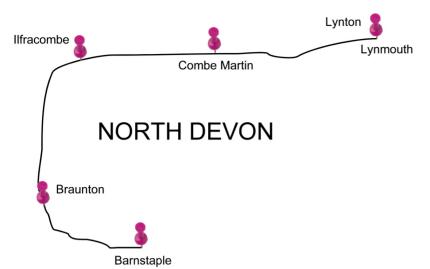
Barnstaple to Lynton via Braunton, Ilfracombe and Combe Martin.



Its quite a long train ride to Barnstaple because you have to get the train down to change at Exeter. I still managed to walk from Barnstaple to just after Braunton, walking over the Taw Bridge and along the cycle path, that same day. The next day I walked along the A361 towards Ilfracombe. (Be warned!!) there are some dangerous roads around North Devon and there isn't much of a pavement for a large section after Braunton to Ilfracombe and between Combe Martin and Lynton. I must confess, Ilfracombe is a very pretty town, with its harbour and a large statue welcoming you into the harbour. I managed to avoid some of the dangerous roads by following a cyclist going along a quiet lane and walking along the coastal path between Hele and Combe Martin. This is the most beautiful part, but it can be quite treacherous as you are right on the coast and the wind can take you by surprise. I ended up back on the main road going from Combe Martin and Lynton near Exmoor. This part of the road isn't very safe. I reached Lynton, but it is very steep around this part, now I know why they call this place Little Switzerland. After reaching Lynton, I got the bus back to Barnstaple, but strangely enough, you have to change buses. I must admit that the sunsets where spectacular.

By Philip Catherall

