

# Moreton Village Circular

*Jurassic Jaunts*

[www.jurassicjaunts.co.uk](http://www.jurassicjaunts.co.uk)

**Length: 3.1 miles / 4.9 Km**

**Ascent/Descent: 80 Ft**

**Start: Junction area by the Church Drive or Walled Garden. Toilets at the Walled Garden Tea Room**

1. Park in the centre of the village in the area outside the Walled Garden
2. Head down the road marked with the Brown Moreton Church sign, past the entrance to the Church Drive and down the No Through Road to the Ford.
3. Cross the Ford, proceed for 200m and around the next bend to the Left.
4. Go over the bridge and just after the Right hand bend, turn left and over the stile signposted Frome Valley Trail and Waddock Dairy.
5. After the stile take the left fork of the 2 paths.
6. Follow the track for 1.25 Km to meet a junction with a track coming from the Right and one straight ahead. Go straight ahead to the farm and straight through the farm along the track to meet the road..
7. Turn Right and carefully walk 250m up to the junction.
8. Turn Right and walk for ½ mile/.75 Km along the wood-lined road, heading for Bovington Camp and Clouds Hill. Note: Busy road, care needed. Great for Bluebells in the spring
9. You will see a small brick wall on the left of the road as you approach your next turn. After another 100m, turn right, signposted Jubilee Trail and Public Footpath.
10. You will exit the wooded area onto a track. After 20m, turn Right along the County Council Footpath. Note: Can be muddy.
11. Follow the path for about 400m over 4 boardwalks until you meet a footbridge over a small stream.
12. Cross the field for about 100m to the next gate and bridge.
13. Proceed straight across the field for 300m heading for the right end of the hedge on the far side.
14. Follow the Jubilee Trail signs along the side of the wood and along the edge of the field to meet the Frome Valley Trail stile you crossed on the way out.
15. Cross the stile, turn right, over the bridge and follow the track around to the Right to meet the Ford.
16. Straight ahead and back towards the village.
17. At this point, an excellent option is to turn L through the white gate and walk up Church Drive and visit St Nicholas Church. (This is the only church in the world with all it's windows engraved and is a unique art experience).
17. Retract your steps back to the village centre.
18. In the village there is also a free-to-enter Walled Garden, 2 tearooms and a small garden centre.

## **Moreton Church Information**

People come from all over the world to see the amazing engraved glass windows by Sir Laurence Whistler, and the grave of Lawrence of Arabia in the churchyard.

Uniquely Moreton Church is believed to be the only church in the world where all the windows are engraved. All these clear glass windows are the spectacular work of Whistler, depicting butterflies, birds, rabbits, candles, wild flowers, stars, planets and local scenes.

Details of the windows:

On entering the church you will feel an immediate sense of unexpected light and tranquillity.

In 1940 a bomb blew out the Church's north wall and windows: restoration took 10 years. Laurence

Whistler, a new glass engraver, was commissioned to design the apse windows. The apse windows were engraved in London to Whistler's design, on one side of the glass only. Each outer panel shows lit candle flames bearing towards the central dove, and the middle panel has emblems of the passion. Over the next 30 years Whistler completed a lifetime's work to engrave all the other windows. The later windows being engraved on both sides of the glass to create the three dimensional effect - see the Four Seasons Window (1974); the Trinity Chapel Window (1982) in memory of an RAF pilot; and the Galaxy Window above the west door (1984) with a spiral galaxy between Alpha and Omega containing stars turning into flowers, space walkers, chromosomes & sheaves of corn. Whistler donated a 13th window, The Forgiveness Window, which was installed in 2014 after being displayed for many years in Dorchester Museum.

#### Details of Lawrence of Arabia

T E Lawrence's burial place is in the church's 'New Cemetery' graveyard:

Lieutenant-Colonel T E Lawrence, C.B., D.S.O., was a British Army officer renowned especially for his liaison role during the Arab revolt against Ottoman Turkish rule of 1916–18. The extraordinary breadth and variety of his activities and associations, along with his ability to describe them vividly in writing, earned him international fame as Lawrence of Arabia.

In 1935, he was killed whilst living at Clouds Hill (now a National Trust property nearby). His funeral was held in Moreton Church, where dignitaries including Mr & Mrs Winston Churchill, Bernard Shaw and Augustus John came to pay their respects.