



We ask you to be responsible when using the paths in the area, and to check which paths you are entitled to use (for example, cyclists cannot use public footpaths and when on Forestry Commission land cyclists must stay on the waymarked cycle routes). Wheelchairs, pushchairs and dogs are allowed on all types of rights of way and areas with public access.

Using the local countryside

The New Forest is a beautiful place for quiet recreation with mature trees, shaded streams, wild open heathland and peaceful paths. As the map shows, people are able to walk freely through most of the woodland inclosures and open heaths and moors, which are crossed by a network of tracks and paths. The map also shows the network of public right of way, which offer opportunities to experience the countryside on linear routes. Guided walks and events often take place in the area - for more information visit the New Forest Centre, situated in the centre of Lyndhurst. We hope that this leaflet will encourage you to explore and enjoy your local countryside.

Enjoying the countryside

- To ensure that the countryside is protected for future generations be sure to:
- Be safe – wear suitable clothing and shoes and take care when crossing roads
- Plan ahead and follow any signs – keep away from any forestry work
- Close gates behind you unless they have been fastened open
- Protect plants and animals - look at the ponies, but don't feed or touch them
- Take your litter home, and don't light fires
- Keep dogs under close control

Swan Green



Maintaining countryside access

Hampshire County Council – public rights of way:

- Ensures that rights of way are not obstructed
- Maintains path surface, some bridges & signs paths
- Authorises stiles and gates
- Keeps the definitive map up-to-date

Forestry Commission – Crown Lands:

- Maintains gates, stiles and bridges
- Acts as contact point for questions about ponies and other grazing stock
- Signposts and waymarks cycle routes

Private Landowners:

- Keep back side growth and overhanging vegetation
- Maintain most stiles and gates
- Should not obstruct paths or deter use of them



Exploring Lyndhurst Parish



Circular Walk

Useful contacts

Parish/Town Council
(and further copies of this leaflet)
Lyndhurst Parish Council 023 8081 3218
www.lyndhurstparishcouncil.org.uk

Places to eat on the walk

Crown Stirrup 023 8028 2272
New Forest Inn 023 8028 4690
Waterloo Arms 023 8028 2113
Oak Inn, Bank 023 8028 2350
New Forest Golf Club 023 8028 2484

Public Transport

National Travel Line 0870 608 2608
Wilts & Dorset 01202 680888

Countryside Information

New Forest Centre 023 8028 2269
www.newforestcentre.org.uk
National Park Info 01590 646600
Forestry Commission 023 8028 3141
The Crown Lands www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest
Walking in Hampshire www.hants.gov.uk/walking
Cycling in Hampshire www.hants.gov.uk/cycling
Rights of Way queries 0845 603 5636
Maps on-line www.hants.gov.uk/maps/paths

OS Outdoor Leisure Map OL22 covers this area

Disclaimer: Published by Lyndhurst Parish Council, Hampshire County Council and the New Forest National Park Authority, through the Small Grants Scheme. The route described has been put forward by the Parish Council. Whilst the County Council endeavours to maintain all rights of way to a high standard, additional resources are not allocated to routes promoted in this leaflet. Whilst every care has been taken in the preparation of this leaflet, Hampshire County Council is unable to accept any responsibility for accident or loss resulting from following the information contained within this leaflet.



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"Whether you be a visitor, a resident or simply a lover of the New Forest and all the beauty it has to offer, I hope you enjoy the walk"

Mark Böckle
(Lyndhurst Parish Councillor)





	Footpath		Circular Walk
	Bridleway		Shortcuts back to start (pavements)
	Restricted Byway		
	Byway open to all traffic		
	Areas believed to offer public access		

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The Lyndhurst Parish Circular Walk roughly follows the parish boundary, using the forest as our natural tour guide. It can be done in one go (13.5km, 3-4 hours), or you can choose from many shorter loops, returning along pavements at the points indicated with purple arrows on the map.



Throughout the walk, you will discover the beauties and the diversity of all that the parish has to offer, starting from the thriving village centre, out to Bolton's Bench (icon of the New Forest) and on into the tranquillity beyond. It can be enjoyed all year round - those frosty morning views of pony manicured grass and delicate cobwebs on the gorse are what wonders are made of. The New Forest teems with wildlife so watch out for a glimpse of deer, rabbit or fox as well as the more familiar ponies and cattle. Parts of the route cross open countryside with purple heather in abundance, some paths run through dense foliage with sunlit glades especially beautiful in the Autumn months. Wherever you go, you will see something new and special unfold in front of you.

Warning!

This route crosses two busy roads, and has a short section on a lanes, so please take care. The New Forest is often very wet and muddy so do wear appropriate footwear. Further information: www.nfdc.org.uk/lyndhurst/lpcw

THE ROUTE

Village car park to War memorial ① 0.4 km, 4 mins

Exit the north-east corner of the car park (with the visitors' centre on your right) and turn right on the High Street, past the Ferrari garage, Gosport Lane and New Forest Park Hotel. Cross the cattle grid on your right and walk to the War Memorial situated below a clump of trees called Bolton's Bench (the symbol of our parish).

Pondhead ① to ② 1.9km, 30 mins

Continue along the road, then fork right through the car park to the single bar gate, on to the ridge for 300m and right at a path crossing, down to and straight across the Beaulieu Road. Use the gate between Oak Acre and The Ravens and follow the track for 1km to reach a 5 bar gate.



Clay Hill ② to ③ 2.5km, 38 mins

Walk through the gate, then the gate directly opposite, and on up the hill past the back of The Crown Stirrup until you reach the track at the top, then right through the gate and across the road (carefully!), bearing left into the driveway and the cattle grid. After 30m fork left on a path for 1600m, down the hill keeping the fence on your right, and turning with it. After 200m at a 5 bar gate on the right, turn left on a path across a clearing to the corner, then crossing a ditch and into the woods. After 180m turn right at the cross tracks, up the hill for 700m to the gate and the road.

Bank and Gritnam ③ to ④ 1.5km, 23 mins

Turn left along the road for 650m, then left again at The Oak Inn for a further 650m to circle around Gritnam, with the houses on your right. Take the path left just before rejoining the original path, through the trees towards the road and a gate. Just before the gate turn left along the fence line, down to and under the underpass.

Allum Green ④ to ⑤ 2.3km, 45 mins

As you climb the slope, take the path on your right and wind through the trees to the houses in the distance, and join the track at Corner Cottage; follow this left and on to Caister Cottage and turn right along the fence then wall

for 100m. Take the right fork onto a straight path, initially flat then up the hill for 1.3km. At the top of the hill turn left and, keeping left, follow the path as it winds down to the New Forest Inn in Emery Down.



Emery Down ⑤ to ⑥ 1.1km, 16 mins

Turn right on the road and then left onto Silver Street, through the single bar gate at the end onto a path then track for 650m to the road.

Pikes Hill ⑥ to ⑦ 1.3km, 20 mins

At the road turn right (careful of traffic here!), up and over the short hill to the Fenwick Hospital. Take the path through a gate just after to the right, to Pikes Hill Avenue then first right into the cul de sac, where you take the path in the bottom left hand corner, emerging at the Waterloo Arms. Turn right along the road and then cross the main Romsey Road, using the pedestrian refuge.

The Custards ⑦ to ⑧ 1.1km, 17 mins

Turn right then left down Race Course View for 100m, through a 5 bar gate and on to the small gravel bridge, where you turn right onto the path which follows an earth embankment alongside the New Forest Golf Club for 800m until meeting the junction with the access road and then Southampton Road with its underpass.



Boltons Bench ⑧ to ① 1.4km, 22 mins

After the underpass, continue up the slope, gently bearing right for 650m to the top of the ridge; turn right at the cross paths and follow the track then road back to the war memorial.