

Care free and easy days
out in the New Forest



Bishop's Dyke Walk

Walk **4**



Walk close to Beaulieu Road Station

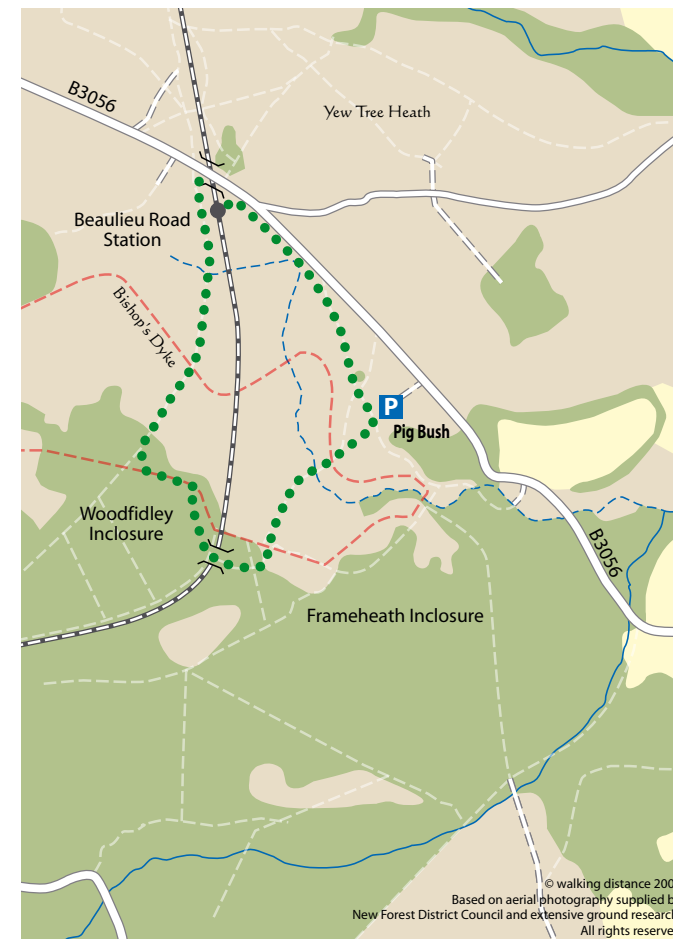
Walk Length
5 miles (8km) Return

Approximate time to complete
2 hours

Grade
Easy walking mainly on grass

New Forest Tour Stop
Beaulieu Road Railway Station

O/S Map covering this walk
Explorer OL22
'New Forest'



www.newforesttour.info

Bishop's Dyke Walk

Walk **4**

Walk close to Beaulieu Road Station

Route Information

Take a walk through beautiful heathland that starts and finishes at the Beaulieu Road Station. Have a drink or meal in the pub while waiting for the tour to pick you up for your return journey.

Beaulieu Road Station

This is a remote area approximately 2-3 miles from the nearest villages of Beaulieu and Lyndhurst. It is here that you will see the pony sales area by the railway bridge.

Useful Information

Visitor Information Centre

Lyndhurst Main car park 023 8028 2269

Points of Special Interest

Bishop's Dyke

The Dyke encompasses an area of about 500 acres. Legend has it that the bank and ditches were built by John de Pontoise, Bishop of Winchester around 1284. He was given permission to enclose an area that he could crawl around in a day. In order to obtain the largest possible piece of land he spent 24 hours crawling along the ground.

Actual origins are from a grant made in 1213 to Philip des Roches, Bishop of Winchester, of a parcel of land probably previously encroached.

Allow 2 hours (About 8km).

Easy walking mainly grass, but can be boggy at times

Start at Beaulieu Road Railway Station:
Ordnance Survey Map ref 354061

- 1 Leave the New Forest Tour at the Beaulieu Road Station and turn right (SW) past the hotel/pub and walk along the wide grassy ride on right of the road. Continue along this path running parallel to the road and passing en route the white Denny Road Lodge cross-road sign
- 2 You will shortly pass a bog on your right. Skirt to the left of this and almost immediately your path divides. Take the right path, away from the road up an incline and towards a clump of trees. Pass through these trees and head next towards a wood ahead of you and to the left of the path. This is Pig Bush Wood.
- 3 At the grassy cross roads just short of Pig Bush Wood turn right and head out across the heath along a well defined and undulating path.
- 4 At the top of the rise you will see ahead of you on the path a walkway of duckboards crossing wetland. Continue over duckboards, crossing a low bank and bridge over a ditch. This is Bishop's Dyke
- 5 Continue straight on towards, and then into, mixed woodlands. Bear right, passing a pony enclosure, and then cross an extended footbridge over wetland, then a stream, and almost immediately over the railway line. The path snakes (like grass snakes?) through the trees at this point.
- 6 Pass through a gate to your left (NE) into Wood Fidley inclosure.
- 7 Follow the grassy ride through trees and up an incline to cross paths
- 8 Turn right through another gate leaving the inclosure. Turn left (N) to follow the path outside the wood, and where the path forks, take the right-hand fork. Continue along this path over the footbridges and then across the heathland.
- 9 This sandy path bears right and then left over heathland and over duckboards crossing more wetland. Ahead of you now is the railway and Beaulieu Road Station and hotel.



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