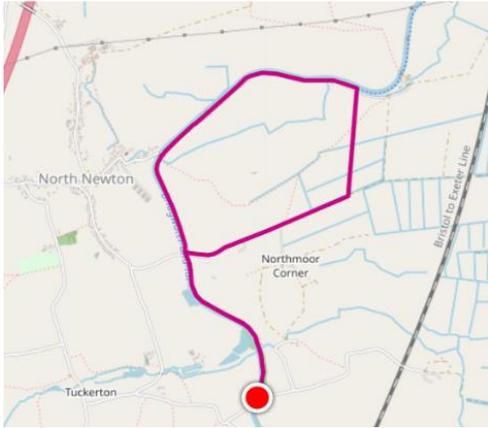
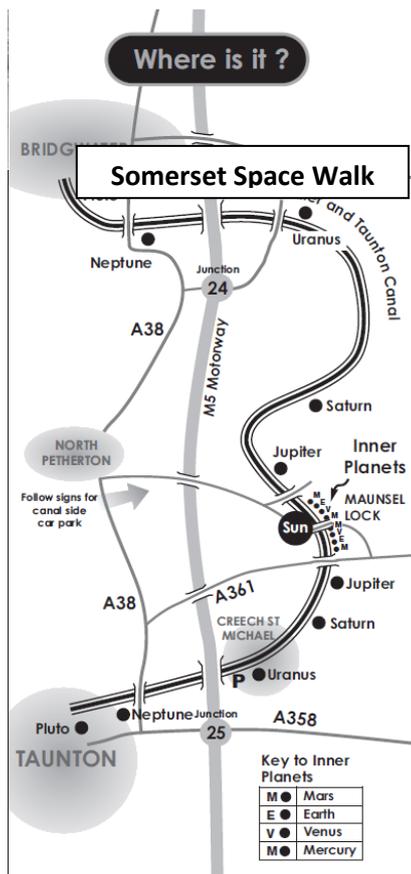


## Walks from Lower Maunsel Lock Car Park (ST 30765 29793)

### 1) Taunton & Bridgwater Canal Loop via Middlemoor Drove – Distance 3¼ miles



At the Bridge next to the Maunsel Lock Tearooms turn left along the canal tow path. Follow the path for approx 1¼ mile until you reach **Kings Lock**. Along the route keep an eye out for planets along the towpath that form part of the **Somerset Space Walk** (this a true scale model of our Solar System with the planets placed along the Bridgwater to Taunton Canal with the sun centred at Higher Maunsel Lock. The planets go both ways along the tow path from here) On route you will also come across some of the World War 2 Pill box's that formed part of the **"Stop Line"** A defensive line designed to stop the enemy's advance from the west



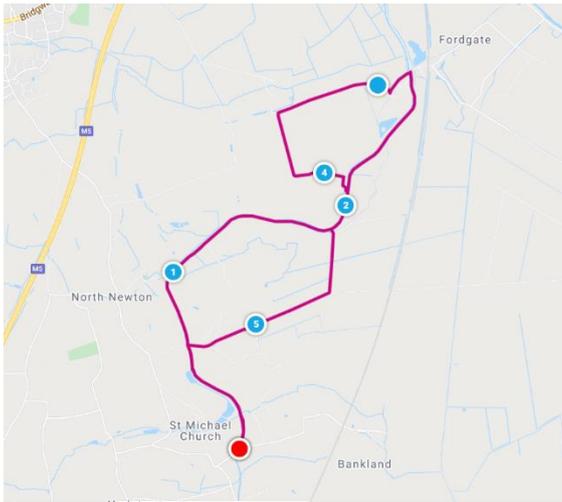
Continue along the tow path past Kings Lock for another ½ mile. Just past Whites Farm there is a small gate in the hedge on the right-hand side. Go through the gate over a small stream bridge and then go straight over the track to the left of the farmhouse. (if you reach bridge 14 you have gone 200m too far. If you want to extend your route by ¼ mile go past Bridge 14 to Standards Lock where there is a picnic area)

Follow the path between the trees until it opens out onto the moors. After ¼ mile turn right at the end onto Middlemoor Drove. Keep your eyes and ears open for the Skylark, Sedge Warblers, Reed Buntings or even a Roe Deer along the rhynes.

The Dirt track across Middlemoor eventually ends up back on the canal path after ½ mile. Turn left and follow the canal path back to the car park. The fields to right form part of Maunsel House, where tucked away in the grounds you will find St Michaels Church

Walk Extension – see Route 2

## 2) Taunton & Bridgwater Canal Loop via Fordgate and Middlemoor Drive – Distance 6 miles



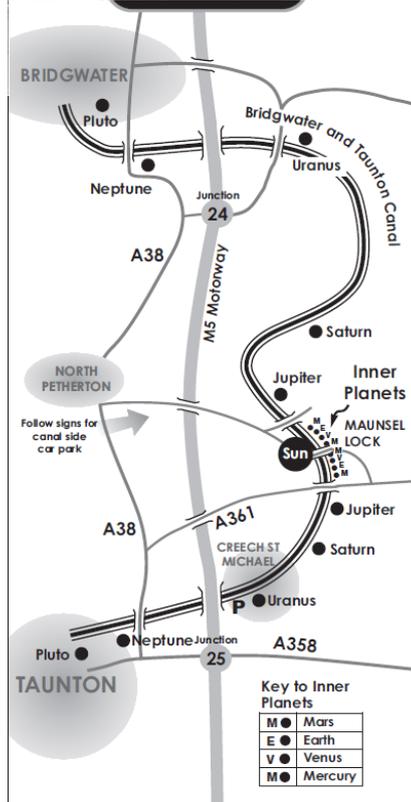
At the Bridge next to the Maunsel Lock Tearooms turn left along the canal tow path. Follow the path for approx 1¼ mile until you reach **Kings Lock**. Along the route keep an eye out for planets along the towpath that form part of the **Somerset Space Walk** (this a true scale model of our Solar System with the planets placed along the Bridgwater to Taunton Canal with the sun centred at Higher Maunsel Lock. The planets go both ways along the tow path from here) On route you will also come across some of the World War 2 Pill box's that formed part of the **"Stop Line"** A defensive line designed to stop the enemy's advance from the west

Continue along the tow path from Kings Lock for another ¾ mile until you reach Standards Lock. This is a great spot to have a picnic.



Follow the canal path for another ¾ mile until you reach Fordgate. Turn left over the swing bridge by the farm, go around the gates and follow the farm track up the hill. After ½ mile just

past the Warren House (on the right hand side) there is a footpath on the left on the field boundary. Follow this path keeping the hedge on your right. Turn left at the end following the field boundary on your right. This takes you back down to Standards Lock. Cross over a small brick bridge and cut through into standards lock picnic area

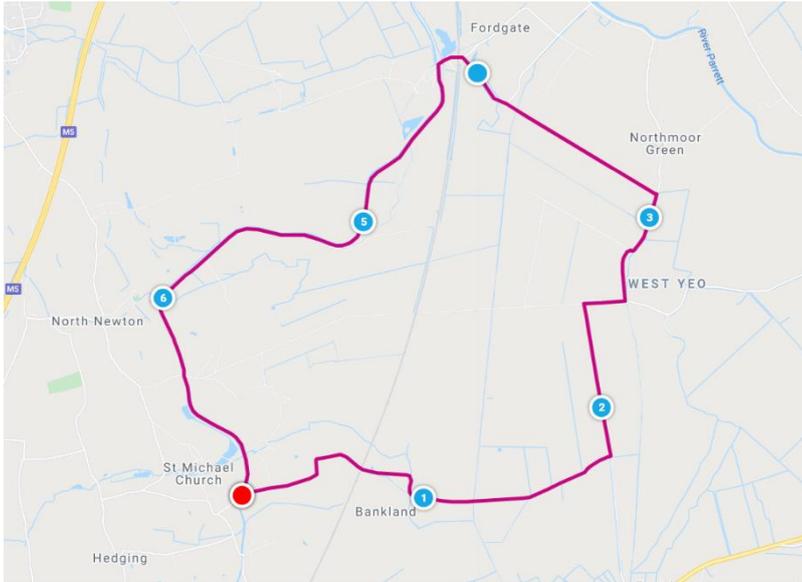


Cross over the canal bridge and turn Right onto the tow path, after about ¼ mile there is a small gate in the hedge on the left-hand side. (If you reach Whites farm on the left you have gone 200m too far) Go through the gate over the stream bridge and then go straight over the track to the left of the farmhouse.

Follow the path between the trees until it opens out onto the moors. After ¼ mile turn right at the end onto Middlemoor Drive. Keep your eyes and ears open for the Skylark, Sedge Warblers, Reed Buntings or even a Roe Deer along the rhynes.

The Dirt track across Middlemoor eventually ends up back on the canal path after ½ mile. Turn left and follow the canal path back to the car park. The fields to right form part of Maunsel House, where tucked away in the grounds you will find St Michaels Church

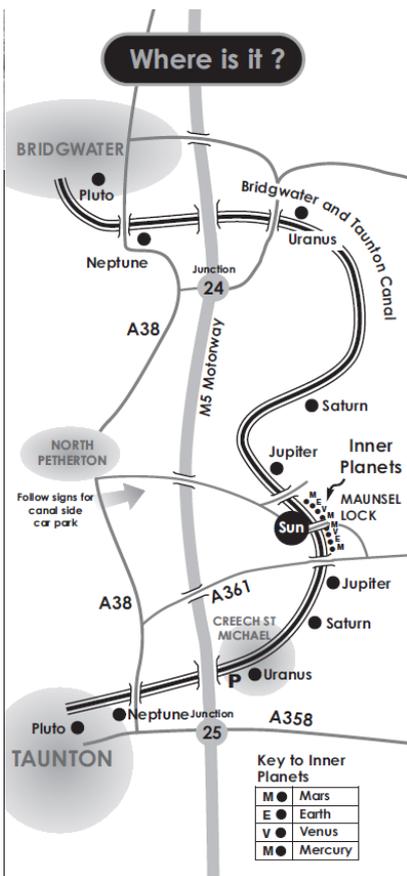
3) **Taunton & Bridgwater Canal Loop via Fordgate and Bankland Drove – Distance 7 miles**  
**(Also suitable for Mountain Bikes)**



At the Bridge next to the Maunsel Lock Tearooms follow the road (Bankland Lane, very quiet road) for ¼ mile until you reach Banklands farms. Follow the farm track between the farms onto Bankland Drove. Look out for Sedge Warblers, Reed Buntings, Skylark and Herons.

After a mile the track comes to a “T” junction. Turn left and follow the drove for ½ mile. At the Trach “T” Junction turn right and then after ¼ mile turn left onto the Church Road. After another ¼ mile turn left onto Kitch Drove (This is just before the first house in Moorland. Follow this rough track for ¾ miles until it reaches the hamlet of

Little Moor. Follow the road to the left which takes you to the railway bridge. Cross over this and you will come to the Taunton to Bridgwater canal at Fordgate. Turn left onto the towpath. Follow the canal path for 3 miles until you reach your start at Maunsel Lock Tearooms. On route after ¾ mile you will reach Standards Lock which is a great place to have a picnic. Another ¾ mile and you will reach Kings Lock.



Standards Lock

Along the route keep an eye out for planets along the towpath that form part of the **Somerset Space Walk** (this a true scale model of our Solar System with the planets placed along the Bridgwater to Taunton Canal with the sun centred at Higher Maunsel Lock. The planets go both ways along the tow path from here)



