

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 6b UPTON COUNTRY PARK, HAM COMMON AND LYTCHETT BAY

- **Start:** Upton Country House car park, BH17 7BJ.
- **Ordnance survey map:** OL15 Start and finish grid reference: SY 991 929.
- **Transport** (check current timetables):
More bus: 8 & 9 Poole circular, 40 Poole/Swanage to Upton.
South West Trains: Poole, Hamworthy and Bournemouth stations.
Car Parking: Upton Country House car park, pay.
- **Approximate distance:** 11 km (7 mls), allow 3½ hours.
- **Facilities en route:** Cafés at Upton Country Park and Hamworthy Park. Toilets in Upton Country Park, in Hamworthy Park and at Lake Car Park.
- **Nature of route:** footpaths, tarmac paths, beach, no stiles.
- **Special interest:** lake on Ham Common formed from old ball clay workings.
- **Connecting harbour walks:** Walk 6 – Turlin Moor to Poole Quay, Walk 5b - Sandford to Turlin Moor, Walk 6a - Upton Country Park, Upton Heath and Roman road.
- **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 main car park at Upton Country Park leave by turning right onto the road behind the toilet block. Pass the café on your left and at the walled garden turn right and then left downhill along a gravel path.

Turn left to a gazebo and immediately turn right, still downhill, signed to the shoreline.

2. As you approach the sea turn right along the shoreline.

Follow the path as it comes into the open and soon go over a boardwalk along the shore. Then bear right and then left to continue along a gravel path. On reaching a metal gate, turn left and go under the railway and out onto an estate road. Turn left off the path and soon left again and continue almost to the water's edge.

3. Turn right along the shoreline of Holes Bay. Keep to the tarmac path until it turns away from the water's edge and soon afterwards take the narrow track on your left across the grass. Keep on across the grass with the water on your left

until you reach the wall at the back of a boatyard.

Turn right and follow the track around the back of the boatyard buildings until you emerge onto an estate road. Turn right off the path and then first left. After about 50 metres turn left past the sign to the foreshore (FP 12) down a short track to the water's edge. Turn right.

Follow the path, which can be wet in places, to reach a path crossing right to left.

4. Turn left then almost immediately right to follow a path behind the houses and the school which can be wet or overgrown in places. (If impassable backtrack and bypass using Hinchcliffe Road and Blandford Road). Keep close to the school perimeter, turning right at the corner of the tennis courts down to the school entrance. Take the road opposite, Old Rectory Mews, and turn right onto Blandford Road.

Go across at the lights to turn left into Ashmore Avenue. Continue ahead, over the rail crossing and at Hamworthy Park turn left to follow a tarmac path. Just before a pedestrian bridge turn right across the grass.

5. When you reach the shoreline turn right and go along the promenade, passing beach huts. At the end turn right and then go left into Branksea Avenue.

Fork right at the end of Branksea Avenue into Lake Road and then turn left into Lake Avenue. After 200 metres bear left into Lake Drive and follow the road around to the right past the marine base.

6. Just past the base take the turning on your left down to the private beach and turn right. As the beach narrows, turn right and go up the slope into Lake Car Park.

Take the track onto Ham Common directly opposite. Follow the gravel track, soon bearing around to the right. Keep to the main track, which keeps roughly parallel to the sea shore for about 500 m and then turns north away from the sea. Soon you come to a cross path, with a narrow path on your right. Go straight over to bear slightly right up a gentle incline and continue round to the right. At the next fork just after an information board, keep left and then straight on, to a road.

Follow the pathway directly opposite until you go over the railway bridge.

7. Turn left into Egmont Road. Just after it bears right and at a mail box, turn left into an alley between houses and then keep ahead to go down to the water's edge of Lytchett Bay.

Go down the steps and turn right along a grass track to a metal barrier. Go past

the barrier, behind the houses and out onto open ground. Bear left and keep to the path that follows the shoreline.

8. The path skirts the edge of an open space and turns left past the end of a line of trees onto another track skirting a playing field. After bearing right with this track, ignore one left turn, follow the path as it bends left into some trees and bear right immediately. You then pass a metal gate and come onto open ground with an all-weather pitch on your right.

Having passed this pitch, cross the low railings and head diagonally across the playing field towards the far corner and the Blandford Road, avoiding the sports pitches if in use. Turn right, cross the road at the lights and head under the first railway arch.

9. Take the path on your left before the second arch and enter Upton Country Park. Follow the path through woodland for 1 km and, coming into the open at a junction, turn right and then left into the car park. *Updated October 2020.*



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