Walk alongside the stone wall for several minutes. The path then rises up hill, with the river down below. Continue along and down again, with the handrail on your right.

Once the handrail ends, continue for several more minutes until you go through a gate on to the road. Turn right.

Turn right, signposted 'Bridlepath Station Road'. Go through the gate and follow the path all the way back until you reach steps on your left hand side up to the station (signposted).

Go through the next gate, then under Fatherford Viaduct and across the bridge.

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