



Isle of Wight
area of outstanding
natural beauty

Celebrating our Landscape in association with the IW Ramblers

Part of a series of 11 walks to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty on the Island

Landscape: A National Nature Reserve with mudflats, shingle, salt marsh, reed beds, an open aspect and fringing oak woodlands

Description: A level walk, visiting the village, harbour and surrounding woodland.

Distance: 3.5 miles

Start: Town Lane National Trust Car Park opposite the Old Town Hall. This figure of

eight walk can be done in two parts starting at the visitor centre.

Access Information: Level, but paths may be muddy or marshy after wet weather. Take care with traffic on narrow lanes — generally best to stay in single file on right facing any oncoming traffic.

Refreshments: Cafe at Shalfleet. Nearest pub is the New Inn in Shalfleet. There is also the Sportsman's Rest at Porchfield and the Horse and Groom at Ningwood.

Toilets: At car park — these toilets are open in season only.

Route: From the rear of the visitor centre (1) turn left into the High Street following the Harbour Walk sign and passing houses, a village pump and the Church of the Holy Spirit (2). Follow the road as it turns right and follow the track past a post marked Marsh Farm House (3) to a bird hide (4) (open and manned in season).

Here turn left across a field and then right over a long wooden footway (5) towards the harbour. At the wooden hut (6) turn left

along the harbour wall, passing the old salt pans and to a kissing gate. Go through this and keep right around the edge of the meadow to another bridlegate and a short path which leads to a tarmac road (7).

Follow this road straight on until the road bends and there take the footpath over a stile in front of you. Proceed forward along a wide grassy ride to a stile. Here turn right (8) onto a road and then left just before a house with Francheville sign which used to be a pub (9).

Follow the path through a gate at CB13a along a ride to a gate, then a hedge gap and follow the hedge line to another gate, and across fields to a kissing gate joining a road where you turn right. (10) Follow the road past two bungalows at Old Vicarage Lane, then turn left through a gate onto a path into Walters Copse (11), a wooded area. Take this wide path which then turns sharp left and, after 20 yards, turn right down a track towards the creek. The track becomes an enclosed path and at a T-junction (12) near the creek, go left. Follow this path over a narrow wooden bridge and then straight on to a second wider bridge at a junction of paths. Here go left (13) and follow the track which turns left and then right. Leave the nature reserve at a gate and turn right onto the lane (14).

Follow the lane back, turning left at a bend (15) to the visitor centre and car park (on your right).

ramblers
at the heart of walking

Newtown Harbour and Creek

