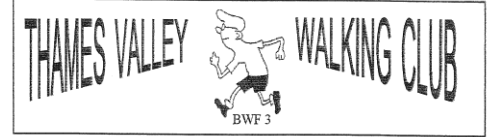


CORFE CASTLE TRAIL (PT185)



- CONTACT:** Peter Tilbury - 116 Wykeham Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG6 1PL
Telephone - 0118 966 6523 E-mail - BTreading@aol.com
- DISTANCE:** 10km
- ENTRY FEE:** £1.00 per walker (Cheques made payable to Thames Valley Walking Club)
- AWARD:** Cloth badge at £2.50 each.
- START VENUE:** National Trust Car Park opposite Corfe Castle ruins
(OS Landranger Map 195 GR: SY 959829)
- DIRECTIONS:** Take A351 through Wareham towards Swanage & Corfe Castle. Approximately 6 miles from Wareham & opposite Corfe Castle ruins is the National Trust Car Park, from where the walk starts.
- CAR PARKING:** At start venue.
- FACILITIES:** Various shops & pubs in Corfe Castle village.
- TERRAIN:** Minor roads, farmland & woodland. Not suitable for pushchairs.

The organisers are not liable for accidents, thefts and/or damage to property. Every effort will be made by the organisers to make this a safe, enjoyable and memorable event.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

(Updated June 2023)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE GREAT CARE ON ALL ROAD SECTIONS OF THIS TRAIL

Leave car park & cross road. Go through gate signed Village Centre. After 5m turn right through gate, go up field past stone farm building to small gate, slightly to the right of large 5-bar gate. Go through & at cross paths, go straight ahead on footpath alongside wire fence for approx. 15m to reach next kissing gate. Go through & continue to follow path up hill with wire fence on right following footpath through woods. Eventually passing six bar metal gate on the right, continue to follow footpath through woods keeping wire fence on right.

At end of woods, continue ahead on footpath to reach kissing gate. Go through & follow footpath (Purbeck Way) downhill across field to reach kissing gate. Go through, go straight ahead along left hand edge of small paddock to next kissing gate. Go through & follow left hand edge of next field (ignoring stile on left) to reach kissing gate in corner of field. Go through to enter woods & immediately turn left on bridleway. Follow bridleway along edge of woods, passing water-filled claypit on right & continue to follow bridleway for approx. 400m, ignoring all turnings to reach two wooden footbridges by pond.

Go ahead across footbridges & turn left on bridleway towards 'E. Creech' with pond on left. Follow bridleway & at path junction by wooden gate, bear left & continue to follow bridleway towards 'E. Creech'. Follow bridleway with stream on left, ignoring all turnings to pass small headstone on left (with initials 'A P' on) & continue to follow bridleway to reach road. Turn left & follow road WITH CARE for approx. 300m to reach road junction. Turn right & follow road uphill, between farm buildings to reach pond on left. Immediately after pond is a thatched cottage on right.

Question 1: What is the name of this cottage?

Continue to follow road between the few houses that make up 'East Creech' & at telephone box, turn left. Follow lane uphill. (Note views behind of Poole Harbour) for approx. 700m and at top of hill, as road bears sharp right, turn left on 1st or 2nd track. Go through metal gate & follow track uphill & along edge of field by barbed wire fence. Just before wooden gate at top of hill, there is a memorial stone on left to Jack Baiss.

Question 2: What are the dates on this memorial stone?

Immediately in FRONT of gate, turn left. Follow track along ridge of hill, fence on right. The view to left is of Poole Harbour. Follow track along ridge of hill to reach gate. Go through gate & go ahead on road for approx. 50m to reach metal gates. Go through small metal gate & onto 'Ridge Path' towards 'Corfe Castle'. Follow track uphill & at end of track, continue ahead on grassy path to reach memorial stone. Continue straight ahead on path along ridge to reach metal gate. Go through gate & follow path with wire fence on left to reach another metal gate. Go through gate and carry on in same direction. At 2nd stone sign post, bear right towards 'Corfe', going downhill on track.

Follow track steeply downhill, through gate & continue downhill to reach junction of paths by stone sign post. Continue ahead towards 'Corfe', following track with ridge on left. Continue to follow track, ignoring all turnings to go through gate & towards the remains of Corfe Castle. Continue on track to reach wooden fence and gates by road. Go through gate & go ahead on footpath with wire fence on left. After approx. 20m at path junction, turn right towards 'Village Centre & Castle'. Go over wooden footbridge, cross road & go ahead on 'Purbeck Way' towards 'Village Centre'. Follow tarmac path with castle on left to reach road. Bear left & follow road to reach memorial in middle of road. Bear left to reach road junction by 'The Greyhound PH'.

Question 3: What is the name of the hotel opposite?

Turn left & follow road downhill, bearing left then right & continue to follow road with castle on left to return to the National Trust Car Park & end of walk.

* * * * *

To claim your IVV stamp, please use the 'Permanent Trail Completion & IVV Stamp Claim Form' which is downloadable from the BWF website and send with your record books to the walk contact.