

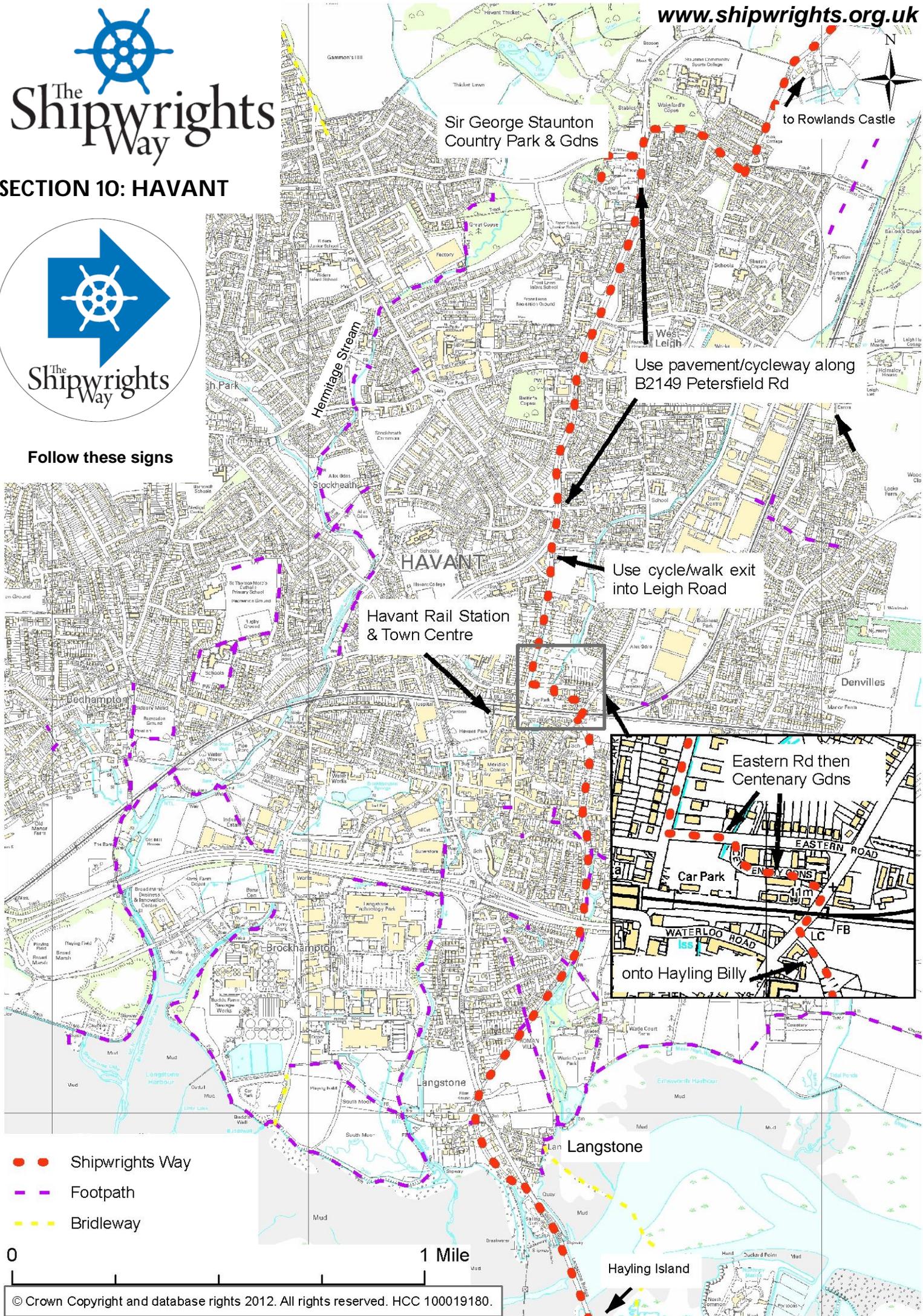


The Shipwrights Way

SECTION 10: HAVANT



Follow these signs



Sir George Staunton Country Park & Gdns

to Rowlands Castle

Use pavement/cycleway along B2149 Petersfield Rd

Use cycle/walk exit into Leigh Road

Havant Rail Station & Town Centre

Eastern Rd then Centenary Gdns

onto Hayling Billy

- Shipwrights Way
- Footpath
- Bridleway

0 1 Mile

SECTION 10: HAVANT

How far? This section is 3 miles long; you can return along the same route, or use other footpaths including that along the Hermitage Steam (walkers only) or roads. If you were to do the next two sections as well, to Portsmouth, you can also return by train to either Rowlands Castle or Havant.

What will I see?

This section starts at Staunton Country Park, well worth a visit with its ornamental farm, Victorian glasshouse and extensive parkland with follies and a fishing lake. Leaving the Country Park, the first mile of this section is next to (but not on) the road, using a tarmac walk/cycle route; there is then a section on fairly quiet roads (with pavements), leading to a rail crossing on the edge of the town centre. Should you wish to spend an hour or two in the town centre, you will find some fine Georgian buildings, a shopping mall, regular markets, an arts centre and a museum. Returning to the rail crossing, you join the Hayling Billy, a disused railway which is now a well-used gravel track and feels surprisingly removed from the busy town; you remain off-road for the rest of this section and indeed most of the following section (Hayling Island). This section finishes at Langstone, a picturesque waterfront community with an old mill and a row of eighteenth century thatched cottages; the remains of the rail bridge can be seen to the west of today's road bridge and there is a historic causeway (the 'wadeway') to the east of the bridge, now deep under water since the canal was cut through in the 1820s.



short



Who can use it?

The whole section is open to walkers (and dogs) and cyclists and provides a good flat, year-round route for pushchairs and mobility vehicles. The Hayling Billy is also open to horse-riders.

What is the path like?

The route is flat, on tarmac and well-surfaced gravel tracks with no stiles or gates. Take care on the roads and at road and rail crossings.

What facilities are available?

Staunton Country Park offers several options for refreshments, loos (including disabled), a shop and parking; it also has circular walking and cycling trails – see www.hants.gov.uk/staunton or call 023 9245 3405. Havant has all the facilities you would expect of a town, including shops, museums, loos and a rail station. There are public loos and two good pubs on the waterfront at Langstone (The Ship and The Royal Oak), both serving food.

What is the Shipwrights Way?

It is a long-distance route linking villages and towns in east Hampshire through some beautiful countryside. Starting at Alice Holt Forest near Farnham, it runs down across the South Downs to the sea at Portsmouth. The route is open to walkers and cyclists and, where possible, horse-riders and people with disabilities.

Why 'Shipwrights'?

The name reflects the journey of oak grown at Alice Holt to dockyards such as Portsmouth for medieval shipbuilding; the route finishes at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, home of the Mary Rose, HMS Victory and the International Boatbuilding Training College.

Who provided the route?

It was provided through a partnership between East Hampshire District Council, Hampshire County Council, the Forestry Commission and the South Downs National Park Authority. We were pleased to work closely with Havant Borough Council in this area.



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East Hampshire
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Forestry Commission
England

Havant
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Hampshire
County Council

South Downs
National Park Authority

All photos except the cyclist are courtesy of Peter Drury (copyright)

Contact: countryside@hants.gov.uk 0300 555 1391

www.shipwrights.org.uk