New Forest Access For All

Easy-Going Walks

New Forest Access For All Easy-Going Walks Ober Water Trails

There are two Ober Water Trails. Short Trail - 1.8 km with accessible waymarker points. Long Trail - 2.4 km with red waymarker points.

Key:
- Road
- Trail (green)
- Other Paths
- Gradients (10% = 1 in 10)
- Information Board

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Introduction.
We have designed these maps to help you choose a walk that is suitable for your own abilities and circumstances. The maps are primarily for people with disabilities and for parents or grandparents pushing a buggy.

We have tried to keep the maps simple and easy to read whilst including as much relevant access information as possible. They all have a link to a Forestry Commission or National Park Authority website for more information.

The New Forest is an excellent area for people with disabilities. It has many trails, paths and cycle routes that are suitable for wheelchair and scooter users. Some trails have seats for those who need to rest frequently.

Please take care. Take a companion with you; remember that gravel and grass trails will flatten your battery much more quickly than tarmac; take a mobile phone (though not all areas may have reception) and ENJOY OUR WONDERFUL NEW FOREST.

Two characters to help you are FLOSS and SID.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>FLOSS</strong> stands for:</th>
<th><strong>SID</strong> stands for:</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F</strong> acilities</td>
<td><strong>S</strong> upplementary</td>
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<td><strong>L</strong> ength of walk</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>S</strong> lopes (gradients and cross falls).</td>
<td><strong>S</strong> ID will give you bits of information that we can not easily show on the maps.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>S</strong> urfaces</td>
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These are the main qualities of a trail that will help you decide if it is suitable for you.

**OBSTACLES.**

None of our walks have stiles, steps, or a width restriction that would make it impossible for a wheelchair to pass. Many gates in the Forest are fitted with an easy access trombone latch which can be operated from a wheelchair as well as by horse riders. Some gates can be opened with a Radar key. Other ‘obstacles’ on our routes might be chicanes, prominent tree roots, or other hazards like potholes which may require a little care.
SLOPES.

GRADIENTS are very difficult to measure accurately in the countryside, as rural paths do not travel up or down in straight lines like urban concrete ramps, but we believe our measurements provide a useful guide.

A gradient of 5% or less is probably not significant, so our first marked gradient is a slope of 5-10%. The second is a gradient of more than 10%. (8% is considered the maximum gradient for a ramp in an urban setting for a manual wheelchair). If there is a particularly steep slope we have given a maximum gradient as well.

Gradients of 5-10% are marked on the maps with a single arrow > along the trail. Gradients 10% or greater have a double arrow >>. The arrows always point downhill.

CROSS FALLS can be a serious problem for people using manual or electric wheelchairs and for the ambulant disabled. We have marked these where we feel they are significant. Many country paths have some cross fall, but as long as they have a reasonably level area wide enough for a wheelchair to pass we have not shown them on the map.

Significant cross falls are shown with a triangle symbol Δ on the downhill side of the trail.

SURFACES.

All our trails are shown with a black edge. We have colour coded them to show how easy they are to use rather than what they are made of. Roads are marked in red without a black edge.

1. **Hard, smooth surfaces.** e.g. a sealed surface (tarmac) or concrete, boardwalks, or brick pavers.

2. **Firm, mostly smooth surfaces.** Compacted gravel (few loose stones), firm earth/gravel/grass mix.
   
   **Most of our walks have this surface for most of their length.**
   
   Some of these paths can easily become unsuitable after rain and they are marked with a broken blue and white line.
3. **Firm surfaces, with some irregularities.** This includes compacted gravel with frequent loose stones more than 25 mm (1 inch), potholes, and protruding tree roots which obstruct the trail. Our walks may contain small sections of this quality of surface. Again some of these paths can easily become unsuitable after rain and they are marked with a broken yellow and white line.

4. **Routes not recommended.** (marked in white). This may be for a wide variety of reasons e.g. because the surface is too soft (soft sand, loose gravel, long grass, muddy, etc), because the path is too steep or too rough, because it is temporarily closed or unsuitable for other reasons which **SID** will explain.

We have chosen these colours to help the 8% of men with colour vision difficulties.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

These walks have all been surveyed by members of NFAFA. The information about these walks is given in good faith and we believe it to be an accurate representation of the walks on the date we surveyed them.

However, we can accept no responsibility or liability for any accident or damage to any person or equipment as a result of using this information; for any closures or changes to the condition of the routes since we surveyed them; or for any other occurrence beyond our control.

If we are informed about any changes, errors or omissions we will try to update the maps and information as soon as possible.
Easy-Going Walks in the New Forest

Easy-Going Walks

Easy-Access Places

New Forest National Park

Fordingbridge
Ringwood
Christchurch
Southampton
Lymington
Milford-on-Sea
Brockenhurst
Beaulieu
Lyndhurst

Bolderwood Deer Platform
Cadmans Pool
Hatchet Pond
Janesmoor Pond
Rufus Stone
Reptile Centre
Blackwater Arboretum
Whitefield Moor (Ober Water)
Knightwood Oak

B3078
B3055
B3054
A31
A35
A326
A338
B3078
B3055
B3054
A31
A35
A326
A338
0 10 km
N

Easy-Going Walks

Easy-Access Places

New Forest National Park
SID AND FLOSS’s EASY- GOING WALKS.

Difficulty level 1 is the easiest of our walks and 5 the most difficult. None of them require a large cross-country scooter, but the harder ones will be outside the scope of most manual and many electric wheelchair users.

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<td>Blackwater Tall Trees Trail</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wonderful collection of giant trees.</td>
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<td>Bolderwood Deer watch Trail</td>
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<td>Sloping path to deer viewing platform</td>
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<td>Bolderwood Jubilee Trail</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pleasant but hilly woodland walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolderwood Radnor Trail</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Waterside walk and Whitefield Moor</td>
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<td>Waterside walk and Whitefield Moor</td>
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<td>Easy cliff top walk, wonderful sea views</td>
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<td>2-3</td>
<td>Good for bird watching</td>
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<td>Keyhaven walk</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Views, harbour, bird watching, easy walk</td>
</tr>
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<td>Little or no walking is necessary at these sites</td>
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<td>Cadman’s Pool</td>
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<td>Waterside, easy walks</td>
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<td>Janesmoor Pond</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Waterside, easy walks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufus Stone</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Historic site</td>
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Easy-Going Walks
Blackwater Trails

The Tall Trees Trail is 2.2 km long and has white waymarker posts.
Blackwater car park is on the Rhinefield Ornamental Drive about 4 miles SW of Lyndhurst. There are several circular easy-going walking trails from the car park. They are all very pleasant woodland walks on a good gravel or firm grass/gravel surface. The Tall Trees Trail is particularly attractive; many of the large conifer trees were planted in 1859.

**FACILITIES**
- Toilets - with a separate disabled cubicle.
- Picnic area - at the Blackwater car park has picnic tables and fireproof tables for disposable BBQs.
- An ice cream van - during school holidays and usually at weekends Easter-November.

**LENGTH of walks**
- Tall Trees Trail 2.2 km. (1.4 miles)
- Arboretum approx. 1 km. (0.7 mile) depending on route taken.

**OBSTACLES.**
- Gates at entrances to Arboretum
- Chicanes at road crossing points – (minimum width 1.1metres).

**TALL TREES TRAIL** - White way markers - Difficulty level 2

**SID** says: This is an excellent easy-going walk with one or two short slopes of 10% and no cross falls. There are several information boards and a World War II bomb crater. As this walk is under trees there are inevitably many tree roots on the path, but there is always a way around or over them.

**ARBORETUM WALKS** - Difficulty level 2.

**SID** says: The path up to the Arboretum has a long but gentle slope on firm gravel. All the routes marked on the map are accessible, although the Sensory Trail surface has several exposed tree roots intruding on to the path. The grass walk through the middle (orange path) is uneven but is an all-weather surface. It is possible to park at the entrance to the Arboretum by using a Radar key to open the vehicle gate (see map). You may find the lock stiff to operate as it is infrequently used.

For more information on the Blackwater area go to the Forestry Commission website. www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest or the National Park Authority website www.newforestnpa.gov.uk

**Note.** The western side of the Tall Trees Trail has been partially resurfaced and is now open again following an outbreak of the plant disease, ‘sudden oak death’ which was affecting the rhododendron bushes there. A temporary, fully accessible diversion was in place (grey path on map). This has been left on the map in case it is necessary to re-close the western part of the Trail again. The walk is then 3.1km. (2 miles).

Surveyed and updated on 13\textsuperscript{th} March 2012

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Easy-Going Walks
Bolderwood Trails

The coloured waymarker posts are as follows:
Deer Watch Trail - Yellow (0.8 km)
Jubilee Grove Trail - Green (1.6 km)
Radnor Trail - Red (3.2 km)

!!! Gradient and crossfall of 20%. This section is not recommended.

Key:
- Disabled Parking
- Accessible Toilet
- Viewpoint
- Bridge
- Open grassland
- Information Centre
- Information Board
- Point of Interest
- Seat
- Picnic Area
- Gate
- Road
- Trail - good
- Other Paths
- Gradients (Arrows point downhill)
- Crossfall
- Cycle Route

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SID & FLOSS’s EASY- GOING WALKS
BOLDERWOOD.

Sat nav. coordinates 50°52’36” N 01°39’25” W
Ordnance survey coordinates SU 243 087

From Lyndhurst, drive west on the A35 for 4km. (2.5 miles). Turn right into Bolderwood Arboretum Ornamental Drive and Bolderwood car park is near the far end. There are 3 marked circular walking trails from Bolderwood car park. All go via the accessible deer viewing platform where the wild Fallow deer are fed daily at approx, 2.00pm from Easter to September. They are all very pleasant woodland walks on a good gravel or firm grass/gravel surface.

FACILITIES.
Toilets - with a separate disabled cubicle.
Picnic area – has picnic tables and fireproof tables for disposable BBQ’s.
The visitor centre - is accessible and is open weekends April to September, and school holidays.
An ice cream van - is usually present during school holidays and at weekends Feb - November.

OBSTACLES.
Gates around car park with wheelchair-friendly trombone latches.
Chicanes at road crossing points.

YELLOW TRAIL 0.8 km (0.5 mile). The Deer Watch Trail. Difficulty level 2

SID says: There is a drop of 10 metres from the Information Centre to the deer viewing platform. The trail back to the car park is fairly steep and you may find it easier to return on the longer route which goes via the picnic area.

GREEN TRAIL 1.6 km (1 mile). The Jubilee Trail. Difficulty level 5.

SID says: This trail drops over 40 metres from the Information Centre, the equivalent of a 13 storey building.

The return section just before returning to the deer viewing platform has sections of 20% gradients and a worrying cross fall of 20% where you need to turn to cross a culvert. We do not consider that this section of the Red and Green Trails comes within our criteria for easy-going walks and we do not recommend this section.

If you feel comfortable on the first steep slope past the Radnor Stone, which also has a noticeable cross fall, you should cope well with our recommended route. You can return to the car park via the trail marked A and then return past the Radnor stone. This was a lovely walk on an all-weather surface.

RED TRAIL 3.2 km (2 miles). The Radnor Trail. Difficulty level 5.

There are 2 bridges; the first has a short but steep (17%) gravel slope up to the bridge and a 5cm. step where the gravel has eroded.

SID says: This trail drops over 50 metres from the Information Centre, the equivalent of a 17 storey building. See my comments in the Green Trail section. Both trails marked A and B are firm, smooth gravel or grass. You can use them to vary the length of your walk.

For more information on the Bolderwood area go to the Forestry Commission website. www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest or the National Park Authority website www.newforestnpa.gov.uk

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Easy-Going Walks
Knightwood Oak

Key

- Disabled Parking
- Road
- Un-paved footpath
- Other Paths
- Picnic Area
- Point of Interest
- Gradients (Arrows point downhill)
- Seat
- Information Board
- Suggested Walk

Knightwood Oak Car Park

Bolderwood Arboretum Ornamental Drive

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From Lyndhurst drive west on the A35 for 4km (2.5 miles). Turn right into Bolderwood Arboretum Ornamental Drive and the Knightwood Oak car park is a little way up on the left. This tree is believed to be the oldest Oak tree in the New Forest. It is thought to be 600 years old, has a circumference of 7.5 metres, and was pollarded in the past. It is a very easy, pleasant woodland walk on a good gravel or firm grass/gravel surface.

**FACILITIES**
- **Car park** - 1 blue badge parking space.
- **Toilets** - None. The nearest toilets are at Blackwater car park which is 1.3 miles to the south on the other side of the A35.
- **Information boards.**
- **Seats** - Several bench seats along the walk.
- **Picnic tables** - 2

**LENGTH** 0.6km (0.4 miles) in total.

**OBSTACLES.** Chicanes at road crossing points. Easy to navigate.

**MARKED TRAIL TO THE OAK TREE.** Difficulty level 1

**SID** says: From the car park the Trail takes you back across the road. Follow the Trail to the Tree. The Trail leads all around the ancient Knightwood Oak. Several good information boards are positioned around the Tree.

This is a very easy walk with only one 3 metre slope up of 5-10%, just before the chicane at the road side.

There is an interesting tree opposite the commemorative trees. It is created by two trees, an oak and a beech tree, which have fused and grown together over many years. This process is called osculation.

You can download the Knightwood Oak podcast for your MP3 player from the Forestry Commission website below.

**SID** says: You may like to combine this walk with a visit to the **deer viewing platform at Bolderwood.** The car park is 2.3 miles to the north, near the other end of the Bolderwood Arboretum Ornamental Drive. This car park has **toilets** and other facilities.

For more information on the Knightwood Oak go to the Forestry Commission website.  
[www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest) or the National Park Authority website  [www.newforestnpa.gov.uk](http://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk)

Surveyed on 02\textsuperscript{nd} June 2011

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New Forest Access For All
Easy-Going Walks
Ober Water Trails

There are two Ober Water Trails:
- Short trail - 1.6 km with yellow waymarker posts.
- Long trail - 2.4 km with red waymarker posts.

Choose your own path across the field to avoid slopes.
Path along edge of field is not recommended because of high crossfall.

Key:
- 🚶‍♂️ Disabled Parking
- WC Accessible Toilet
- 🚷 Open grassland
- 🏞 Bridge
- 🛀 Seat
- 📢 Information Board
- 🚶‍♂️ Trail - good
- 🚶‍♂️ Trail - easy
- 🚶‍♂️ Other Paths
- ▼ Gradients (Arrows point downhill)
- ▽ Crossfall

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SID & FLOSS’s EASY- GOING WALKS
THE OBER WATER TRAILS.

Sat nav. coordinates 50°49'20"  N 01°36'44"  W
Ordnance Survey coordinates SU 274 026

The marked Ober Water Trails start from Whitefield Moor car park, which is 3km. (2 miles) due west of Brockenhurst village. There are two circular walking trails. The Trails go along a beautiful stretch of the Ober Water river under the trees on a good gravel path; then they both cross over the river and return over the open Whitefield Moor on a firm, grass surface. Whitefield Moor is a large open grassy area ideal for family games and picnics.

FACILITIES.
Car park - 2 blue badge spaces.
Toilets - with a separate disabled toilet.

LENGTH of walks
The Yellow Trail is 1.6 km. (1 mile)
The Red Trail is 2.4 km. (1.5 miles).

OBSTACLES.
All 3 bridges need a little care. The Ober Water is liable to flooding in the winter and some of these paths may become impassable, particularly across the bog area. The marked Trails return along the edge of the Whitefield Moor. They have a significant cross fall for much of their length and are not recommended. The Moor is a domed hill on the side nearest the Ober Water river and you may find it easier to pick your own route across the grass (see map).

THE YELLOW TRAIL - Yellow way markers - Difficulty level 3

SID says: Immediately after the Puttles Bridge there is a tight 90 degree turn just after the down slope. There is a path alongside the car park, but it has a significant cross fall at the far end of the car park. At bridge B there is a lovely view of the river and the only seat on the Trail. After the bridge there is a 12% slope for 3 metres off the bridge and 2 concrete outcrops although it is possible to pass to the side of them. The Trail returns on a good path through an interesting bog area with some rare plants. To climb back onto the Moor choose a route which suits you; the faster you climb the less the cross fall. The maximum slope is just over 10%.

THE RED TRAIL - Red way markers - Difficulty level 4.

SID says: The Red Trail continues to the bridge C. The gravel has worn away at the far side and there is a 4cm. step off the bridge. Just beyond the bridge, a path to the right goes back very close to the river bank and is well worth a detour for views of the river. This is a good path which continues for some distance until it reaches a culvert. After this the path deteriorates with tree roots and muddy areas, and there is no exit at the other end for wheelchairs. When you return over the Moor, if you keep south toward the road, the surface is much more level and you avoid the valley (see map).

PUTTLES BRIDGE WALK - Difficulty level 2

SID says: If you want to avoid too many slopes you can start from the Puttles Bridge car park and walk along the river woodland route, retracing your steps. There are no facilities at this car park.

For more information on the Ober Water Trails go to the Forestry Commission website.
www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest or the National Park Authority website www.newforestnpa.gov.uk

Surveyed on 30th October 2009.
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The Reptile Trail is 1.8 km long and has red waymarker posts. The return trip to the Portuguese Fireplace is 2.2 km.
The Reptile Centre is off the A35, 3km. (2 miles) SW of Lyndhurst. The Reptile Centre and the RSPB live webcam, which shows the nests of local birds of prey, are all accessible on good compacted gravel paths. The reptile pits are easy to view for small children and from a wheelchair. Best visited on a warm summer day when the reptiles, which are all found in the UK, are more active and easier to spot.

**FACILITIES.**

**Reptile centre** - open 10am.- 4.30pm.from Easter to end of September. Free entry. This has been run by volunteers for many years.

**Car park** - 1 blue badge space. *(Voluntary contribution requested).*

**Toilets** - with one separate disabled toilet.

**Information board** - for Reptile Centre.

**Picnic area** - accessible. There is a covered seating area next to the webcam hut. This area is used for educational visits and may not be available.

**RSPB live Webcam** - during the breeding season showing Hobby and Goshawk nests.

**LENGTH of walks**

- To the Portuguese Fireplace  2.2 km (1.4 miles)
- Reptile Trail - 1.8 km (1.1 miles)

**PORTUGUESE FIREPLACE WALK** - No way markers - Difficulty level 2 (3 if wet.)

SID says; The track is mostly on good, compacted gravel. After the gate near the road, which has an easy access trombone latch, the track is on a grass/earth verge alongside the road. This verge can be muddy after heavy rain, and has some protruding tree roots.

This is an excellent gentle wooded walk to the Portuguese Fireplace, a World War I memorial which is set in an attractive open area.

**REPTILE TRAIL** - Red way markers – Difficulty level 4 (5+ if wet)

SID says; This is a marked circular trail from the car park. The path has a 10 metre long section with a gradient up of 16-20% just after the bridge, travelling anti-clockwise. **This path is not suitable after heavy rain** as the slopes on either side of the stream can become very muddy and slippery.

For more information on the Reptile Centre go to the Forestry Commission website. [www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest) or [www.new-forest-national-park.com/new-forest-reptile-centre.html](http://www.new-forest-national-park.com/new-forest-reptile-centre.html)

Surveyed on 29th August 2009.

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New Forest Access For All
Easy-Going Walks
Hordle Cliffs at Milford on Sea

Key

- P: Disabled Parking
- WC: Accessible Toilet
- K: Shelter with Seats
- : Suggested Walk
- : Road
- : Paved footpath
- : Other Paths
- : Gradients (Arrows point downhill)
- : Crossfall

End of paved cliff-top path

0 400m

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Milford-on-Sea is on the New Forest boundary 4 miles south west of Lymington on the B3058. The Hordle cliffs are just to the west of Milford-on-Sea village centre. There are excellent walks on a sealed surface of fine gravel embedded in tarmac, with wonderful views of the Solent and the Isle of Wight.

FACILITIES
A) Hordle Cliff West car park - has 7 Blue Badge spaces, a refreshment kiosk, a brick built shelter with bench seats, and toilets with a separate disabled cubicle. There is an overflow car park on a firm grass surface.
B) Paddy’s Gap car park - has 8 Blue Badge spaces.
C) Hurst Road West car park - has 6 Blue Badge spaces, and toilets, one separate disabled cubicle.
D) Hurst Road East car park - has 9 Blue Badge spaces facing the sea, and a café. The nearest public toilets are 250 metres (275 yards) along the promenade at Hurst Road West car park. All 4 car parks are pay and display from 1st March to 31st October – Blue Badge holders free of charge.

LENGTH
Walk 1 - up to 3.2 km (2 miles);
Walk 2 - to Hurst Road East car park 4.2 km (2.6 miles);

OBSTACLES. Around the White House (Walk 2) there are difficult slopes with significant crossfall.

Walk 1 from the HORDLE CLIFF WEST CAR PARK - Difficulty level 1.

This lovely walk is along the cliff top from the car park in both directions. To the east, once you get to the Paddy’s Gap car park, there is a long gentle slope down towards the White House, although this is less than 5% gradient.

SID says: There are bench seats at frequent and regular intervals all along the coastal path, as well as the wooden or brick shelters with seating, marked on the map. This is a very easy walk with lovely views over the Solent and you can choose the length of the walk to suit your circumstances.

Walk 2 from the HORDLE CLIFF WEST CAR PARK - Difficulty level 3

SID says: You can continue along the promenade to the east. This walk is made more difficult by a short but awkward stretch where the promenade curves seaward to pass around the White House. There are gradients of 15% down with a crossfall of 16% in places for 20 metres (22 yards) followed by a 5 metres (5.5 yards) stretch upwards of 14% slope with a crossfall of up to 8%. It is possible to go inland here around the White House grounds and rejoin the walk at Hurst Road car park. You can travel as far as the Hurst Road East car park, although the views in places are partly spoiled by the concrete roofs of beach huts on the shingle seafront below. The Sturt Pond walk starts from this car park.

Surveyed on 4th October 2010

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New Forest Access For All
Easy-Going Walks
Sturt Pond at Milford on Sea

Key

- Disabled Parking
- Accessible Toilet
- WC
- Cafe
- Seat
- Shelter with Seats
- Bridge
- Viewpoint
- Road
- Paved footpath
- Un-paved footpath
- Other Paths
- Gradients (Arrows point downhill)
- Crossfall
- Suggested Walk

Milford on Sea

The White House

Hurst Road West Car Park

Hurst Road East Car Park

Hurst Road

Turn back at the end of the pond

Caravan Park

Bird Hide

Sturt Pond

Un-paved footpath

Seats at frequent intervals along the paved footpath

New Lane

Road liable to flooding at high tide

To Keyhaven

Sturt Pond at Milford on Sea

Crossfall

5-10%

>10%

5-10%
Milford-on-Sea is on the New Forest boundary 4 miles south west of Lymington on the B3058. It has a shingle beach and great views of the Solent and the Isle of Wight. Sturt Pond is a tidal inlet and a wonderful place to spot coastal birds. It is partially sheltered from the on-shore winds by the 2 km long Hurst Spit which makes it an especially good place to view migrating birds in the winter.

**FACILITIES**

**Hurst Road East car park** - has 9 Blue Badge spaces facing the sea.

**Toilets** - the nearest public toilets are 250 metres (275 yards) along the promenade at Hurst Road West car park.

**Café** - at the car park serving hot meals and snacks
The car park is pay and display from 1st March to 31st October - Blue Badge holders free of charge.

**Bird Hide** - open 9am - 5pm. This looks over the west side of Sturt Pond, but unfortunately there are 7 steps to the entrance.

**LENGTH** of walk 3 km (1.9 miles)

**OBSTACLES.** Some loose shingle alongside the Hurst Spit part of the walk, mainly between the two bridges - see **SiD Says**

**STURT POND WALK** - difficulty level 2-3

**SiD** says; Start from the Hurst Road East car park at the end of Sea Road. There are several bench seats on the promenade looking over the sea. The paths around Sturt Pond area are mostly good compacted gravel, but in a few places the loose shingle has spread from the Hurst Spit and makes the surface more difficult. They tend to be where walkers have come down from the Spit and are usually only for short distances. There is often a way around them where the gravel is compacted.

There are no significant slopes on this walk apart from the entrances to the first bridge. This has a 15% slope up for 3 metres, (3.3yards) and a 15% slope down for 2 metres (2.2yards). There is also a step of 4-5cms (2 inches) where the gravel has eroded at either end of the bridge. (If this is a problem you can omit this part of the walk).

**Hurst Spit** - There are two slopes near the second bridge which lead up to Hurst Spit. The second of these slopes is reasonably firm gravel - 35 metres (40 yards) long with a 15% gradient and leads to the top of the spit. There is a great view from there if you can make it safely.

Surveyed on 4th October 2010

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New Forest Access For All
Easy-Going Walks
Keyhaven

Keyhaven

Keyhaven Car Park

Jetty

Ferry to Hurst Castle

Islands

Good path continues for several kilometres. Turn back when you want.

Islands

Islands

Gate

Bridge

Suggested Walk

Road

Un-paved footpath

Other Paths

Gradients (Arrows point downhill)

5-10%

>10%

Small Car Park

Seat(s)

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Keyhaven is approached from Milford-on-Sea. It is a small village with a very pretty harbour. There are easy walks along the sea wall with views of Keyhaven harbour, the Isle of Wight and Hurst Spit. The area is a good spot for bird watching.

**FACILITIES**

**Keyhaven car park** - has 4 Blue Badge spaces,

**Toilets** - at this car park are very hi-tech and modern. The access to the separate disabled WC has a short slope outside which may cause problems in a manual wheelchair. The car park is pay and display from 1st March to 31st October - Blue Badge holders free.

**LENGTH** of walk Sea wall and harbour walk - 3 km (1.9 miles).

**OBSTACLES** A width restriction between two posts of 90cms to access the gravel path leading to the sea wall.

**KEYHAVEN SEA WALL and HARBOUR WALK** - Difficulty level 2.

**SID** says: From the car park, turn left towards the sea. Cross the road and follow the gravel path to the T- junction at the sea wall and turn right. This lovely walk is along the top of the sea wall, built as a flood defence in the 1970s. The walk ends at a gate next to a flood gate across the narrow road which is liable to flooding. The line of seaweed on the road marks the high tide point! Retrace your route to the T- junction.

When you reach the T- junction, carry straight on along the sea wall and follow the walk around the harbour. Pass the terminal of the ferry to Hurst Castle at end of Hurst Spit. *(The ferry runs every 20 minutes from 10am - 5pm. There is a 10cm (4inch) threshold at the terminal entrance and 3-4 steps down on the ferry itself.)*

Cross the road and turn right into the narrow gravel path to continue your walk around the harbour. The jetty beyond the flood gates is open to the public and accessible. Follow the harbour wall to the right, over the bridge and enter the Keyhaven Marshes nature reserve, via a gate with an accessible trombone latch. Apart from a 3 metre (3.3 yard) slope up of 15%, this is a level walk along the sea wall and well worth the effort. You can travel further into the Marshes on the good gravel path if you wish.

This is a gentle walk with lovely views. Choose the length of walk to suit your own circumstances.

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Head east from Linwood, then turn left at Milkham’s car park towards Fritham. After 1.4 miles turn left into Cadman’s Pool car park which is opposite the Ocknell Pond car park.

FACILITIES

Large Car park - no specific spaces reserved for Blue Badge holders, but 8 - 10 spaces look directly over the Pool.

Toilets - none here. The closest Forestry Commission ones are at Bolderwood, 3.7 miles to the south, which also has a separate disabled toilet. (See refreshments)

Seats - none

Picnic tables - none

Refreshments - none. The nearest pub is the Royal Oak in Fritham, 3 miles away. The pub has excellent disabled toilets in the grounds, an accessible garden, and a temporary ramp to enter the pub.

SID SAYS; It is approximately 20 metres (22 yards) from the edge of the car park to the Pool. Cadman’s Pool can be enjoyed without leaving the car. This is a good area for picnics, or just to sit and enjoy the view. There is an easy walk around the Pool on firm grass, gravel and concrete path. The gentle walk around the Pool is 500 metres (550 yards). Difficulty level 1.

Another longer, but easy walk, is from the car park, across the road to Ocknell Pond, a seasonal waterhole. Once across the road follow the path on the left. Return journey is 1.5 km. (0.9 miles). Difficulty level 1.

STONEY CROSS AIRFIELD. On the south of the Pool there is a long straight concrete strip, which was part of the old WW2 Stoney Cross airfield. When you leave Cadman’s Pool car park, turn left along a mile of very straight road. This road was the main runway for the airfield. The length was needed for heavily-laden USAF bombers and later RAF transport planes. Most of the airfield concrete has been removed and the Forest restored, but if you turn right at the T-junction and pull into the Stoney Cross Plain car park you will find a memorial plaque and a large map showing how the huge airfield was laid out. See www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest for information about the airfield. They also have a podcast about the airfield.

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Hatchet Pond is situated 1.25 miles west of Beaulieu on the B3055.

**FACILITIES**
- **Large Car park** - one Blue Badge space at toilets. Approximately 12 spaces look directly over the Pond.
- **Toilets** - yes, with a separate disabled toilet.
- **Seat** - 3 wooden benches with backs at intervals along the northern edge of the Pond.
- **Refreshments** - there is often an ice cream van at the car park, or excellent food in nearby Beaulieu.

**SID SAYS;** Hatchet Pond is the largest area of fresh water in the New Forest. It is very beautiful and can be enjoyed without leaving the car. This is a good area for picnics, or just to sit and enjoy the view.

There is an easy walk from the car park of up to 3kms. return (1.9 miles) along the northern and then the western edge of the Pond on a good grass or gravel surface. It is not possible to go all around the lake with wheels, as it is very boggy at the southern end, and there are several small streams to cross. Difficulty level 1 - 2

There is another easy walk up to 1.5km. return (1mile) to the east and south of the Pond to the coarse fishing area, but there is some noise here from the nearby B3054. The path goes towards the Hatchet Moor car park where there are two smaller ponds. This car park has no facilities but it is quieter than the main car park and also excellent for picnics and views. Difficulty level 2.

Surveyed on 2nd. September 2010.

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Janesmoor Pond is just south of Fritham on the road to Stoney Cross. Enter the southern access to the car park.

FACILITIES

**Large Car park** - no specific spaces reserved for Blue Badge owners, but several spaces look directly over the Pond.

**Toilets** - none here. The closest Forestry Commission ones are at Bolderwood, 5 mile to the south, which also has disabled facilities. (see refreshments)

**Seats / Picnic tables** - none

**Refreshments** – none. The nearest pub is the Royal Oak in Fritham, 1.6 miles away. The pub has excellent disabled toilets in the grounds, an accessible garden, and a temporary ramp to enter the pub.

**SID SAYS:** Janesmoor Pond can be enjoyed without leaving the car, but it is a very short walk from the edge of the car park to the Pond. This is a good area for picnics, or just to sit and enjoy the view.

There is an easy walk around the Pond on firm, slightly undulating grass. The length of this walk is 300 metres (330 yards). Difficulty level 1

**STONEY CROSS AIRFIELD.** When you leave Janesmoor Pond car park, turn left. The first road on your right is a stretch of very straight road one mile long. This road was the main runway for the airfield. The length was needed for heavily-laden USAF bombers and later RAF transport planes. Most of the airfield concrete has been removed and the Forest restored, but if you carry straight on and pull into the Stoney Cross Plain car park on your right you will find a memorial plaque and a large map of how the huge airfield was laid out. See [www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest) for information about the airfield. They also have a podcast about the airfield.

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Turn off the A31, 1 mile east of the J1 of the M27, signposted to Rufus Stone, and follow the road for 500 yards. The right turn heading west from the M27 is difficult, so if possible approach from the west.

**FACILITIES**

- **Car park** - room for 20 cars mostly in the shade. There are no specific Blue Badge spaces.

- **Toilets** – none. The nearest public toilets are at Lyndhurst (see refreshments)

- **Seats / Picnic tables** - none

- **Refreshments** - none. A 250 yard easy walk or drive along the road to the Sir Walter Tyrrell pub, SO43 7HD, Tel: 023 8081 3170. Level access to toilets in pub, but no disabled toilets. Easy access to garden, and to the pub itself via a steep 3 metre ramp, or 2 steps. (see picture below).

**SID SAYS:** The Rufus Stone, which marks the site of the demise of William II (Rufus) can be seen without leaving the car, but it is a very short walk from the car park on a good gravel path, and the legend on the stone is worth the effort.

The surrounding grass is fairly undulating and in places very damaged by animal hooves. Parts of the field can be boggy after rain. A nice quiet place to have a picnic.

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