

WALKING IN THE NEW FOREST

30 Walks in the New Forest National Park

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This guide presents 30 easy walks, of between 5 and 16.5km (3 to 10 miles), covering all areas of the beautiful New Forest National Park. The routes can be shortened or lengthened to suit walkers of all capabilities, or combined to create more strenuous full-day challenges. Spanning Hampshire and Wiltshire and with easy access from London and the south, the area has been protected and nurtured by ancient laws for over 900 years since it was set aside as a royal hunting ground by William the Conqueror, and boasts a fascinating history and rich natural interest.

Featuring forest, ancient woodland, open heather-clad heath, streams and rivers and a lengthy stretch of coastline, the walks showcase the region's varied landscapes and include points of interest ranging from ancient sites and historic churches to colourful gardens and pretty villages with thatched cottages, pubs and tea rooms. You may also be lucky enough to spot some of the wildlife, including deer, reptiles and a wide variety of birdlife.

The clear step-by-step route description is illustrated with extracts from OS 1:25,000 Explorer maps, and overview boxes and a route summary table make it easy to choose an appropriate walk. There is background information about the area's history, geology, plants and wildlife and practical advice such as how to get there and where to find refreshments on or near the routes. Useful contacts and a glossary of dialect terms can be found in the appendices.

Key marketing points

- The largest remaining area of lowland heath in Europe, this National Park has 13.5 million visitors each year
- Paths range from good gravel tracks to narrow trails over open heaths, woodland, coast and riversides

About the author

Steve Davison is a freelance writer and photographer who has written several walking guides. He has also written for a number of outdoor magazines and other publications, including local and national newspapers, specialising in hillwalking and European travel. He is a member of the Outdoor Writers and Photographers Guild. Find out more about him out at www.steve-davison.co.uk.

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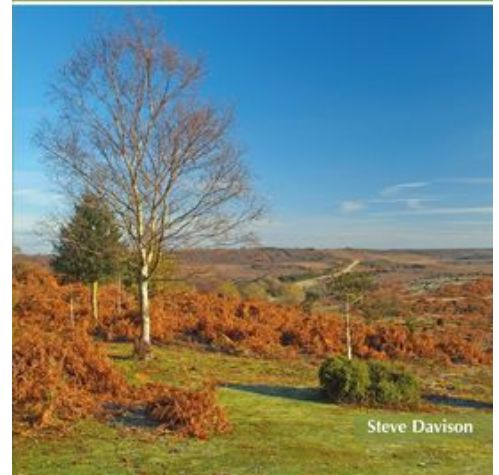
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