

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 3c MIDDLEBERE, HARTLAND MOOR, SCOTLAND AND SHARFORD BRIDGE



- **Start:** Lay by at Middlebere, entrance to Middlebere Farm access road.
- **Ordnance survey map:** OL15. Start and finish grid reference: SY 963 853.
- **Transport:** Car parking near entrance to Middlebere Farm access road. Nearest bus stop (2½ km from start) on A351, alight Norden Farm, Wilts & Dorset 40 Poole/Swanage (check timetables).
- **Approximate distance:** 9½ km (6 mls), allow 3 hours.
- **Facilities en route** none, nearest toilets at Purbeck Park and café there, open when trains are running.
- **Nature of route:** footpaths, tracks, minor roads; fields, heath, river; 2 small hills. Muddy in winter.
- **Special interest:** Middlebere Plateway, Sharford Bridge.
- **Connecting harbour walks:** Walk 3b - Middlebere Farm and Sharford Bridge, Walk 3a – Middlebere, Sharford Bridge and Wytch Farm, Walk 3 – Purbeck Park 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. From the lay by, go across the road to the gate leading onto Hartland Way and follow this for about 1.5 km (1 mile) (SW). You will pass 2 seats on your left as you follow the track of the Middlebere Plateway and come to a cattle grid signed Hartland Way. Ignore the Poole Harbour Trails waymark on the right hand fork (for linear Walk 3), cross the cattle grid and go straight on alongside the fence. After about 300 m bear left along a grassy lane.
2. Passing a cottage on your left, go straight through the gate ahead. Continue through the next gate and turn left onto the lane.
3. Arriving at a cattle grid, carry straight ahead on to the road. Soon you arrive at a farm, Scotland Farm, go through a gap towards the farmyard and turn right and then left following the large footpath signs. Go through two gates alongside a barn emerging into a small paddock via a kissing gate. Take the kissing gate on the right

Follow the hedge on your left for about 100 m and go through the gap on your left. Go straight down the long narrow field, following the path over a rise, eventually bearing right to reach a gap in the middle of the far end of the field.

- Bear left to an opening near the middle of the left hand edge of the next field and then bear slightly right to get to a footbridge to the right of the far right hand corner. Cross the bridge and bear left to cross the Corfe River where it goes underground.

Bear slightly right to cross the field to a nearby gap between the trees and a waymarked exit onto the road. Turn left onto the road and almost immediately right onto a path into the wood.

- Follow this path. After a gate it becomes a grassy track.

When you come to a road, turn left. Continue along the road for 1.5 km (1 mile), ignoring turns to the left and right and passing the partially hidden Oil Gathering Station on your left.

- You come to a junction of tracks where one track leads into a farm on your right. Go through the second of two gates on your left (WSW). The path turns left and becomes a grassy track.

(Just before turning left, you could take a brief diversion along the track ahead. In about 300 m, after passing one of the old Passage Houses, you reach a reedy shore, at the edge of the Harbour.)

You are now back on the Poole Harbour Trail and can follow the way marks. Follow the track until you come to a junction. Ignore the lane coming in from the sharp left. Take the lane to the left (second left) which then bends around to the right and eventually leads out into open ground.

Follow this around to the right ignoring the track coming in from the left alongside the woods and continue until you come to a way marked gate.

- Go through the way marked gate and see a mound ahead. Take the way to the right of the mound, soon following a stream on your right.

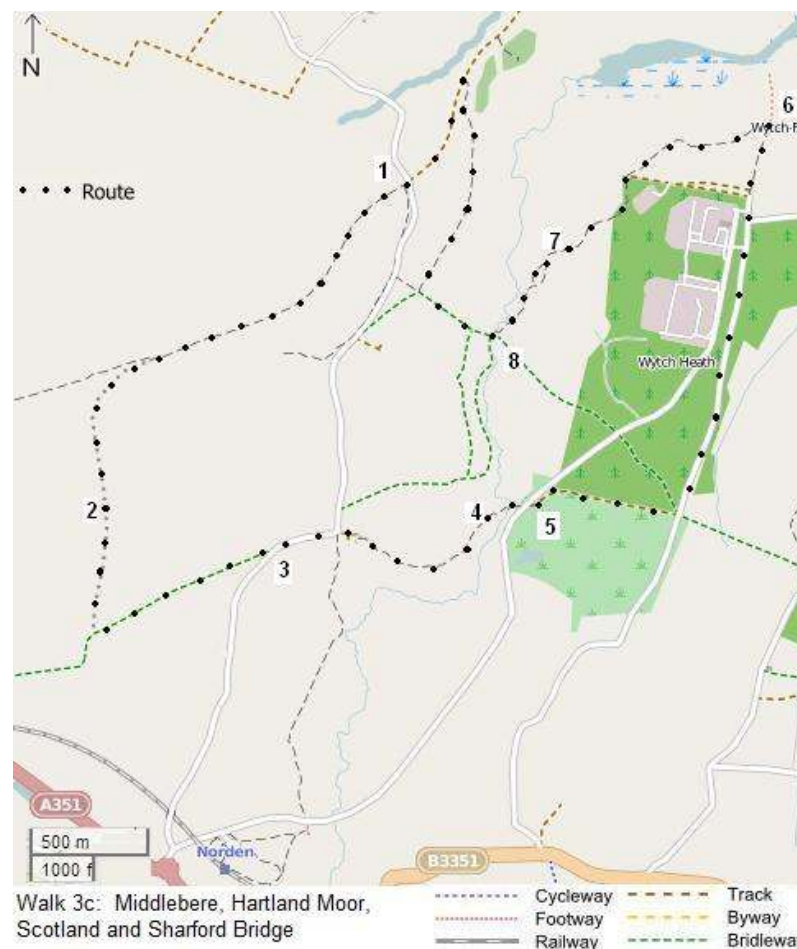
Continue ahead and turn right at a cross path towards Sharford Bridge.

- Pass over the bridge and go ahead towards another bridge over a small stream. Go through the gates on the bridge and up the path to come out

onto open ground.

Go through the pine wood and at the gate, turn right. Keep the fence on your right and follow the indistinct path when it bears left and up a rise. Follow the track away from the fence and down onto the road on your left, and turn left to return to the start of the walk.

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