

## Alum Bay (Monday)

If the weather is good, this walk will have wonderful views from the Tennyson Monument and from the Needles viewing platform. They can both be omitted, but that will diminish the walk. As the Needles viewpoint is approached by a flight of steps, you may need some extra time.

Full walk 6.1km, 3.8m (1:55 to 2:30)

Omitting Tennyson Monument 4.8km, 3.0m (1:30 to 2:00)

Omitting Needles Viewpoint 5.3km 3.3m (1:40 to 2:10)

Omitting both 4.0km 2.5m (1:15 to 1:40)

Leave car park and turn right, following the road which leads to the top. You should pass a National Trust sign.

In a short distance, where the road turns right, turn left into a path.

Follow this path for a considerable distance to a gate where a number of paths meet

**(A)**.

If you are omitting the Tennyson monument, do not go through the gate, but turn sharp right.

### Optional to Tennyson Monument

Pass through this gate. Looking upwards you should see the Tennyson Monument.

Take the path leading straight to it. If it is foggy, the path you want is in much the same direction as the one you were on before, and goes gently uphill.

On the way up, take care to give space to the first group coming down.

At the Monument, you should have spectacular views. If it's foggy, you might decide to miss it.

Return to the gate, pass through it, and take a path to the left of the one you came up.

There are two paths, and they eventually merge.

When you come to wall, turn right keeping it on your left. (You can pass it, but the descent can be awkward.)

At the end of the wall, turn left towards a road. **(B)**

If omitting the Needles viewpoint, do not go as far as the road. Just before it turn sharply right to a descending path.

### Optional to Needles Viewpoint

Turn left on to the road, then follow it to the left.

At the end of a long left turn, go down steps to the right to reach the Needles viewing platform.

After a photo stop, return the way you have come to point **(B)**.

Go back off the road to the right, and follow the path downwards somewhat to the left.

This path eventually comes out on to the road, which you should follow back to the car park. You may like to walk along the top of the bank on the left where the views are better.



## Mottistone (Tuesday)

We head first towards the sea, then follow a clifftop path. The other main point of interest is the ancient Longstone, but this can be omitted.

Full walk 6.2km 3.9m (1:55 to 2:35)

Omitting Longstone 5.2km 3.2m (1:40 to 2:10)

Leave the car park by the steps in the SE corner.

Turn left on to the main road, then in a short distance sharp right into Church Lane.

At a junction carry straight on.

Church Lane curves left and becomes the long straight Ridget Lane, which you should follow.

At the end of Ridget Lane, cross the A road with care, and head for the leftmost of two gates. Pass through to a path heading towards the sea.

At the clifftop turn left.

When the ground drops steeply into Chilton Down turn left to return to the road, passing through a small car park.

Go straight across into a wide track which does not appear to have a footpath sign, but is marked Chilton Farmhouse.

After a couple of bends, come out on to a road and turn left. (Hoxall Lane)

Follow this narrow lane round several bends. Do not take the first footpath on your right.

Eventually the lane turns left, and you should take a footpath on your right.

When you reach the main road (A), anyone who wants to shorten the walk can turn left and follow the road back to Mottistone.

### Optional to Longstone

Cross the road into Strawberry Lane.

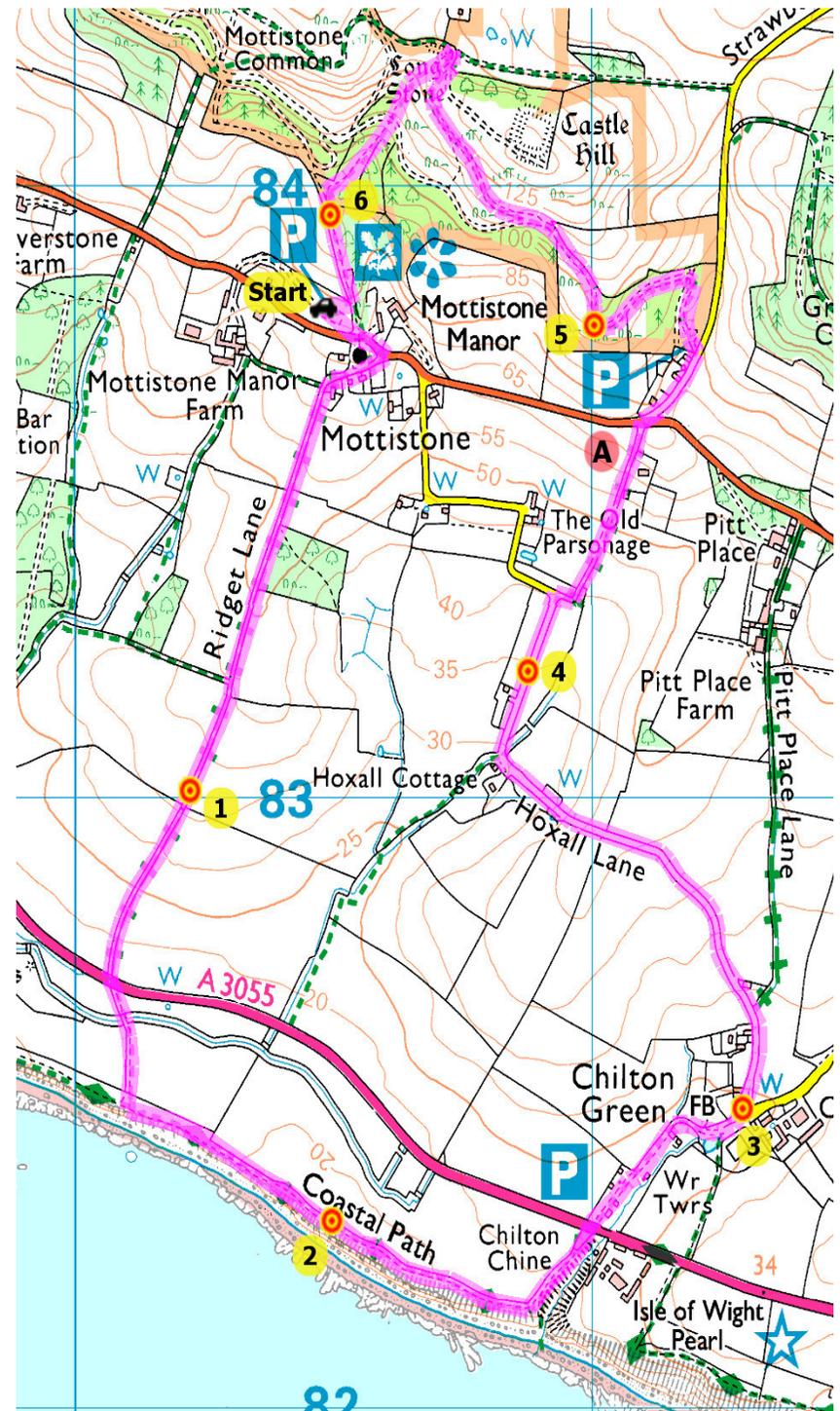
Some way up Strawberry Lane take a wide path to the left. This is clearly marked Footpath BS85 to the Longstone.

You simply follow this all the way to the Longstone.

On leaving the Longstone, face back towards the track you came up on, and look for a path somewhat to the right of this heading into the trees.

Follow this, possibly crossing a wide track, to a T-junction, where you should turn left.

This takes you back to Mottistone, and you should be able to spot the entrance to the car park on your right.



## Firestone Copse (Thursday)

I intend to recce at least part of this walk on Tuesday afternoon, and may have to give some different advice.

A varied walk including woodland, a stretch of river, Quarr Abbey, and open country.  
Both possible shortcuts are on roads.

Full walk 7.25km 4.5m (2:15 to 3:00)

Omitting Quarr Abbey 6.25km 3.9m (2:00 to 2:35)

Omitting War Memorial 6.9km 4.3m (2:10 to 2:50)

Omitting both 5.9km 3.7m (1:50 to 2:25)

The first part of this walk is on forest paths, which may have changed since we were last there.

From the car park follow a wide forestry track in a roughly westerly direction (away from the road).

When you come to a rather complicated junction of tracks, you should be able to see a footpath somewhat to the right of the track you have been following. This should take you to the river.

Follow the river until it swings left, where you should take a path on the right back into the forest.

When you reach a forestry track turn left, and soon left again on to a path.

Take the first on your right and follow this to the road.

Turn left, and walk carefully on the narrow road to Wootton Bridge (we drove up this road).

At the main road turn right. Keep to the right hand pavement, since on the left there is a stretch with no pavement.

If you want to omit Quarr Abbey follow the main road **(A)**. The pavement on the right ends exactly at the kissing gate you need **(B)**.

Optional to Quarr Abbey

Cross road at a crossing point with lowered kerbs and a small central refuge.

Just after this turn left into Ashley Copse Lane.

You can take either the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> on the right, but don't go to the end.

When you reach the road turn left.

Walk past the ferry terminal, and just as you reach the Fishbourne pub on your left, turn right into Quarr Lane.

Follow this past Quarr Abbey, and keep straight on when you pass the entrance road. At a small cluster of buildings, the lane bears slightly right. You must turn right on to a path.

At the main road, cross with care.

Pass through a kissing gate **(B)**.

Follow the path past a small lake on your left, and you will come to a road.

Turn right on to this road.

For a shortcut, follow this narrow road (Newnham Lane) through a right turn **(C)**, then left at two junctions, then into the car park.

Optional to war memorial

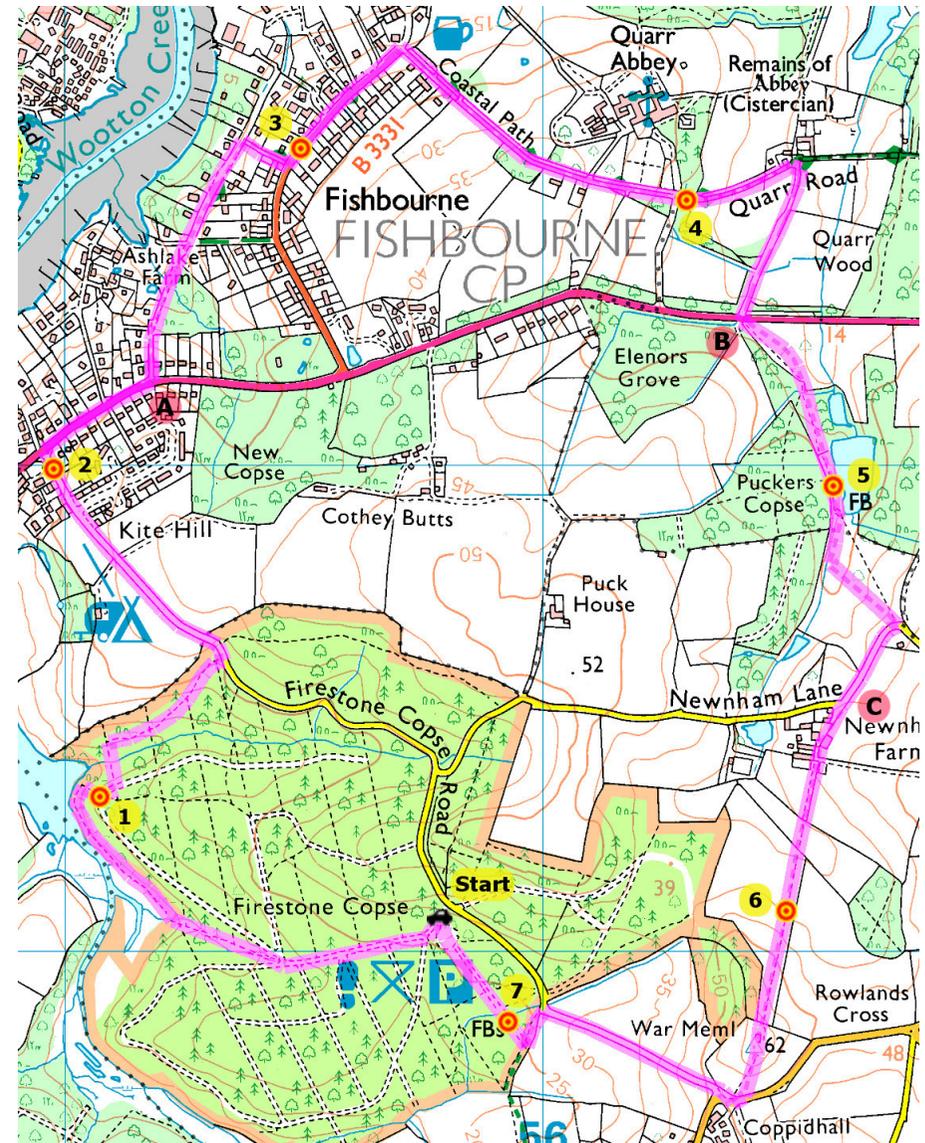
When the road turns right go straight on to a track leading to a farm.

This becomes a footpath, which goes roughly straight across several fields. At the top of the last field there is a war memorial, which you pass to reach a road (possibly bearing a bit to the right).

At the road turn right to Firestone Copse Road (depending on where you came out, this may feel like turning right twice.)

Where the road enters the wood, take a footpath on your left.

A short way down this path, take a path on your right which leads back to the car park.



## Norton Grange (Friday)

I intend to recce at least part of this walk on Thursday afternoon, and may have to give some different advice.

This is an easy walk for the last day. It starts by following the Yar Valley. There is an optional circuit of the interesting Golden Hill Fort, which has been converted to housing. The last part follows the Coastal Path past Fort Victoria.

Full walk 6.4km 4m (2:00 to 2:40)

Omitting Golden Hill Fort 5.9km 3.7m (1:50 to 2:25)

Leave the car park by the main drive and return to the road.

Cross the road and turn left.

Follow the road to the right.

Turn right into Gas Works Lane, marked as a footpath.

When this turns left, take a path on the right into the wood.

Pass through the wood, then through an open stretch.

After passing a copse on your right and crossing a footbridge you should take a path which forks to the right **(A)**.

When you reach a road cross it into the road (Norton Green) opposite.

At the end of the village, the road narrows and a road goes off the the left. **(B)**

Between these two roads is a narrow path between bushes, which you should take.

This soon becomes a wide track past some works.

When you come to a minor road **(C)**, you can turn right, but you might like to see Golden Hill Fort first.

### Optional to Golden Hill Fort

Turn left towards the entrance to Golden Hill Fort.

The map shows a path round it, which you will see on the left as a wide track, but it is too far away to see much. Between the two tracks, there is an unmarked path bearing off to the left. It is worth taking this path to look in. Bear in mind that the buildings have now been converted to houses. A complete circuit of the fort brings you back to the entrance road, where you turn left and carry on straight through the junction. You are now back on the shorter walk.

Cross the main road (Colwell Road) and turn left.

Continue on this road past Solent Hill, and turn right just after a bus shelter into Monks Lane.

Shortly before the end of Monks Lane turn right on to the Coastal Path. This may have several turns, but it should be well marked.

When you are almost at the sea you come out on a road, and carry on in the same direction.

Where the road turns right follow the Coastal Path into the wood on the left of the road.

In a short distance you will see Norton Grange to your right, and there is an easy way in.

