

SOUTHWEST COAST 50 CHALLENGE, 25th JULY 2026 - EVENT OVERVIEW

Our South West 50 Challenge event will be taking place on Saturday 25th July 2026. This will be the 5th year of the event. In 2025 the Ultra Challenge Series has raised over **£10.3 million** for our charity partners and the 2025 **South West 50 Challenge** helped raise over **£250,000** for our charity partners.

The event will be starting from 'The Lawns' / Dunster Showground, a large private field site in Dunster, where we will set participants off gradually between 7am and 11am. Our rolling start line will help to reduce the impact on the local area by ensuring that there are no large participant groups out on the event route. Participants will walk up to 50km on Public Rights of Way before returning back at the same venue. In addition to the full 50km, there are several shorter route options available. **No road closures are required.**

OTPION	START DATE	START TIME	START LOCATION	FINISH LOCATION
50km Challenge	Sat 25 th July	06:45 – 08:30	Dunster Showground	Dunster Showground
1 st Half Challenge - 25k	Sat 25 th July	08:00 – 08:30	Dunster Showground	Porlock
2 nd Half Challenge – 25k	Sat 25 th July	10:00 – 10:30	Porlock	Dunster Showground
25km Loop Challenge	Sat 25 th July	08:30 - 09:00	Dunster Showground	Dunster Showground
10km Loop Challenge	Sat 25 th July	10:00 – 10:30	Dunster Showground	Dunster Showground

We anticipate between 1000-1500 walkers and runners taking part across the three different challenge options. We see all types of people participate from ultra runners to first time walkers with around 95% of participants being walkers. All participants share the one focus of raising much needed funds for over 400 different charities including; [Alzheimer's Society](#), [Breast Cancer Now](#), [Cancer Research UK](#), [Clic Sargent](#), [Great Ormond Street Hospital](#), [Help for Heroes](#), [Macmillan Cancer support](#), [Mind](#), [NSPCC](#) and [Parkinson's UK](#). For more information on our charity partners please visit - <https://www.ultrachallenge.com/the-charities/>

Action Challenge (www.actionchallenge.com), experienced event organisers, are co-ordinating all logistics of the event and we would like to notify all authorities along the route to make you aware of the event and to give you the opportunity to make any suggestions or comments regarding our plotted route. The entire route has been fully researched using existing public footpaths however as we are still several months out from the event this can be adapted following suggestions. We will also conduct a full pre-event recce of the route to identify any significant risks, which we will log into a risk assessment and apply appropriate safety measures to reduce any potential hazards.

With this in mind, please find overleaf an outline of where the event will pass and a Google map for the route on the event page here: <https://www.ultrachallenge.com/sw-coast-50/>

Please also find on page 5 further route and event specific information. Notification to all local authorities, parish councils and landowners is in the process of being undertaken and we appreciate any advice/comments you may have. **Please advise if any formal permission is required along the route.**

Kind regards, [Neil Munro](#) - UK Route, Risk and Venue Manager

THE EVENT ROUTE

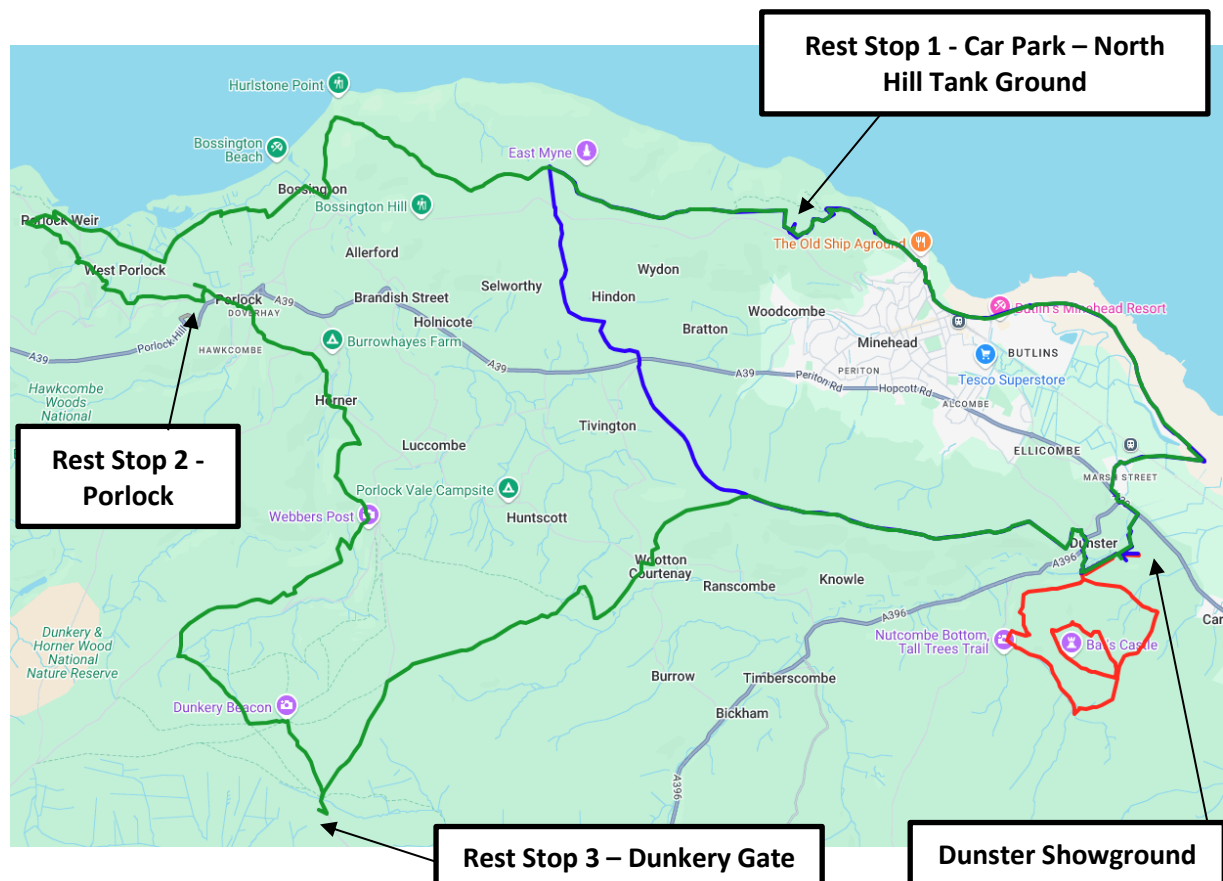
The event route is comprised of a looped 50km route starting and finishing at Dunster Showground, Dunster. Participants can choose to do shorter routes which include the 1st or 2nd half Challenge, 25km Loop or a 10km Loop Challenges.

The main event route begins by heading from Dunster towards and into Minehead. From Minehead the route heads west along the southwest coastal path to Porlock. From Porlock the route heads south up to Dunkery Beacon via Horner and Cloutsham. From Dunkery Beacon the route drops down to Wootton Courtenay on the MacMillan Way and heads northeast and then east back into Dunster and back to the start / finish location at Dunster Showground.

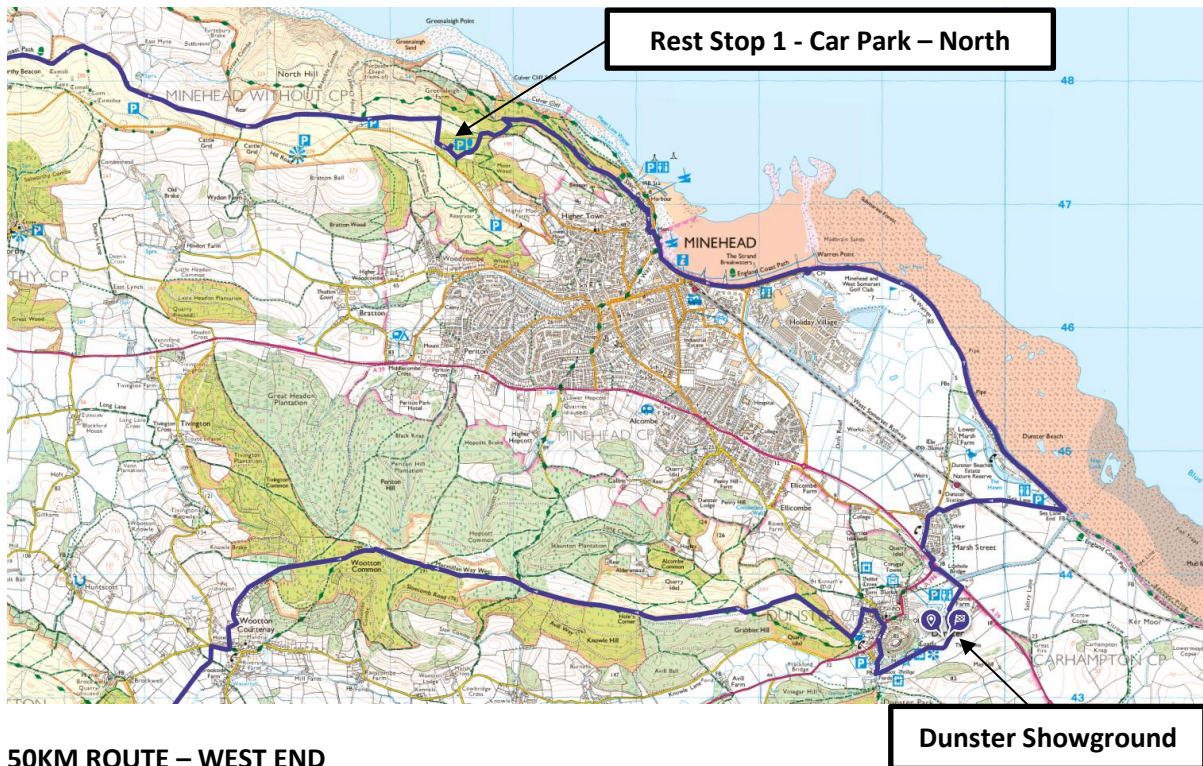
The 25km loop sits within the 50km loop and splits off after Minehead and heads south to Wootton Courtenay where it rejoins the 50km route.

The 10km loop is a separate route starting and finishing at Dunster Showground and follows PROWs up to and around Bat's Castle and Dunster Deer Park.

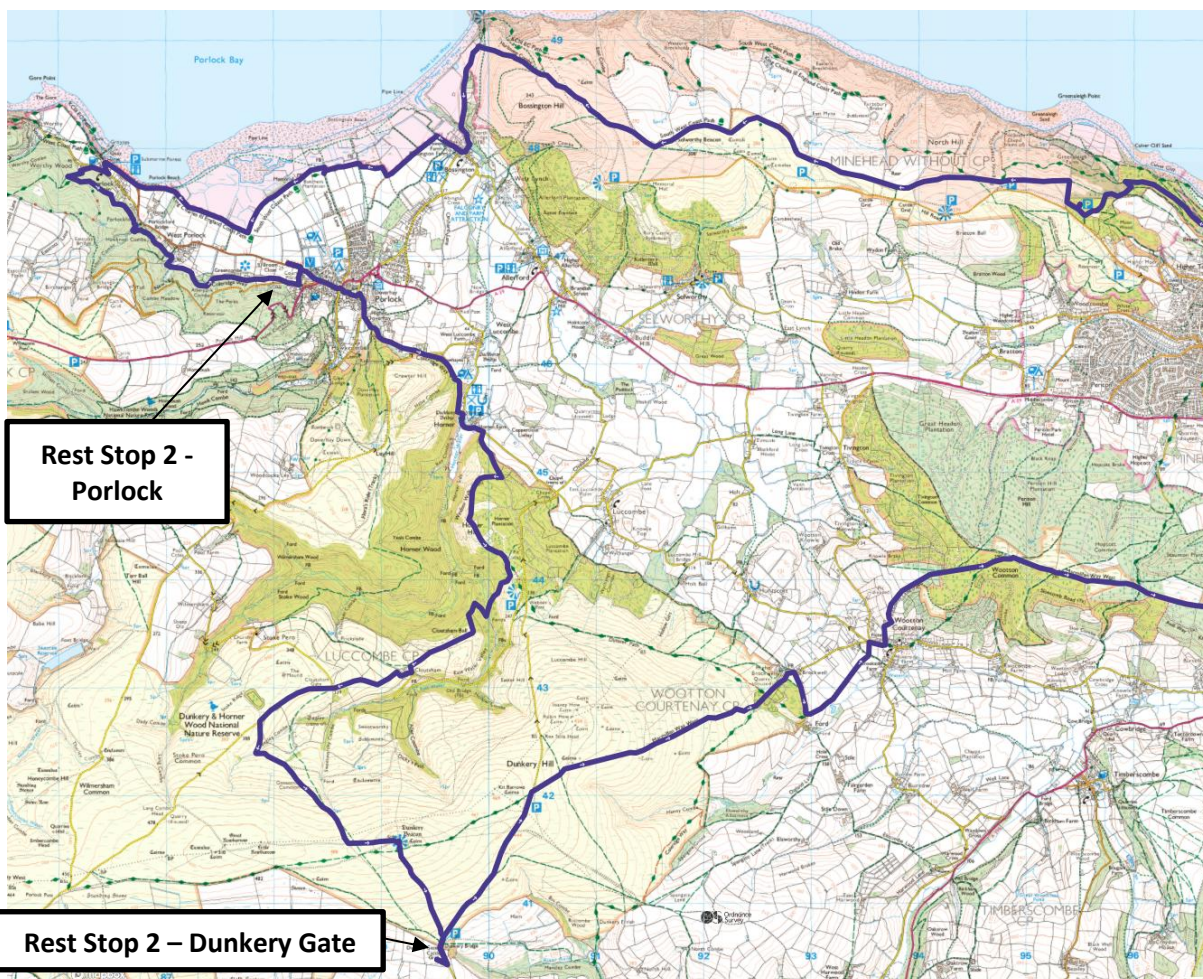
GREEN ROUTE: Shows the full 50k and the 1st and 2nd Half Challenges
BLUE: Shows the 25km Loop Challenge
RED: Shows the 10km Loop Challenge



50KM ROUTE - EAST END



50KM ROUTE – WEST END



Please note; the above images are only intended to provide an overview of the routes.

The route can be examined in detail via the event website (link provided on page 1) or via download of the route GPX file, which can be viewed in detail on multiple platforms.

EVENT PLANNING INFORMATION

ANTICIPATED PARTICIPANT TIMINGS AT ROUTE & VENUE LOCATIONS

The event commences with the first participants leaving the start at 06:45 on Saturday. The final participants are expected in back at the finish at approximately 23:00 on Saturday having made their way along the route.

All venue locations are approximately 10.5km's apart.

Location	Saturday 25th July Time first runner expected*	Saturday 25th July Time Last Walker expected*
The Lawns, Dunster	06:45	11:00
Car Park – North Hill, known as the Tank Ground	07:45	12:00
Court Place Farm, Porlock	09:15	16:00
Dunkery Gate	10:30	20:00
The Lawns, Dunster	12:00	00:00

*These are the estimated times of the very first runners and the slowest walkers. The majority of participants are likely to start passing through several hours after the fastest runners, and several hours before the last walkers.

ROUTE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

- Route is fully marked with pink arrows
- Marshals, Guides and medics will patrol the route.
- Road warning signs (for both traffic and participants) where necessary.
- All signage removed after the last participants have passed through.
- All participants are requested to follow the highway and country codes, walk on the right, and stay on the designated path and not to litter.
- Event clear-up includes collection of any rubbish along route.
- Event management plan includes risk assessment and contingency plans in case of unexpected events (i.e. extreme weather conditions).
- Action Challenge public liability insurance certificate can be provided upon request.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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