



Things to look out for...

Walled garden: The walled garden dates back to the 1800s, when it would have provided soft fruit for Parke House. The ground slopes giving the walls an unusual shape. After many years of neglect it is now jointly run by the National Trust and Bovey Community Garden to produce locally grown fruit and vegetables, including, almonds, figs, cherries, pears, grapes, root vegetables, salad leaves and cut flowers. There is a poly tunnel for salad crops and a solar powered pump for irrigation from the original well. Find out more at www.boveycommunitygarden.org.uk.

Apple orchard: Contains 150 apple trees and an abundant display of mistletoe.

Disused railway line: The route was once the track bed of the Moretonhampstead branch line run by the Great Western Railway. The disused railway line is used today as a short cycle track and level walk and forms part of the Wray Valley Trail.

Medieval weir: The weir on the River Bovey feeds the fishpond and mill. The River Bovey starts its journey on the moor above North Bovey, eight miles northwest of Parke. It continues on through Bovey Tracey and eventually joins the River Teign. For centuries the power of the river has provided a source of energy for mills and industry along its banks. The weir you see today at Parke dates back to medieval times. The leat (man-made water channel) dating from 1640, took water from the river at the weir to run a water powered mill in nearby Bovey Tracey. Over the centuries the leat and weir fell into disuse, but still provide valuable fresh water to the wildlife rich wet meadows of the Parke estate.

Old rubbish heaps: Along the valley bottom at Blackmoor Copse and along the river edge you can find overgrown waste heaps. These are the remains from extracting tin from the river gravels.



Dartmoor Pony & Education Centre: The Dartmoor Pony Heritage Trust (DPHT) is a registered charity established in 2005 to protect and conserve the Dartmoor pony on Dartmoor.

The DPHT first started working with the National Trust in 2007 when it started training rangers in management techniques suitable for dealing with semi-feral ponies on conservation grazing sites across the UK.

For further details please visit the DPHT website www.dpht.co.uk, telephone 01626 833234.

Suggested Walks

There are lots of paths for you to walk at Parke and you are free to wander in the parkland in front of the house. Here are three suggested routes of different lengths to get the most from your visit depending on how far you want to walk. Follow the coloured way-markers.

For your safety

Walks can be uneven (look out for tree roots especially on the riverbank), wet and slippery, so please wear suitable footwear. There are steep climbs on the medium and long routes.

Short BLACK ROUTE (20-30 minutes) -

easy walking
Good route for late spring and summer. Includes riverside meadows, disused railway track and some woodland.

Medium PURPLE ROUTE (30 minutes -

one hour) - some strenuous walking
Includes riverside meadows, woodland along the river and a steep climb through Blackmoor Copse and then on through Ledge Wood.

Long RED ROUTE (two hours - to half a day)

- some strenuous walking
Includes disused railway track, lots of woodland including Parke Wood, Kathleen Wood, Blackmoor Copse and Ledge Wood. Includes a steep climb up through Blackmoor Copse. Good views of Parke House and the orchard. Take a picnic and stop off for a bite to eat along the way.

Points of Interest

- 1 House (not open to the public)
- 2 Walled garden
- 3 Orchard
- 4 Weir
- 5 Dartmoor Pony Visitor Centre
- 6 Old railway track
- 7 Fishpond
- 8 Kathleen Wood
- 9 Blackmoor Copse
- 10 Ledge Wood

Key for Map

- 11 NT offices / Refreshments / Toilets
- 12 View point
- 13 Dog bins
- 14 Car park
- 15 Public footpaths

