

**Ingress:** Holne Weir (SX733705) either BCU land between Lent Hill and Holne bridge, look for small lay-by, **don't use gate**, walk a further 100m up road towards bridge to 2<sup>nd</sup> gate/gap in hedge that takes you through the woods to Holne weir or RDCP (£5 fee)  
**Egress:** Dart Valley Railway and Butterfly Farm at Buckfastleigh– follow the brown signs! (SX745667). **Beware of 8 foot high bridge**, most vans with kayaks on the roof won't fit!

**Approx Length:** 3.7 miles.

**Time Needed:** 1 ½ - 3 hours

**Out of fishing season:** 1st Oct to 14th March . **Grade:** Grade 2

**Levels:** Ukkiversguidebook twitter! Web-cam at [RDCP](#) [EA Austins Bridge](#)

### Description

Holne weir which must be taken with extreme caution at medium and high flows as the stopper and towback are fierce. Under these conditions it is best shot on the extreme left or **we'll put in below it. 2011 fence in water on R-left of weir.**

Another tiny weir follows shortly afterwards; this has been developed into a play-hole by RDCP. It can be quite lively for beginners (and others)

After Waterworks Bridge (access road to RDCP), there are some one-off Grade 2 rapids to enjoy, the most notable being where the river funnels right past a small ledge, and where it drops steeply through waves and stoppers to the left of a big island.

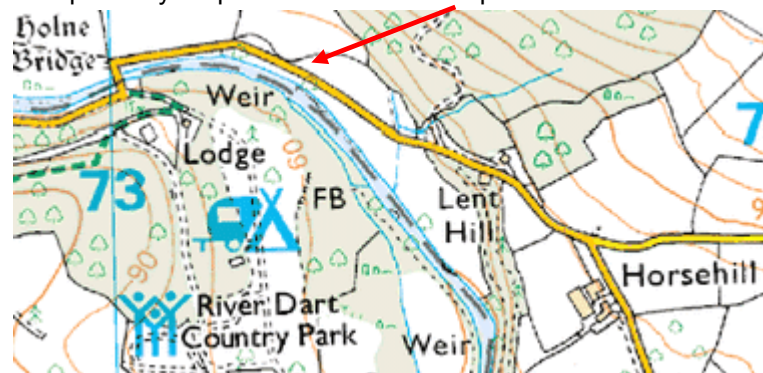
Eventually you see Buckfastleigh Abbey come into view on river right and [Furzeleigh Weir](#). Get out on river left above this huge weir. You have the choice of a long slide (**with reinforcing rods poking up**) or a series of awkward steps down a fish-pass (**dangerous undercut**) or a portage on left, which is probably what you'll want to do in anything other than low levels.

Below is an interesting gorge section with unusual currents and many standing waves. After an older road bridge a few 100 m takes you to a modern (A38) road bridge after which egress river right at the Dart Valley Railway and Butterfly Farm. **Stop before**

**Salmon steps weir!**

PLEASE patronise the railway café (in dry clothing!) if you are parking here.

We'll probably drop off at BCU land and park most cars at Buckfastleigh.



Mobile phone carried by trip leader and one other – pay phones marked on map. First aid kits carried by first aiders – identified at put in briefing





Egress  
next to  
Butterflies  
and Otters  
blue arrow!

**Driving-** M5 to Exeter until it becomes the A38 carry on for 16.9m to pear Tree Junction

(At Ashburton ignore first exit carry on 1.1m to Pear Tree Junction Brown signs for River Dart Country Park RDCP) take slip road turn right onto B3352 for

0.2 mi then turn left at Western Rd for 0.3 mi Slight left at Bowden Hill

After 1.1mi look for small lay-by (or slightly wider road) if you go over Holne Bridge turn around you've driven 1/4m too far.

GPS approx **TQ13 7NS** this will take you approx 0.5m beyond the put in so when 0.5m from destination start looking.

### Getting to Butterfly Farm

Back towards A38 but turn right just before the garage (if you miss the first turn there is a 2<sup>nd</sup> just before A38) follow road for 1.7m down to T junction turn right for 0.4m and turn left Signed Railway/Otters/Butterflies etc. Go past small car park area then parallel with railway under low bridge and you've arrived at large car park go down to far end. The river is borders the car park. GPS again approx **TQ11 0DZ**

**We will leave the majority of cars in the Butterfly car park – it's free and safe.** We'll then squeeze as many drivers in as few cars to go back up to Holne.