

Get Walking . . .

Join us for a free, gentle stroll on
Wednesday, June 4, 10.30am

Carisbrooke & Gatcombe 4.5m

Start: Public carpark opposite Carisbrooke Priory.

Set-off Time: 10.30am.

Description: A walk along the Shepherds Trail to Gatcombe across rolling countryside with panoramic views.

Access Information: Two gentle hills. Bridleways can be muddy after rainy spells. No stiles. Opportunity to explore The Priory Monday to Friday and St Olave's Church.

Refreshments: There is a tea room at Little Gatcombe Farm.

Tea room at the Priory, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Also pubs in Carisbrooke.

Toilets: For patrons of the tea room at Gatcombe.

Also at the main carpark in Carisbrooke High Street.

**Rambles
around the Island**

in association with the **IW Ramblers**



Route: Facing Carisbrooke Castle (1), turn left and follow the road verge, passing a bus stop. When necessary, carefully follow the edge of the busy Whitcombe Road. When you reach Froglands Lane, turn left onto bridleway NI08 towards Gatcombe — this is part of the Shepherds Trail. The path becomes wider and gently rises along a shady sunken path.

The path emerges to give a panoramic view of the downs.

Follow the field track to a junction of paths (2) and follow the left path towards Gatcombe. Whitecroft Hospital buildings with the distinctive tower can be seen in the valley. Go through a bridlegate and follow the top edge of the field to another bridlegate and a fenced path.

At a junction of tracks (3), go left on G10 towards Hill Farm. Gatcombe can be seen in the valley on the right. The track leads onto a quiet lane at a bend (4). Turn right and follow Rectory Lane into Gatcombe. At Gatcombe Road (5) turn left by a post box. Pass Tuckers Farm to reach St Olave's Church (6). Do investigate this lovely church with William Morris window and Charles Seeley tomb.

Retrace your steps to the village of Gatcombe passing Rectory Lane and thatched cottages to reach Snowdrop Lane near the tearooms at Little Gatcombe Farm (7). Follow Snowdrop Lane uphill — byway G7a, and at a bend go left into Garstons passing a stone farm building. At a junction of paths (8) there is a fine view of the Downs. Retrace your steps past the farm and take the left hand waymarked track. Just where the track rises, go left on an enclosed and sunken bridleway (9). This then follows a field edge, bearing right, and on to a field corner where the path turns left to rejoin the Shepherds Trail (2). Follow Dark Lane NI08 towards Carisbrooke along the sunken path. At Froglands Lane, turn right to rejoin Whitcombe Road. Continue along this main road, keeping to the verge on the left to reach the car park.



For more walks visit: www.iowramblers.com