

ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT

August 2018

Buckfast Pilgrimage: SALISBURY to BUCKFAST

General Notes: It is recognised that some pilgrims may become tired or blistered after walking long distances and may prefer the “luxury” of being transported over part of the route. It is for this reason that the following information is provided to help you. We have viable means of alternative public transport available each day this year 'though not necessarily door-to-door: some days you will still have a mile or two to walk. Note that bus information is sometimes given to/from town centre or bus-station which may not be the most accessible from the overnight hall although, this year, an attempt has been made to add more detailed information on the nearest stop. Where important, timing of the last bus (or ferry!) of the day is given in **BOLD**. The word “station” includes both bus or railway station unless they are a distance apart. Out of town, conventional bus-stops don't always exist and you may need to “Hail & Ride” at places - check with locals.

This information is provided in good faith as a guide, not necessarily the fastest or cheapest (or only) choice of transport! Times are based on published timetables but take no account of any temporary variations which may apply, say due to road works. You should preferably check live times via the internet, for example *Google Earth* shows nearby bus stops and gives “next bus“ times. Or ask the driver: most, in my experience, are friendly and will try to help, although they won't have time to give you detailed timetables! For possible rail journeys use *National Rail Enquiries*.

Further details may be available from the day planner(s).

It is **MOST important**, if you deviate or drop out from the guided pilgrim route (whether by plan or circumstance), that you advise Clare Gamble (in the drinks car and elsewhere) so that we don't worry that you have got lost! Use mobile telephone (numbers are given in your daily route notes) in case of emergency.

If you might need to take several different buses, “**1 hour**” or **day tickets** may be available (usually from the driver of your first bus of the day) for most, if not all the area covered this year, Do enquire about through tickets if you need to change.

Aug 11, Day 1: Register at Salisbury, St Paul's church. A short walk to the north-east of the railway station. Induction service at the cathedral, about 800 metres (arrowed) from there.

Work out your own route to Salisbury. From London (Waterloo) there are frequent trains to Salisbury – at 20 and 50 minutes past the hour. It takes 80 to 90 minutes, with off-peak single fares at £34.40.

(There are separate instructions describing arrangements for registration on Saturday and other events at Salisbury.)

From *Salisbury to Lover*: Bus route **44** (1420, 1555, **1720**) from Salisbury, Blue Boar Row to Lover, Morgan's Vale Road (about 35 min). Alternatively the **X3** bus from Blue Boar Row (towards Bournemouth) runs at 1310, and every half hour, and will take you as far as Downton, The Bull (takes 15 min) then you have a 1.5 km walk to Lover.

Aug 12, Day 2 (Sunday): *Lover – Fordingbridge - Ringwood*: Route **X3** (from Downton, The Bull, which is 1.5 km walk) at xx55, takes 25 minutes, to Ringwood, Meeting House Lane (this is the main bus interchange). Then a short walk (500 metres) to the overnight. This bus also serves Fordingbridge where you “pick your own” stop for lunch.

Aug 13, Day 3: *Ringwood – Holt Heath - Wimborne Minster*: Route **X3** from Meeting House Lane at xx19 to Bournemouth (Square), stand U (about 35 min) then **13** (xx05, xx35) to Wimborne, St John's Church (bottom of St John's Hill) – takes a further 58 minutes.

From Ringwood the nearest bus stop to Holt Heath is at Three-Legged Cross, The Woodcutters, on route **X6** (Stand A, 1137) which takes 30 min. Then there is a 2km walk. I have not found a realistic onward bus to Wimborne from Holt Heath.

Aug 14, Day 4: *Wimborne Minster - Sturminster Marshall - Wareham*. Walk (600 metres) or bus **13** (xx25, xx55, takes 3 min) to Wimborne Square; then route **3** (xx25, xx55) to Poole bus station (37 min); then route **40** (xx05, xx35) from Poole, stand F to Wareham, South Bridge (40 min).

Alternatively bus route **88** from Wimborne to Sturminster for the lunch stop. Then route X6 from Sturminster to Poole. (Then route **40**, as above).

Aug 15, Day 5: Rest day at Wareham

Aug 16, Day 6: *Wareham – Kimmeridge - West Lulworth*. Route **105** from Wareham, North Street (1015, **1315**) via Wool, rail station; then **104** (you

stay on same bus) to West Lulworth, War Memorial (56 min total).

There appear to be NO public transport links to or from the Kimmeridge lunch stop – or anywhere near it.

Aug 17, Day 7: *West Lulworth – Osmington Mills - Dorchester.* The easiest way is by bus **104** (0922, 1135, **1304** in the direction of Bovington, to Wool rail station; then train (xx35, £5.40) to Dorchester (13 min).

To Osmington, Mills Road, you need to travel in the direction of Weymouth on the **X54** (1100, 1300, takes 29 min); Osmington Mills is a walk (via Mills Road) of 1.5 km from there, towards the coast.

After lunch, back to Osmington, then route 5 (1450, **1710**) direct to Dorchester which takes 38 min. It is also possible to travel via Weymouth: **X54, X55, 30**, then **10** or **30** to Dorchester.

Aug 18, Day 8: *Dorchester to Bridport.* Route **X51**, takes about 50 min.

No lunch information received yet.

Aug 19, Day 9 (Sunday): *Bridport – Whitchurch Canonorum - Lyme Regis*

Route **X53**, takes about 40 min. Travels through Whitchurch C. for lunch stop.

Aug 20, Day 10: *Lyme Regis - Seaton - Sidmouth* Route **9A** (35 min past the hour, The Square), Arrives Seaton (Harbour Road) 57 min, past then continues after a further 3 min (on the hour). Arrives Sidmouth (Triangle) at 33 min past. (58 min total).

Aug 21, Day 11: Rest day at Sidmouth

Aug 22, Day 12: *Sidmouth - Budleigh Salterton - Kenton:* Route **157** (0945, hourly, from Sidmouth Triangle) arrives Budleigh S Library (Stop B) at 29 min past for the lunch stop and continues from here to Exmouth, arr 42 min past.

NOTE We have to be at Exmouth in time for the (last of the day) Starcross ferry at **1740**, so don't be late – it's a long walk round! From Starcross bus route 2 (1822, 1850 . .) takes 5 min to Kenton Triangle.

Aug 23, Day 13: *Kenton – Dawlish - Barton (Lummaton Cross):* Route **2** from Kenton (1000, every 30 min) takes about 25 min to Dawlish, The Green for lunch (pick your own). Continue on route **22** (5 past the hour), via Teignmouth to Torquay Harbour, Then local route **34** (every 30 min) to

Barton, Happaway Rd.

Aug 24, Day 14: *Barton – Ipplepen - Ashburton*: Route **34** (every 30 min) to Torquay, then **88** to Ashburton. This bus travels via Ipplepen for the suggested lunch stop

Aug 25, Day 15: *Ashburton to Buckfast Abbey*: A short day. Route **88** from Ashburton, Bull Ring to Buckfastleigh and Buckfast Abbey, hourly (44 min past), takes 27 minutes. Lunch in or near the Abbey grounds: the planners will detail the possibilities the previous evening.

Aug 26, Day 16 (Sunday): Journey home

Optional rail, via *Buckfastleigh to Totnes*, £9, on the South Devon line, connecting with the main line to Paddington (about one per hour, irregular at £54.80 off-peak fare) and takes 2 to 3 hours. Change at Exeter for other routes (*separate document for train times from Totnes and Exeter*).