

# WALKING HAMPSHIRE'S TEST WAY

The long-distance trail and 15 day walks

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Guidebook to walking Hampshire's Test Way, a 44 mile (71km) route from Inkpen Beacon to the Eling Tide Mill near Southampton Water. The walk, which is described over eight stages, takes in many of the region's natural, historical and architectural delights, from the ever famous 'Sprat and Winkle' railway to the River Test itself – a stunning example of the exceedingly rare chalk stream.

The Test Way passes through areas of intriguing history and remarkable natural beauty. There are sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) as well as Iron Age hill forts, medieval churches, age old abbeys, relics from a long passed railway era and quaint villages brimming with thatch and flint and individual 'hostelries' to match.

The guidebook also describes 15 circular day walks in and around the Test Valley. These walks, which range from 3.75 miles (6km) to 8.5 miles (13.75km) are not overly difficult (a few have uphill challenges), making them suitable for most walkers. Practical information including where to stay and getting to and around the Test Way (and to the walks) is included, as is background information on local geology, wildlife and history.

## Key marketing points

- Only guide currently available to the Test Way
- Includes 15 day walks

## About the author

Malcolm Leatherdale has a particular interest in walking and exploring his native Hampshire. He has lived for the past 15 years a stone's throw away from the River Test and the Test Way. Malcolm is an active cyclist and also a former marathon runner having competed several times in the London Marathon - the training for which took him along the byways of the Test Valley and helped increase his local knowledge. He has written several books and has had a number of articles published as well as photographs.

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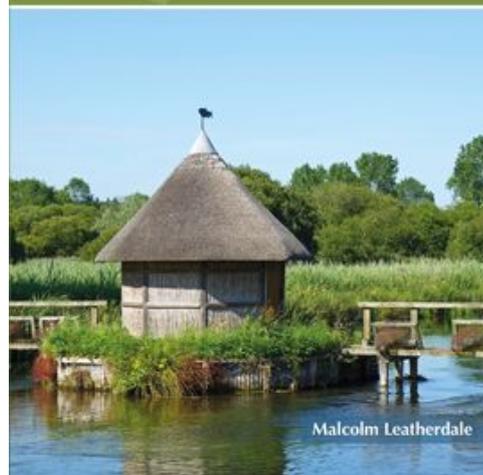
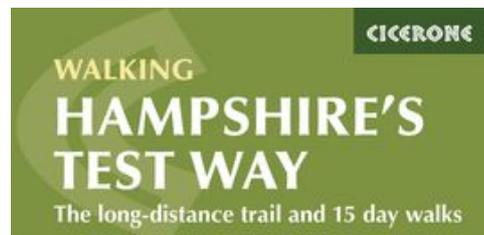
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