

### Walk B: Rotherwick

5.5 km (3.5 miles) - 1 hr 20 mins ●●●

Head towards Basingstoke from the village centre and turn right into Sheldon Road. Then continue straight along paths and across three roads until you enter the woods, near Goose Green. Cross the streams. Follow the path (with fields to left), until you reach an iron gate after 500m. Take left path, walk around the field, cross the track and up across the field (see Tylney Hall to your left). Cross a stile to the left corner of the next field. Turn right at the road and right again after about 20m down a bridleway. Pass the duck pond and join the main street in Rotherwick.

Continue past the Coach & Horses pub and turn right onto a footpath after 4 cottages. Continue on this path for 600m, cross the track into the next field. After 650m go through a stile. After 250m, take the signed footpath to the left and immediately turn right and follow the path by the edge of the woods (field on left). Cross bridge and turn right along Great Sheldon Coppice and first left up Mead Hatchgate. Take the path by No.8 into Elms Road and then continue back to Hook centre.

Rotherwick Church



### Walk C: Basingstoke Canal & Bartley Heath

9.5 km (6 miles) - 2 hrs 15 mins ●●●

Head towards Basingstoke from the village centre and after railway bridge take a right down Morris Street. At the junction with Old School Road, turn right and then left (signposted Fosters Business Park). After 10m take footpath to left and continue via track past Basingstoke Country Hotel. Cross A30 and walk down Heather Row, over motorway and immediately left onto footpath and through trees to gravel path to your right. After 250m follow path to right, continue straight for 200m and bear left. At the next path crossroads, take second turning (11 o'clock). Cross path through kissing gates and eventually into a field. Take path to left after 150m signposted 'to the tunnel'. At the road, turn right. The Fox and Goose pub is ahead of you. Turn down Deptford Lane and after 10m, take path on left and join canal towpath. Continue along canal passing King John's Castle.



St John's Castle

After 1.5km, pass under a road bridge (The Swan pub is on the road to your right). After 300m, you pass the back entrance to the Jolly Miller pub. Continue for 100m and take footpath across the field towards the left bridge (with the pipe). Turn left and then at main road right towards roundabout. Go straight across it down small road past Lord Derby pub (on right) and continue straight on woodland path. Take path to right after 100m and follow until it crosses the motorway at a footbridge. Carry straight on and take footpath to left about 100m after you cross under the pylon wires and head towards some open woodlands.

Follow path across heath to a stile near to the Griffin Road roundabout. Turn right onto Station Road and continue to Hook centre.

### Walk D: Bassett's Mead ●●●

1.9 km (1.2 miles) - 25mins

Starting at the Crooked Billet pub, cross the A30, turn left and take the path BEFORE the bridge. Follow the river path until it ends just before the railway. Cross field and then through a gate into the wood on your left. Follow the woodland path. When you come out, bear left to far corner of the field. At the gate, head straight across and join path which follows a fence to its left. This eventually leads around an exit near a pylon. Join the road. At Holt Lane turn right and in 250m you are back at the pub.

River Whitewater



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Swan on the river



Orchids



Horses on Bartley Heath



Marbled White Butterfly



### Walk A: West Green House & River Whitewater

8.6 km (5.4 miles) - 2 hrs ●●●

From the roundabout in Hook village centre, walk towards the garages and turn left down Reading Road. After 500m turn left down Goose Lane and cross Sheldons Coppice. On the right after 10m turn into the woods. On leaving the wood, continue on the path until a footpath sign on a small hill. Go straight across for 500m and cross the road near two small lakes. Turn right and after 10m enter the woods.

On leaving the wood turn left. At the next field aim for far right corner. Carefully cross the road (B3349). After 20m take footpath to the right, through a thicket and across a large field. Follow the path by the River Whitewater and cross at the bridge. Go through a gate in the far right corner of this field then slightly left to the corner of the next field (past two WW2 pillboxes). Pass a green hut and go along the stony track for 300m. Cross road and after 10m take footpath through iron gates. After 500m turn right onto road and go along entrance into West Green House.

On leaving the house, continue on path through an iron gate for about 500m. Cross road, take the track past Borough Court House. At the house entrance, turn right through gates across the fields and across the bridge. Turn



West Green House

left along the River Whitewater path for 300m. Then take path across the field (hedge to the right). After about 500m this leads onto a tarmac road to the Crooked Billet pub (on left). Turn right along A30 and cross near the Hook House Hotel, taking the footpath by the post box to Griffin Way, through underpass and turn left into Wheelers Hill. Turn right at No.3 and continue straight past a School, through Band Hall Place to Hook centre.

### Useful Contacts

Hook Parish Council 01256 768687  
Hook Community Centre  
Ravenscroft  
Hook  
RG27 9NN  
Email: clerk@hook.gov.uk  
Web: www.hook.gov.uk/walks

### Public Houses/ Restaurants

Coach & Horses ● 01256 762542  
Crooked Billet ●●● 01256 762118  
Dorchester Arms ● 01256 762690  
Falcon ● 01256 762586  
Fox & Goose ● 01256 702062  
Jolly Miller ● 01256 702085  
Lord Derby ● 01256 702283  
Old White Hart ●●● 01256 762560  
Raven Hotel ● 01256 762541  
Swan ● 01256 702727  
White Hart ● 01256 762462  
West Green House ●● 01252 844611

### Public Transport

National Travel Line 0870 608 2608  
National Rail 08457 48 49 50  
Stagecoach 0845 121 0180  
(Bus 200 runs from Basingstoke, Odiham, Hartley Whitney and Camberley to Hook)

### Tourist Information

Hampshire County Council  
Information Centre 0800 028 0888

For further information on access to the countryside please contact Hampshire County Council on: 0800 028 0888 (Freephone) or www.hants.gov.uk/countryside



Disclaimer: Published by Hook Parish Council and Hampshire County Council, through the Small Grants Scheme. The various walks are suggested routes which have been 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. Although every care has been taken in the preparation of this leaflet, the publishers are unable to accept any responsibility for accident or loss resulting from following the information contained here.

# Exploring Hook





## Enjoying the countryside

Hampshire boasts an extremely rich and diverse countryside and an extensive network of public paths which provide a range of opportunities for enjoying the great outdoors. Rights of way are linear routes, often ancient trackways through deep countryside; there are over 3,000 miles of these in Hampshire. The map in this leaflet may also show access to other areas of land, such as commons, woodland, recreation grounds or conservation areas, and your Parish Council may know of guided walks or events. Many people will be able to reach countryside within a few hundred yards of home, and the plants, trees and views along the same paths often change dramatically through the seasons. We hope that this leaflet will encourage you to explore and enjoy your local countryside.

## Using Local Paths

Many rights of way cross private land, and we ask you to bear this in mind by keeping to the path and being responsible when using them. There are four types, as shown on the map key; please check which paths you are entitled to use (for example, cyclists cannot use footpaths). Wheelchairs, push-chairs and dogs are allowed on all types of right of way. Any permissive paths or areas marked are not rights of way, but the landowner has given permission for the public to use them. 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
- leave gates and property as you find them and take your litter home
- protect plants and animals
- keep dogs under close control
- consider other people
- lock valuables out of sight

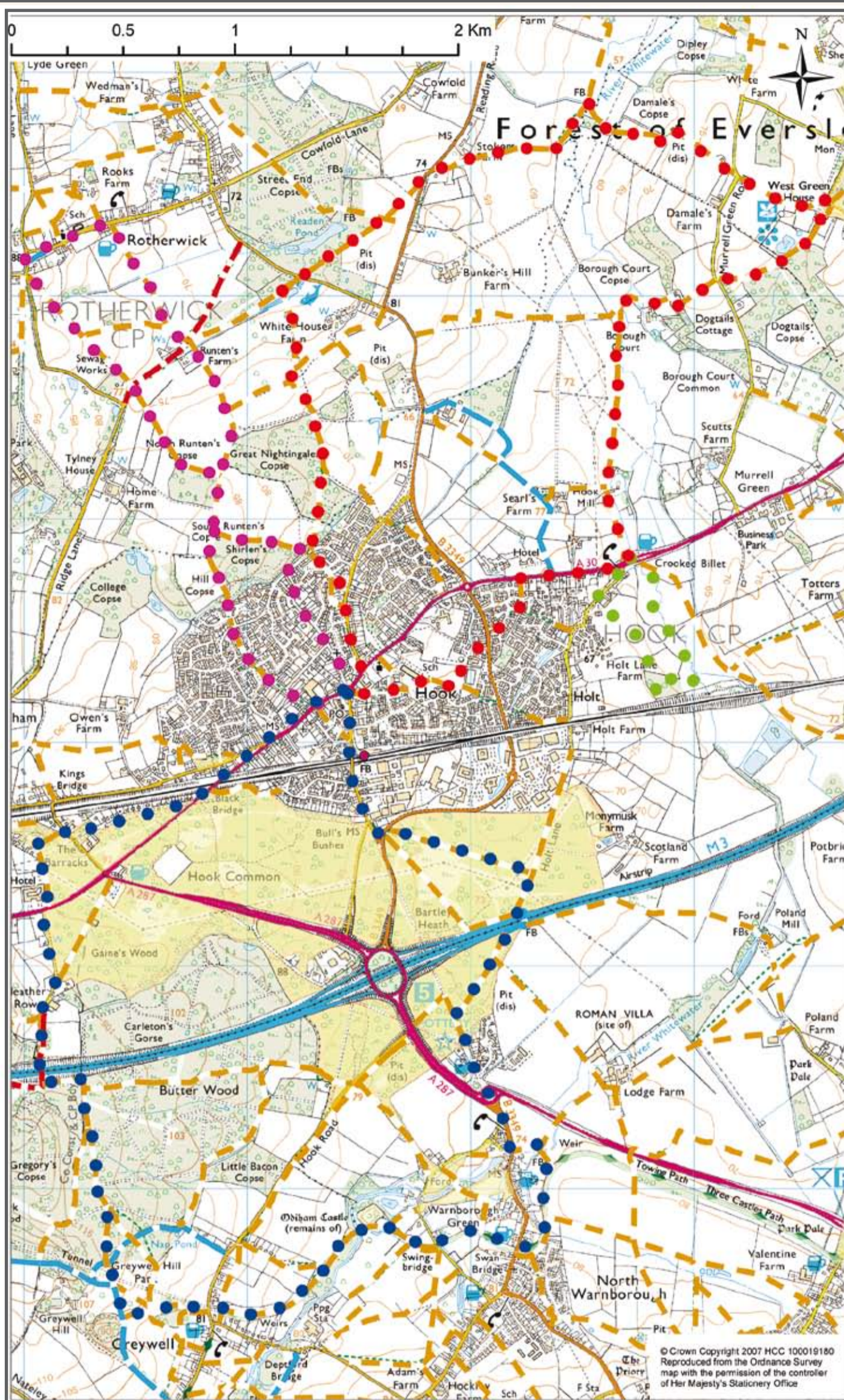
## Maintaining rights of way

Hampshire County Council:

- ensures that rights of way are not obstructed
- maintains the surface in a fit condition for its intended use
- maintains some bridges
- signposts and waymarks paths
- authorises stiles and gates
- keeps the definitive map up to date

Landowners:

- keep back side growth and overhanging vegetation
- reinstate paths across fields after ploughing or planting crops
- maintain most stiles and gates
- should not obstruct paths or deter use of them
- should not plough paths at field edges
- should not keep dangerous animals (including certain bulls) on paths



- Footpath
- Bridleway
- Restricted Byway
- Byway open to all traffic
- Areas believed to offer public access

### Walk A: West Green House & River Whitewater 8.6km (5.4 miles) – 2 hrs ●●●

This walk takes you through bluebell woods and open fields to West Green House ([www.westgreenhousegardens.co.uk](http://www.westgreenhousegardens.co.uk)) with its garden full of follies and monuments and its tearoom and garden shop. The walk follows the River Whitewater for some of the way where it also passes a pub.

### Walk B: Rotherwick 5.5km (3.5 miles) – 1 hr 20 mins ●●●

This lovely walk is easy for all the family. You'll often see deer in the fields and in the autumn there are blackberries along many of the hedges. The walk takes you to Rotherwick with its village duck pond, 13th century church and two country pubs.

### Walk C: Basingstoke Canal & Bartley Heath 9.5 km (6 miles) – 2 hrs 15 mins ●●●

This walk takes you through woodlands over to Greywell (pub). It then follows the Basingstoke Canal past King John's Castle (13th century) to North Warnborough where there are two more pubs and comes back across Bartley Heath (another pub). The heath is a great place for wildlife including deer, the resident New Forest ponies, and many species of flowers and butterflies (summer) and fungi (autumn).

### Walk D: Bassett's Mead 1.9km (1.2 miles) – 25 mins ●●●

This short walk follows the River Whitewater for part of its course on a new path created in Bassett's Mead (near Holt Park). This chalk stream is rich in wildlife and you can sit by it and watch the ducks at the pub at the end of the walk.

More details of the walks can be found overleaf and full walk route plans (with GPS waypoints) can be downloaded from: [www.hook.gov.uk/walks](http://www.hook.gov.uk/walks)

**NOTE: All the walks can be muddy in places in wet weather. Suitable footwear is strongly recommended.**

