St Hilary South

St Hilary – Llanblethian – Llandough – St Mary Church – Flemingston – Llanbethery – Treguff – St Hilary
11 miles-18km / 4½-5 ½ hours / 1,100 feet ascent
Lots of stiles and gates
Mainly field paths and tracks, some country lanes towards the end

Overview

This is the longest walk in the series and, although St Hilary is the highest point of the walk, there is over 1,000 feet of ascent.

There are three distinct sections. Tracks and woodland to Llanblethian, then fields and little used paths and roads to Flemingston, across Flemingston Moor to Llanbethery and finally a quiet country lane back to the village.

There's no pub along the route, so the Bush is the place to aim for!

Route information

Start/Finish	The Bush Inn, St Hilary / Grid reference ST 016733
Pub stop	The Bush
Distance:	11 miles / 18 km
Time:	4½–5½ hours
Highest point:	330 feet / 100m
Lowest point:	20 feet / 6m
Total ascent:	1,100 feet/ 330m
Map:	OS Explorer 151 1:25,000

Notes

- This map can be downloaded as a pdf file from www.sthilary.org.uk/walks/south - on your laptop/PC or smartphone
- Details of all the routes from St Hilary and advice are on the website www.sthilary.org.uk/walks
- There can be bramble/nettles on some stiles, so secateurs are useful
- An OS map or the OS app is highly recommended – don't just rely on this guide
- Email info@sthilary.org.uk if there are any errors in the instructions or problems on the route
- Disclaimer: you undertake these walks at your own risk – take great care when crossing roads and on the lanes

Directions: part 1 – St Hilary to St Mary Church (7km)

1. Facing the main entrance of the Bush, turn to the left, round the corner to the right and down the lane
2. At the derestricted speed sign after 200m, ignore the "No Through Road" sign – only applies to vehicles
3. At the "Private Road" sign after a further 400m, take the track to the right up into the woods (opposite the Coach House drive on the left) and then left through the woods parallel with the lane
4. The path drops down to a stile, turn left into the field then through a gate and right onto the farm track
5. At the end of the track (1.2 km) cross the main road – take care – and through the gate and onto a track leading to the waterworks (don't go over the home made stile on the right) – just before the waterworks go right though a double gate then follow the stream on the left to a footbridge in 400m
6. Cross the footbridge and turn right and continue with the stream on the right over three stiles and eventually through a (sometimes muddy) paddock and then turn left onto the road
7. After 100m take the enclosed path to the left after the 2nd house
8. Over a concrete stile then diagonally right to a stile, then go straight up the field keeping hedge on the left, then over a stile
9. Cross a farm track through two gates, keep the hedge on right, then over a stile
10. Straight downhill through the field, then bear slightly to the left and cross the drive through two small gates into a field, keeping to the trees on the left
11. 20m before the corner of the field go left over stile through a small copse, then over stile in the right corner
12. After 20m take a clear zig zag path to right, then right down a drive – at the lane turn left, and after a further 25m follow the lane right and downhill
If you continue straight on you can visit Llandough Church (St Dochdwy)
13. At the T junction at the bottom of the hill turn very sharp right, over the river and follow the lane up the hill
14. Just before the crest of the road go over a stile to left in a high bank – head for St Mary Church on the horizon over several stiles
15. Follow a straight line over stiles until dropping down by the right of a small farm / builders yard, cross a footbridge, over a stile in the corner then cross the main road diagonally right (take great care)
16. Over a stile on the left, up a steep bank and over a stile, turn left onto farm track, then right before a house, head for the stile in the apex of the wood opposite, follow the path uphill in the wood, over a stile, up a steep hill to the next stile eventually coming out in St Mary Church

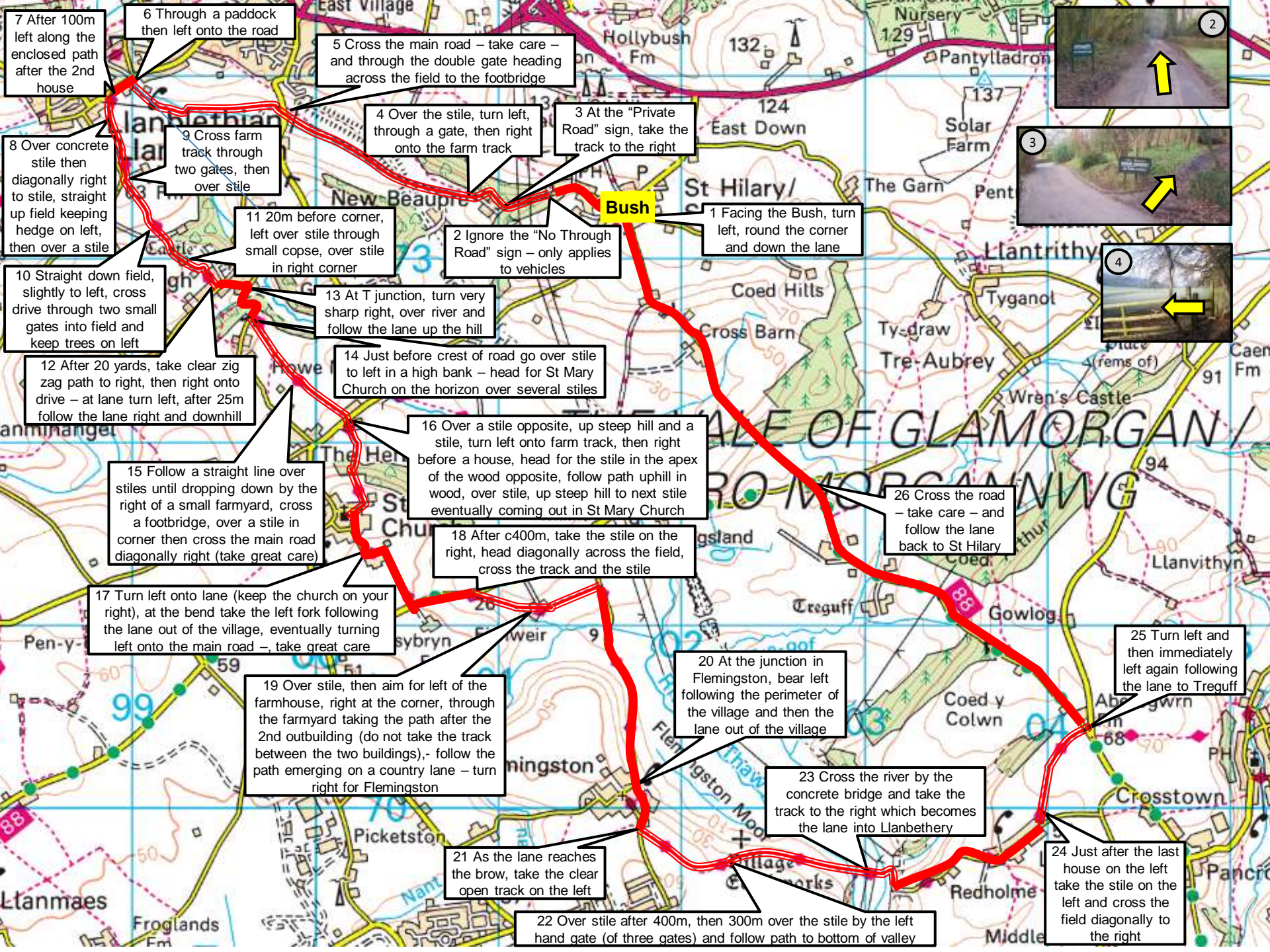**Directions: part 2 – St Mary Church to St Hilary (11km)**

17. Turn left onto lane in St Mary Church (keep the church on your right), at the bend take the left fork following the lane out of the village, eventually turning left onto the main road – this is a fast busy road, take great care

18. After c400m, take the stile on the right, head diagonally across the field, cross the track and the stile

19. Over a stile, then aim for left of the farmhouse (Fishweir), right at the corner, through the farmyard taking the path after the 2nd outbuilding (do not take the track between the two buildings) – follow the path emerging on a country lane – turn right for Flemingston

20. At the junction in Flemingston, bear left following the perimeter of the village and then the lane out of the village

21. As the lane reaches the brow, take the clear open track on the left

22. Over stile after 400m, then a further 300m to a stile by the left hand gate (of three gates) and follow the path down to the bottom of the valley (Flemingston Moors)

23. Cross the river by the concrete bridge and take the track to the right which becomes the lane uphill into Llanbethery

24. Walk through Llanbethery – just after the last house on the left take the stile on the left and cross the field diagonally to the right
(If this field is overgrown, continue along the lane and then turn left and left again to reach the lane on the left to St Hilary)

25. Over the stile at the far side of the field, turn left and then immediately left again following the lane downhill to Treguff

26. After 2.5km cross the road – take care – and follow the switchback lane for a further 2.2km back to St Hilary

Path

Lane

There are three versions of the map on the following pages:
- The first has directions
- The second is less messy with just the numeric reference to these directions
- The third is a simplified version based on the standard OS view

Bush

7 After 100m left along the enclosed path after the 2nd house

6 Through a paddock then left onto the road

5 Cross the main road – take care – and through the double gate heading across the field to the footbridge

4 Over the stile, turn left, through a gate, then right onto the farm track

3 At the "Private Road" sign, take the track to the right

8 Over concrete stile then diagonally right to stile, straight up field keeping hedge on left, then over a stile

9 Cross farm track through two gates, then over stile

11 20m before corner, left over stile through small copse, over stile in right corner

2 Ignore the "No Through Road" sign – only applies to vehicles

1 Facing the Bush, turn left, round the corner and down the lane

10 Straight down field, slightly to left, cross drive through two small gates into field and keep trees on left

13 At T junction, turn very sharp right, over river and follow the lane up the hill

12 After 20 yards, take clear zig zag path to right, then right onto drive – at lane turn left, after 25m follow the lane right and downhill

14 Just before crest of road go over stile to left in a high bank – head for St Mary Church on the horizon over several stiles

16 Over a stile opposite, up steep hill and a stile, turn left onto farm track, then right before a house, head for the stile in the apex of the wood opposite, follow path uphill in wood, over stile, up steep hill to next stile eventually coming out in St Mary Church

15 Follow a straight line over stiles until dropping down by the right of a small farmyard, cross a footbridge, over a stile in corner then cross the main road diagonally right (take great care)

26 Cross the road – take care – and follow the lane back to St Hilary

18 After c400m, take the stile on the right, head diagonally across the field, cross the track and the stile

17 Turn left onto lane (keep the church on your right), at the bend take the left fork following the lane out of the village, eventually turning left onto the main road –, take great care

25 Turn left and then immediately left again following the lane to Treguff

20 At the junction in Flemingston, bear left following the perimeter of the village and then the lane out of the village

19 Over stile, then aim for left of the farmhouse, right at the corner, through the farmyard taking the path after the 2nd outbuilding (do not take the track between the two buildings),- follow the path emerging on a country lane – turn right for Flemingston

23 Cross the river by the concrete bridge and take the track to the right which becomes the lane into Llanbethery

24 Just after the last house on the left take the stile on the left and cross the field diagonally to the right

21 As the lane reaches the brow, take the clear open track on the left

22 Over stile after 400m, then 300m over the stile by the left hand gate (of three gates) and follow path to bottom of valley

Bush

St Hilary / Sain Hilari

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN / BRO MORGANNWG

New Beaupre

Llanblethian Llanfleiddan

Llandough

St Mary Church

Maesybryn Fm

Fishweir

Flemingston

Llanmaes

Pen-y-Bryn

Tydraw Fm

Picketston

Village Earthworks

Redholme

Llanbethery / Llanbydderi

Middlecross

Crosstown

Aberogwrn Fm

Coed y Colwn

Coed Arthur

Gowlog

Treguff

Kingsland

Cross Barn

Coed Hills

Tre-Aubrey

Ty-draw

The Garn

Llantrithy

Tyganol

Llanvithyn

Wren's Castle

Solar Farm

Pantylladron

Hollybush Fm

East Village

Mon

St Hilary Down

East Down

Ty'n-y-caeau

Newhouse Fm

Coed y Grabla

Howe Mill Fm

The Herberts

Pen-yr-heol

Gigman Mill

River Thaw

Flemingston Moor

Tre-gof

Bush