

Longparish, Harewood Hike



**HAMPSHIRE
COUNTRYSIDE
SERVICE**

Distance:	6.5 miles
Start:	Village Hall

Longparish consists of numerous hamlets, including Forton, Middleton, Longparish Station, West Aston and East Aston, lying along the west bank of the clear braided waters of the River Test. The valley is about half a mile wide, flanked by low ridges, with Harewood Forest to the north and west.

The village has many attractive thatched cottages and St Nicholas Church, which dates from the 13th century. An excellent network of footpaths including part of the Test Way links the settlements and provides some memorable views of the old cottages, the landscape and of the river.

The low lying fields of the valley are used for grazing livestock, while the rising ground is used for arable crops such as barley, wheat and oilseed rape. Small spinneys and areas specially planted provide cover for game birds and other wildlife.

Harewood Forest, in Saxon and Norman times a royal hunting forest, is now managed for forestry, hunting and wildlife. Harewood Forest was used in World War II for storing and marshalling ammunition which was then taken by rail to Southampton, so many rides were concreted and are still used for forestry operations.

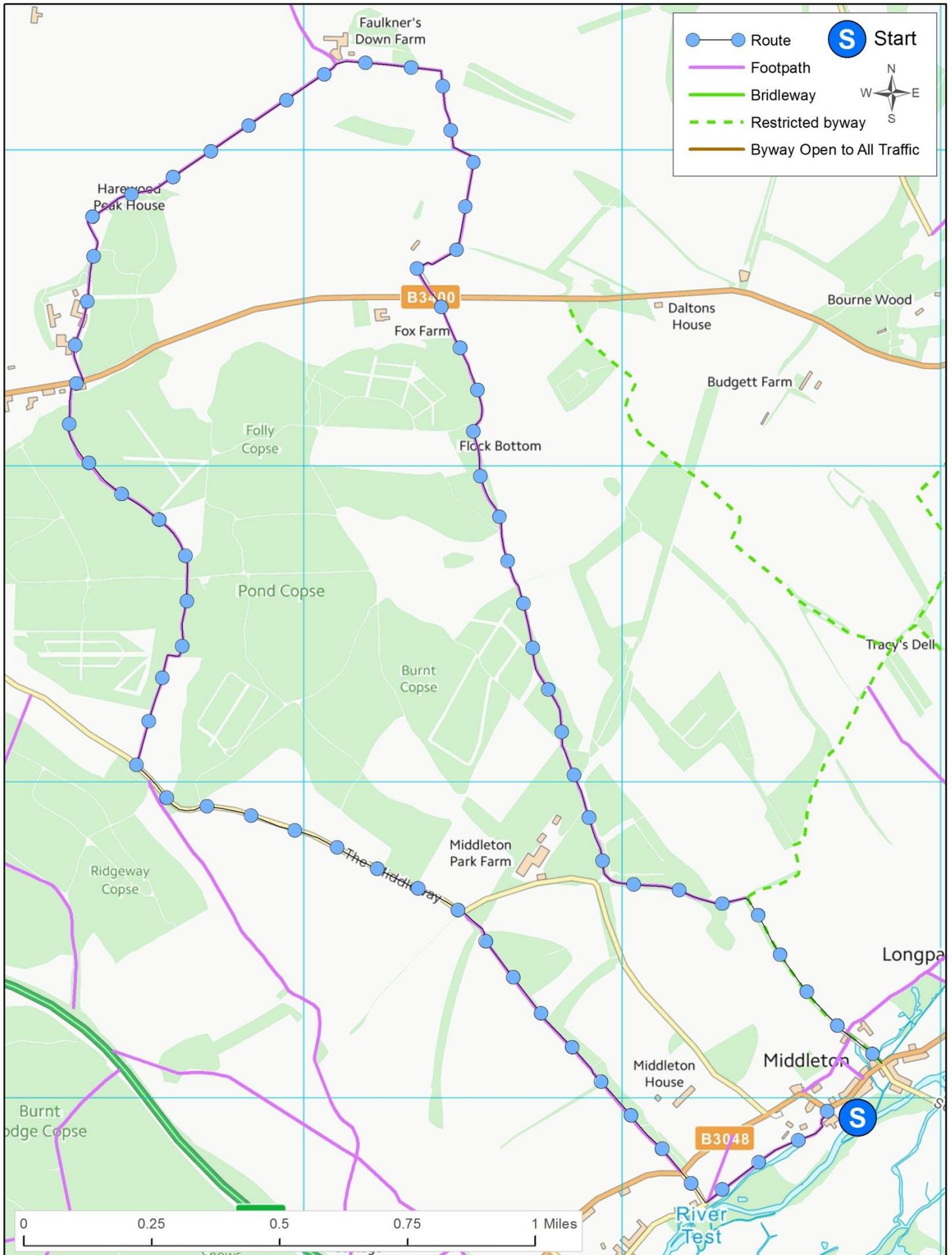
Directions

This countryside walk takes you through the Forest to the northern boundary of the parish and back by the Test Way.

Park in the car park by the village hall. Turn right in Forton to join the Broadney path up to the Middleway. Although the next section is along the road and you need to heed the traffic, it brings rewarding views.

Take care crossing the B3400. A gravelled road leads to Faulkner's Down Farm where you join the Test Way which takes you back to the village round arable fields and back into the Forest.

Longparish, Harewood Hike



© Crown copyright and database rights 2017 Ordnance Survey [100019180]. Use of this data is subject to terms and conditions. You are granted a non-exclusive, royalty free, revocable licence solely to view the Licensed Data for non-commercial purposes for the period during which HCC makes it available. You are not permitted to copy, sub-license, distribute, sell or otherwise make available the Licensed Data to third parties in any form. Third party rights to enforce the terms of this licence shall be reserved to Ordnance Survey