

POOLE HARBOUR TRAILS

Our aim is to provide easily recognised cycling and walking routes around Poole Harbour. The walking route around the harbour is divided into 6 linear walks:

- Walk 1** Poole to Greenlands. (12 km 7½ mls)
- Walk 2** Greenlands to Purbeck Park, formerly Norden Park & Ride (11 km 7 mls)
- Walk 3** Purbeck Park, formerly Norden Park & Ride, to Wareham (12 km 7½ mls)
- Walk 4** Wareham Quay to Sandford (12 km 7½ mls)
- Walk 5b** temporary walk, Sandford to Turlin Moor (13.5 km 8½ mls)
- Walk 5** Sandford to Turlin Moor – next phase of Poole Harbour Trails project
- Walk 6** Turlin Moor to Poole Quay (11 km 7 mls)

The above walks can be found on www.pooleharbourtrails.org.uk. Each of the above linear walks is associated with several circular walks, Walk 1a, 1b etc. leading to local attractions or additional viewpoints, all of which can be found on the above web site.

THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

Respect other people

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Park carefully so access to gateways and driveways is clear
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Follow paths but give way to others where it's narrow

Protect the natural environment

- Leave no trace of your visit, take all your litter home
- Don't have BBQs or fires
- Keep dogs under effective control
- Dog poo - bag it and bin it

Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead, check what facilities are open, be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs and obey social distancing measures

OPEN ACCESS LAND

Open Access is a right of access on foot. Riding bikes or horses (except on bridleways designated public rights of way), driving vehicles (except mobility vehicles), camping or feeding animals are not allowed. Dogs must be on a short, fixed lead up to 2 metres long near livestock and from 1 March until 31 July to protect nesting birds. Sometimes restrictions on access may be in place, please check details online.



WALK 3b MIDDLEBERE FARM AND SHARFORD BRIDGE



- **Start:** Middlebere, layby near entrance to Middlebere farm access road.
- **Ordnance survey map:** OL15 Grid reference: start and finish SY 963 853
- **Transport** Car Parking: near entrance to Middlebere farm access road.
- **Approximate distance:** 4 km (2½ mls), allow 1½ hours.
- **Facilities en route:** none.
- **Nature of route:** footpaths, tracks, minor roads; fields, heath, river; 2 small hills.
- **Special interest:** Sharford Bridge.
- **Connecting trails:**
- **Connecting harbour walks:** Walk 3a – Middlebere, Sharford Bridge and Wytch Farm; Walk 3 – Purbeck Park, formerly Norden Park-and-Ride, to Wareham.
- **Waymarks:**-the linear walks are now waymarked with small, green roundels but these may not give the correct directions for the circular walks.

1. Head along the access road to Middlebere farm until you reach a cattle grid.
2. Turn right before the cattle grid to go up the hill following the track. At the top, admire the view and then follow the track down towards the woods. Continue along to the right, keeping the fence on your left.
3. Pass a gate on your left on to open ground and then turn left through a hand gate towards the end of a small pine wood on your left. Go over the small wooden bridges and up to Sharford bridge. (This is a restored medieval pack horse bridge of great historic value.)
4. Just before the old stone bridge, turn right and follow the bank of the Corfe river on a footpath for a while and then head for the gate into the next field.

Continue straight ahead to, a gate, go straight through it and cross the field ahead to another gate and then follow the path round to the right towards a gap in the hedge.

5. At the gap in the hedge, ignore the gate on your right and go straight on and up a slight rise to join a bridleway.

At the end of the field go straight ahead through a hand gate into the open heathland and bear left along the track.

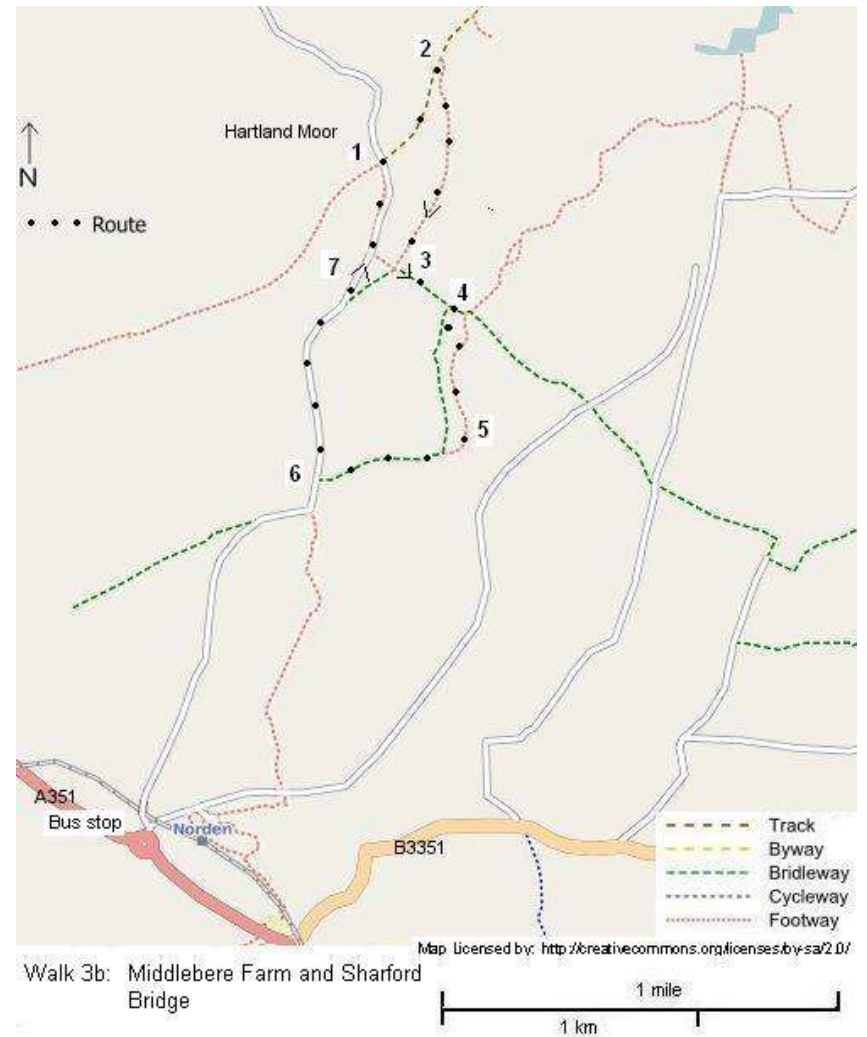
6. This leads out onto a road. Turn right.

7. When you reach the entrance to a private driveway turn left and immediately right to join a track that runs parallel to the road.

Continue along in the same direction, alongside the road until you finally come out onto the road at the entrance to Middlebere farm.



Defence Bank



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