



SHAFTESBURY SNOWDROPS

DIAMOND JUBILEE COMMUNITY LEGACY

This walk of 15 - 20 minutes taking in key plantings of Shaftesbury Snowdrops on tarmac and cobbles taking in some history, stunning views of the surrounding countryside.

(1) Start the walk at the Angel Lane Car Park and walk up through the Library gardens  turn left onto Bell Street passing the "Pop Up" Snowdrop Festival shop on the way. At the end of Bell Street turn left towards the High Street.

(Cross carefully) over to the other side of the road.

(2) Just after Barclay's Bank turn right into Church Lane and go through the ungated entrance into Trinity Churchyard.

Here over 100,000 snowdrop bulbs have been planted. 

Go straight ahead. At the gateway at the far end, exit the churchyard, emerging onto Abbey Walk.

[3] Take a short detour by turning left down Abbey Walk towards the War Memorial on "Park Walk" Turn right, keeping the wall of hospital garden on your right. Take a short detour to the corner of the wall to look at a Plaque and

Snowdrops planted by individuals to commemorate their loved ones with support from the Weldmar Hospital Trust 

[4] Turn back towards the town along Park walk and through the gates of The Abbey Museum and Garden to see the Heritage collection of Shaftesbury Snowdrops displayed during the festival each February £3.00 entry. The Garden is not ideal for wheelchairs but the museum is. *The Abbey ruins are a Scheduled Monument. Founded by King Alfred the Great, with his daughter as the first Abbess, it is the site where King Canute died, where Robert the Bruce's wife was held hostage for a year, and where the remains of King Edward the Martyr were buried after his murder at Corfe*

Castle. Venerated by many generations until Henry the Eighth dissolved all the monasteries in the 16th Century. 

[8] On leaving the Abbey turn left back along Park Walk Pause  to admire the views over the Blackmore Vale .At the High Street either go straight on passed the Town Hall until you reach the three way junction and bear left back into Bell Street Car Park. Or, you could turn left by Barclay's Bank" and then curve right onto Bell Street by the "Tourist Information Centre (Cross carefully at this three way junction) From there you could retrace your steps back to the Pop Up Shop on Bell St. for more information gifts, arts and crafts.