

Refreshments

The George Inn, St Mary Bourne 01264 738340

The Plough, Ashmansworth 01635 253047

Places of interest

Whitchurch Silk Mill, Ladle Hill 01256 892065

Beacon Hill, Iron Age Hill Fort.

Chalk downland with superb views. Follow signs from A34 south of Burghclere.

Watership Down, Nr. Hannington.

Downland made famous by Richard Adams' book. Excellent views.

Railways

Railway Enquiries 08457 484950
www.nationalrail.co.uk

Planning your own route

Once you have tried this trail you may like to plan your own route. Hampshire has more than 3,000 miles of rights of way throughout the countryside.

Cyclists may ONLY use the following rights of way:



Bridleways

Waymarked with a blue arrow.
Indicated on an OS map like this



B.O.A.T.s (Byway Open to All Traffic)

Waymarked with an orange arrow.
Indicated on an OS map like this

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R.U.P.P.s (Roads Used as Public Path)

Indicated on an OS map like this



FOOTPATHS ARE FOR WALKERS ONLY.

Waymarked with a yellow arrow.
Indicated on OS map like this

Maps

If you wish to plan your own route in this area, you may find the following Ordnance Survey maps useful:

Landranger 185 and 174

Explorer 144

WHITCHURCH OFF ROAD CYCLE TRAIL



Distance: 23 miles, 14 of which are off road

Start: Clap Gate lay-by, 2 miles north of Whitchurch just off the A34(T).

Additional parking at Whitchurch
Grid Ref: 462 523.

Grade: Strenuous

Description: A challenging trail covering many of the places that were an inspiration for Richard Adams' 'Watership Down'. Stunning views from Woodcott Down and Ladle Hill contrast with the picturesque Hampshire villages of St. Mary Bourne and Binley.

If you experience any problems following this trail, please contact:
Arts, Sport and Community Service,
Hampshire County Council, Mottisfont Court, High Street, Winchester,
Hampshire SO23 8ZF, or telephone 01962 845178.

Details correct at time of going to print. This pack was developed by the
Arts, Sport and Community Service and produced by The Corporate Graphics Unit.



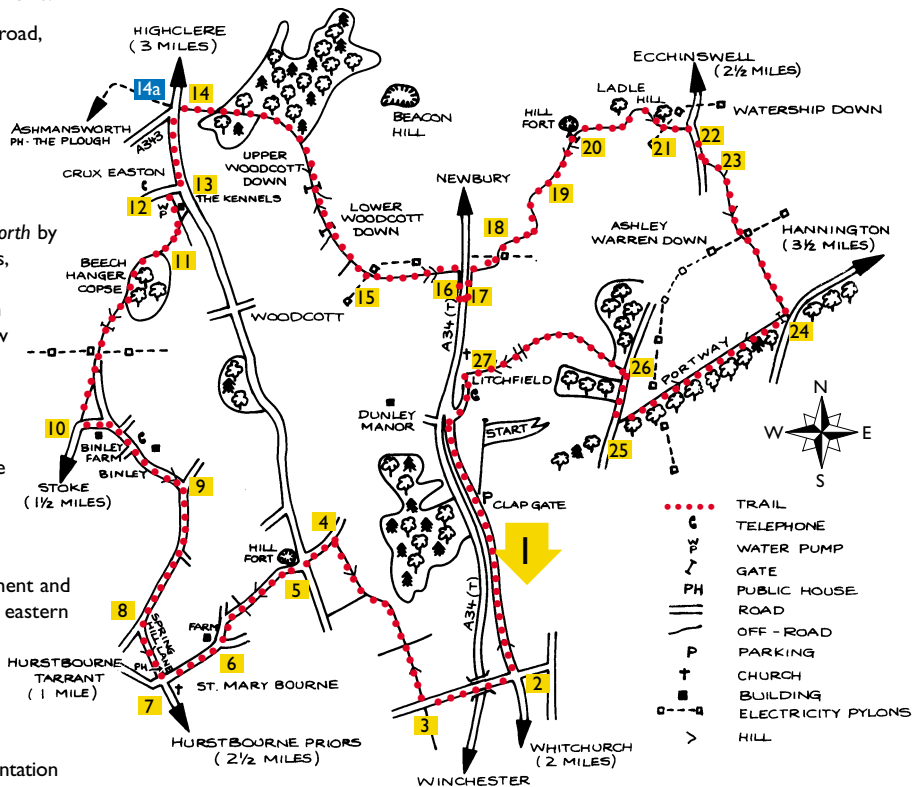
Hampshire
County Council

WHITCHURCH Off Road Cycle Trail

- 1** Start from the lay-by at Clap Gate, on old road from Whitchurch (Grid Ref: 462 523), continue south along road for 1 1/4 miles to Xroads. A gentle climb.
- 2** At Xroads, **Turn Right** over A34(T), signposted *St Mary Bourne* and continue for 3/4 mile.
- 3** **Turn Right** onto track and continue north following right fork in track to road.
- 4** **Turn Left** onto road and continue to staggered Xroads.
- 5** **Turn Left** then **Turn Right** signposted *St Mary Bourne*, passing hill fort on right. Continue along road taking **Left Fork** in road to T-jn.
- 6** **Turn Right**, signposted *St Mary Bourne*, passing Broughton Valley fruit/veg farm on right; continue along road to St Mary Bourne Village.
- 7** At Xroads, **Turn Sharp Right** passing *The George Inn*, onto Spring Hill Lane, with steep climb to T-jn.
- 8** **Turn Right** and continue for 1 1/4 miles following signs to *Binley*.
- 9** **Turn Left** and continue to Binley with steady climb. **Bearing Right** continue through Binley Village. **Take Left Fork** signposted *Stoke*, passing Binley Farm and continue to Xroads.
- 10** **Turn Right** onto track and continue north east, keeping **Left** by farm. Ignoring turns, pass through gate and follow track across fields.
- 11** **Bear Left** at track Xroads and continue to merge with road, passing disused water pump on your left, to T-jn at Crux Easton.
- 12** **Turn Right** onto road and continue to T-jn.
- 13** **Turn Left** signposted *Highclere & Newbury* and continue north along road for 1/2 mile.
- 14** **Turn Right** onto track signposted *Wayfarers Walk, Emsworth* by derelict *Three Legged Cross PH*. Continue south eastwards, ignoring turns for approximately 1 mile, with panoramic views of Beacon Hill and Woodcott Downs; pass through gate and take uppermost track leading across field. Follow signs for **Wayfarers Walk** until point 22.

- 14a** Detour to *The Plough, Ashmansworth*.
- 15** Immediately after second gate, **Fork Left** and continue under pylons into beech wood with rough descent to the A34 (T) road.
- 16** On reaching the A34 (T) road, pass the memorial to Geoffrey de Havilland on your right. Continue along permissive route, along the bottom of the road bankment and under the by-pass, **Turn Sharp Left** and continue along eastern side of A34 (T) road.
- 17** From the old railway bridge, follow dry valley eastwards joining tarmac surface at white gate. Continue along track with very steep ascent, **Bearing Left**.
- 18** At the top of hill **Turn Sharp Right**, following edge of plantation for 1/4 mile.

- 19** **Turn Left** and continue **Straight On** for 1 1/4 miles, pass through gate to reach Ladle Hill Fort.
- 20** **Bear Right** along track, following boundary fence and across open fields for 1/4 mile; follow track round to the left to edge of escarpment before continuing eastwards through gate.
- 21** Joining dirt track, **Bear Left** and continue down slight incline to T-jn, with views across to Watership Down. go through gate to road.
- 22** **Turn Right** and continue along road for 1/4 mile to brow of hill. Ignore waymark for different cycle route.
- 23** **Turn Left** onto track and continue south for 1 mile towards the Portway, passing under pylons.
- 24** 200 yards before meeting the road, **Turn Right** on north side of belt and follow edge of Caesars Belt along the Portway. Pass under pylons, continue to road.
- 25** **Turn Right** and continue for 1/4 mile to signpost *bridleway*.
- 26** **Turn Left** onto track and continue with steady climb for 1/2 mile to merge with metalled road. Ignoring turns, continue with steep descent **Forking Right** to road at Litchfield.
- 27** **Turn Left** and continue to slip road. From A34, **Turn Left** to return to lay-by at Clap Gate.



NOTE: 'Off Road' routes indicated on this map represent either: White Roads, Bridleways, R.U.P.s or B.O.A.T.s