



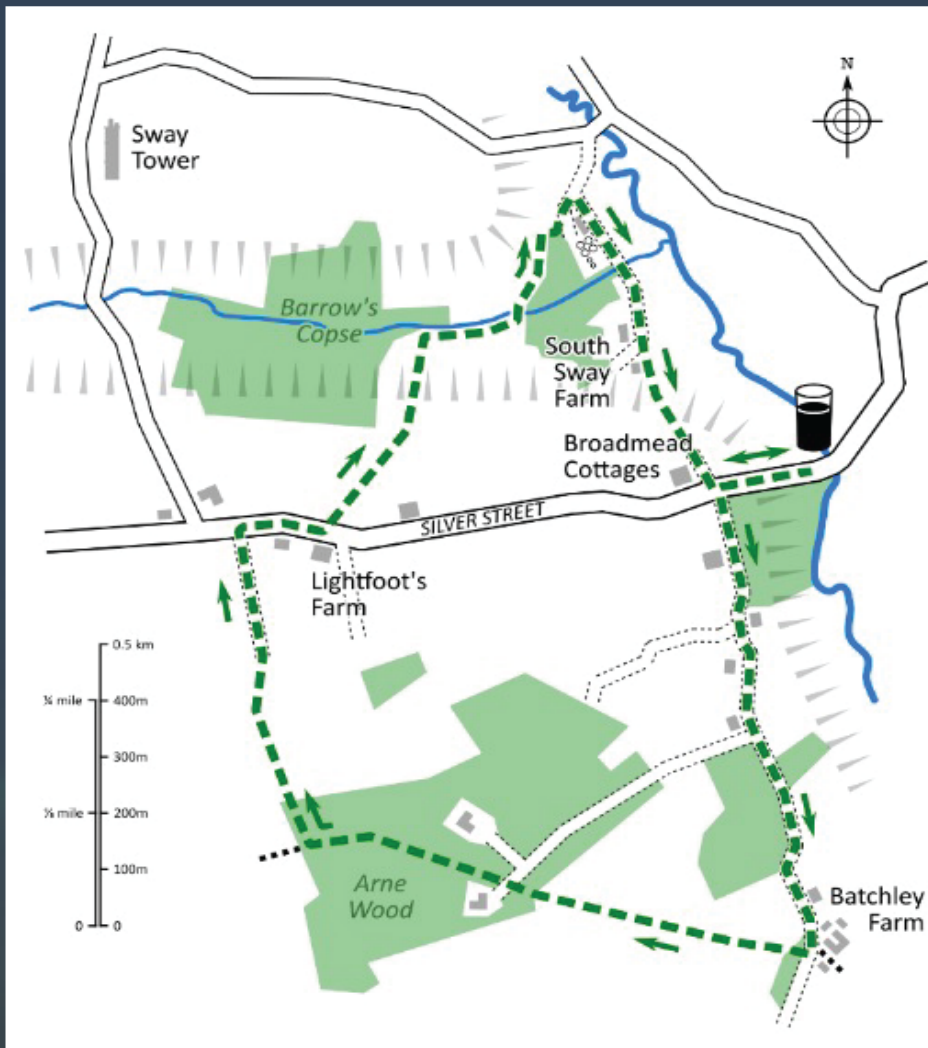
The Old Mill

The Old Mill is a stunning Inn on the banks of the Avon near Lymington. Located in the hamlet of Gordleton, an oasis of riverside tranquillity in the heart of the New Forest and easily accessible for all of the attractions of the South Coast.

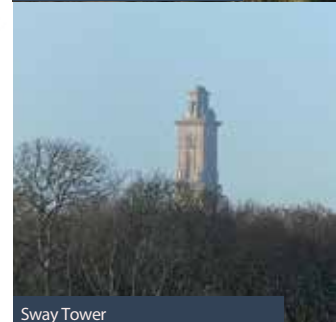


Arne Wood

Farmland and woodland walking from the pub, with views of Sway Tower. Allow 1–2 hours. Field paths may be muddy. Livestock may be encountered; busy road crossings and several stiles.



Near Batchley Farm



Sway Tower



The common primrose



1 Walk to the far end of the car park. 2 Cross the road with care and turn right. There is a narrow path along the verge. 3 Opposite Broadmead Cottages, turn left into a private road signposted as a public footpath and bridleway. 4 Follow the road for half a mile, ignoring various turnings and driveways on the right, continuing at a junction along a track with a sign reading "Oak Tree Cottage and Batchley Farm only". 5 Just beyond Batchley Farm, turn right over a footbridge through a belt of open woodland to a kissing gate into a field. 6 Cross to another kissing gate in the hedge opposite. 7 Cross the next field diagonally to a further kissing gate in the far right-hand corner. 8 Follow the path along a fence within the wood. 9 Cross a driveway and continue along the path beyond. 10 Just before a kissing gate at the far edge of the wood, turn right and follow a path, still within the trees. 11 Exit the wood over a stile into a field. 12 Walk down the field and go through a kissing gate near the far right-hand corner.

13 Follow a fenced farm track to the road. 14 Turn right along the busy road for a short distance. 15 Opposite Lightfoot's Farm, go through a kissing gate in the hedge on the left into a field, with views of Sway Tower above the trees. 16 Head diagonally across the field to a stile in the hedge on the right. 17 Bear left to a gate and stile, then follow a fenced-off footpath downhill into a stream valley. 18 At the bottom, follow the path right, alongside the stream. 19 At the end of the field, cross the stream via a footbridge with stiles on either side. 20 Head uphill along the right-hand side of the field. 21 Turn right over a stile by a gate into a hedged path that winds down to a road. 22 Turn left then right, past some sheds on the right. 23 Follow the potholed lane to South Sway Farm, then follow a path that continues straight ahead, to the left of the farm entrance. 24 Pass Broadmead Cottages to return to Silver Street. 25 Turn left along the road to return to The Old Mill.

What to Bring for Your Walk?

We recommend wearing comfortable walking shoes or lightweight waterproof boots, especially if the ground is damp. Dress in weather-appropriate layers, opting for breathable clothing in warmer months and a light waterproof jacket if rain is expected.

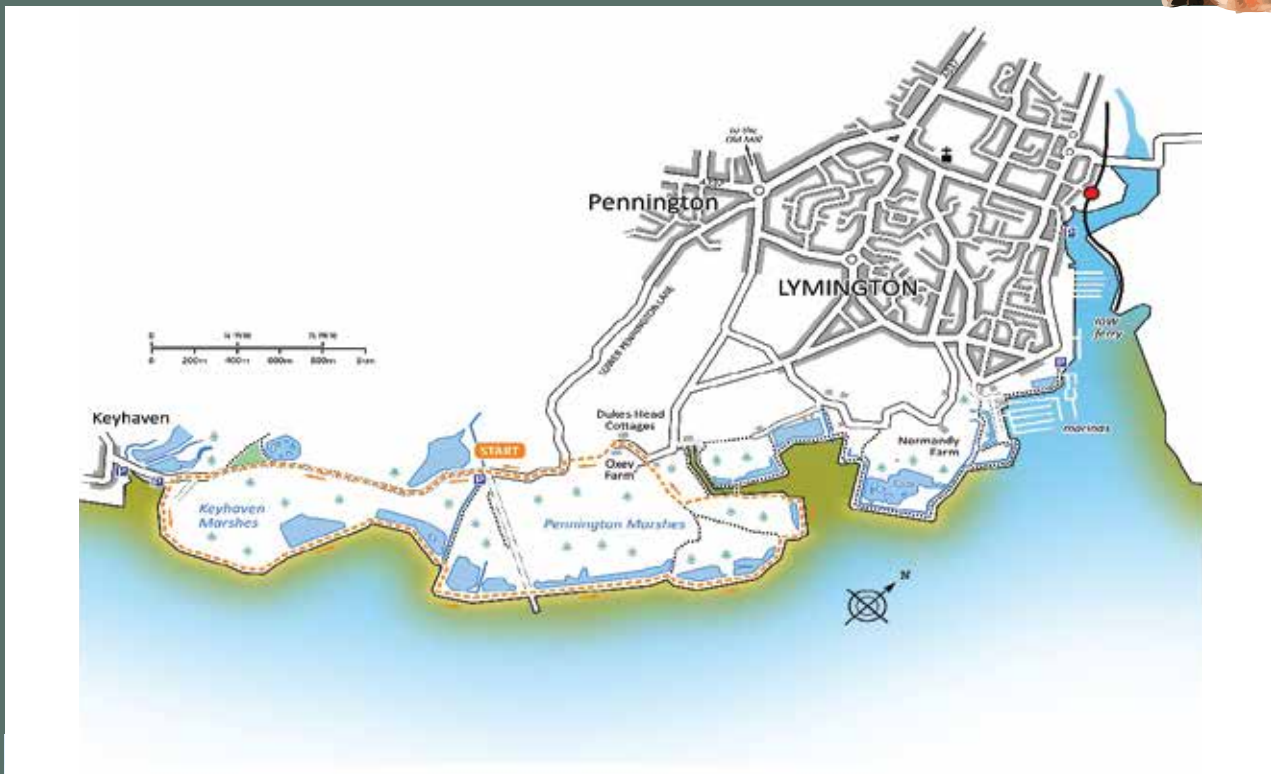
Enjoy a Packed Lunch from Our Pub!

To make the most of your walk, why not take a delicious packed lunch prepared by our pub? We offer a selection of fresh sandwiches, snacks, and drinks to keep you fuelled on your journey. Simply place your order in advance, and we'll have it ready for you before you set off!

Keyhaven & Pennington Marshes

A level stroll around a bird-rich nature reserve, with views from the sea wall to Hurst Castle and the Isle of Wight.

Allow 2-3 hours. Easy walking throughout, though short unsurfaced sections may be wet underfoot



Keyhaven and Pennington Marshes



Views from the seawall



View of Keyhaven



Start point: car park at the end of Lower Pennington Lane, SO41 8AL. Approximately 10 minutes' drive (3¾ miles). From the car park entrance, turn left along Silver Street. Keep right at the junction with South Sway Lane. Pass Gordleton Industrial Park (right) and turn right before the Wheel Inn (signposted to Milford on Sea and Pennington). Turn right at the 'give way' sign, into Upper Pennington. After 1½ miles, just beyond a Tesco Express, turn left into North Street. At the A337 roundabout, go straight across (2nd exit) then turn immediately right into Lower Pennington Lane. Follow the lane for 1½ miles to the small parking area at the end. 1 From the car park at the end of Lower Pennington Lane, take the wide gravelled path leading straight ahead, beyond a gate (signposted 'Cycle Path to Keyhaven'). 2 Pass to the left of a large pond and follow the combined cycle- and footway for almost a mile. 3 Shortly after a path joins obliquely from the right, you meet a metalled lane beyond a gate. 4 Follow the lane, keeping straight on at a junction with a private road, until you reach the harbour at Keyhaven. 5 At the near end of the car park, turn left onto a path running along the sea wall with the harbour on your right.

6 Follow the path along the shoreline as it curves left, with views to Hurst Castle and the Needles beyond. 7 After half a mile you reach a lagoon on your left, where you can either continue past a gate and along the embankment or follow a lower path to the left. 8 The embankment swings left then right and, after another lagoon, crosses a drain (where a path leading off to the left provides a shortcut back to the start). 9 Swing right, then sharp left past two more lagoons to reach a concrete jetty. 10 Ignoring the path heading inland (another shortcut opportunity), continue along the embankment past a long thin lagoon on your left, then curve right round a second lagoon (ignoring the path between them). 11 Follow the embankment as it winds round a broad inlet to the Moses Dock sluice. 12 Do not cross the creek, but continue ahead down steps. 13 When the creek swings right, walk straight on past the gate along a low path by a ditch. 14 On meeting a track, turn right through a gate. 15 Follow the track beyond as far as the road, with views right to some red-roofed salt barns.

16 Turn left along the road and follow it past Dukes Head Cottages (right) to Oxey Farmhouse (left). 17 Follow the path beyond until you reach Lower Pennington Lane. 18 Turn left and follow the road back to the car park.

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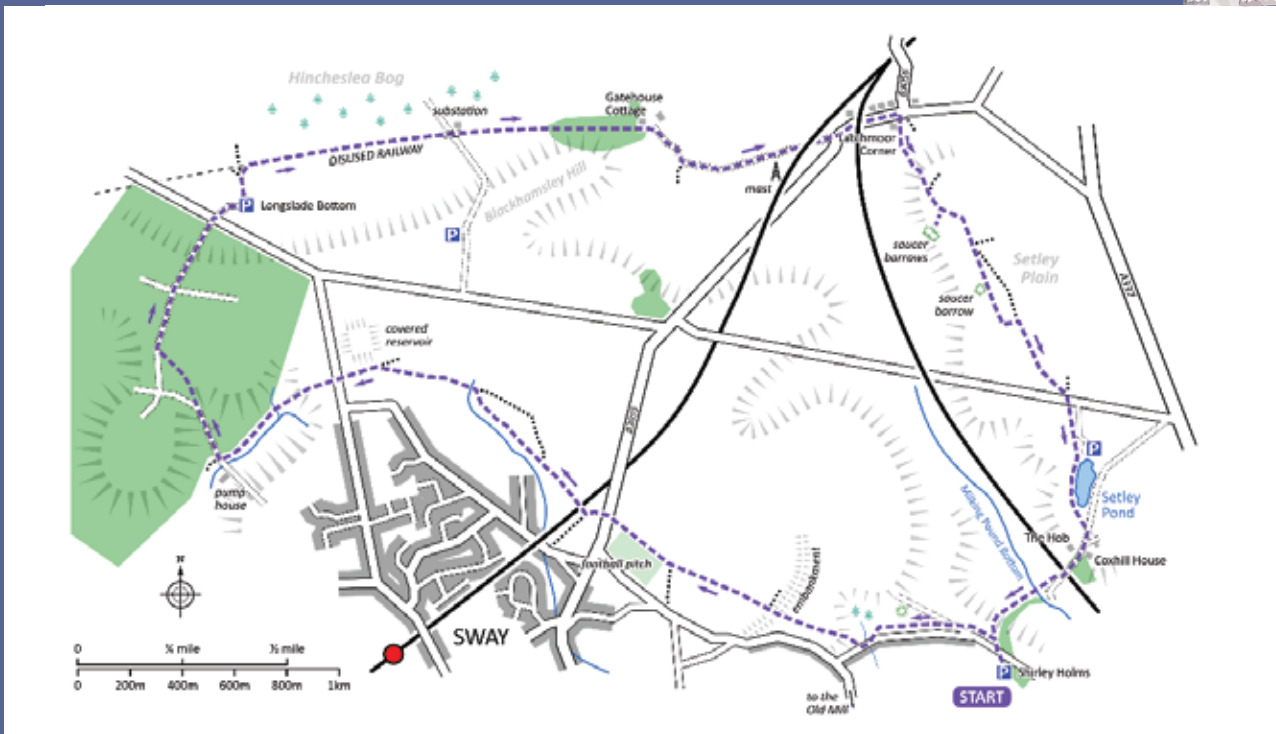
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Shirley Holms & Setley Plain

A taste of the New Forest with wooded sections, an old railway, and prehistoric remains.

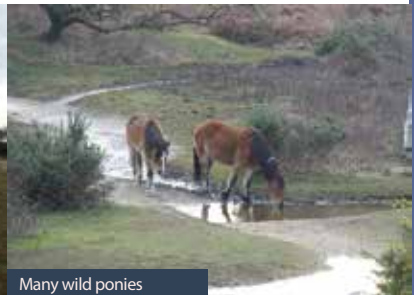
Allow 3 hours. Heathland paths may be rocky or wet on occasion.



Saucer barrows



Setley Pond



Many wild ponies



Start point: Shirley Holms car park, SO41 8NH. Approximately 5 minutes' drive (2 miles). From the car park entrance, turn left along Silver Street. Keep right at the junction with South Sway Lane. At the crossroads just beyond the Wheel Inn, turn left into Pitmore Lane (signposted to Sway and Brockenhurst). After 1 mile, cross a cattle grid by a thatched cottage and turn right (Shirley Holms). Drive along the edge of the open heathland for a little under ½ mile then turn right into Shirley Holms car park.

1 From the car park, walk out to the road. 2 Cross over and turn left along a path that runs parallel to the road. Keep close to the road, ignoring any tracks and paths off to the right. 3 The path descends to cross the bottom of a boggy valley, close to the road. 4 Just after this valley (and before the pond and road junction), follow a path through the gorse to the right, indistinctly at first, heading away from the road with the valley to your right. 5 Pick up a narrow, stony path that heads up to a telegraph pole at the top of the slope, at a bend in the power lines. 6 Bear left along the path that follows the power lines, with the road and houses away to your left. 7 After passing through a gap in an embankment, the path continues past a football field on the left. 8 Cross the B3055 and follow the path that curves left to a footbridge over a railway cutting. 9 Beyond the railway line, follow the broad track ahead of you.

10 When this curves right, continue ahead on a narrow and rather indistinct path that continues along the side of a small valley to your left. 11 This path climbs right, out of the valley, by a power line to meet a more obvious path. 12 Turn left and ford a small stream and continue through gorse until you meet a crossing path at an oblique T-junction. 13 Turn left and follow the path below a covered reservoir to a road. 14 Cross over and follow the path beyond, which heads downhill to the edge of a wood. 15 Bear left along a stream valley until you meet a crossing track below a large pump house on the left. 16 Turn right through the gate into the wood and follow the ride uphill. 17 When the main ride bends left, follow an unsurfaced track on the right which climbs to meet another gravelly ride. 18 Turn right and continue gently uphill to a crossroads. 19 Go straight over and continue to a gate onto a road (Forestry Commission waymark 212). 20 Follow the path opposite to Longslade Bottom car park. 21 Walk to the end of the car park and bear left down to an overbridge on the former railway. 22 Climb right onto the old trackway and turn right. 23 Follow the former railway, with the wetland of Hinchleslea Bog to your left. An embankment leads to a bridge above an electricity substation on the left after about half a mile. 24 Continue along the railway line for a further half-mile, latterly in a cutting, until you reach Gatehouse Cottage (FC waymark 216).

25 Leave the former railway line and follow the track to the right, which swings left towards a mast with open heathland to your right. 26 Pass under the railway bridge and continue to the road. 27 Follow the road left, passing under a second railway bridge. 28 At the top of the slope, just before the turning to Brockenhurst, turn right along a path next to a house called Latchmoor Corner. 29 A rather indistinct path winds up the hill through the gorse, becoming more obvious as the slope levels off. A diversion 100m to the right on narrow paths through the heather is worthwhile to view two interlocking "fancy barrows". These are circular features with an outer bank encircling a ditch, within which is a round platform with a central mound. There is another similar earthwork near the path shortly, but these two are more obvious and impressive. 30 Returning to the main path, continue to a fork, where you take the right-hand path. 31 This leads past a further "fancy barrow" on the right. 32 Just before the main path bends right, take a lesser path at right-angles to the left. 33 This leads to a crossing path, where you turn right. 34 Follow this broad path to the road. 35 Cross straight over and follow the path opposite, which shortly leads to Setley Pond. 36 Follow the track to the right of the pond and then keep left to a meeting of driveways, where you turn right. 37 Pass between The Hob (right) and Coxhill House (left) and keep right at a fork. 38 Descend to cross Cox Hill Bridge over the railway, then leave the track to the right to follow a path down to a ford (Milking Pound Bottom). 39 Once over the stream, follow the path uphill along a belt of trees. 40 When you reach the road, cross over back to Shirley Holms car park.

What to Bring?
Wear comfortable shoes and weather-appropriate layers. A light waterproof jacket is handy if rain is expected.

Grab a Packed Lunch!
Order a fresh packed lunch from our pub—sandwiches, snacks, and drinks—to enjoy on your walk.