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Lake Walk ●●●
0.5 mile - 20 minutes

3 kissing gates with Radar locks (key needed to open to full width), care needed when walking through Village. Suitable for single width buggies and wheelchair users.

Pass through the kissing gate at the side of the Village Shop and, keeping the lake on your left, walk towards the bottom of the Recreation Ground. Turn left to pass through 2nd kissing gate onto the Test Way, follow the path alongside the lake and pass through 3rd kissing gate. At Test Way sign turn left into Derrydown Lane, follow this until the main road, turn left and walk through the village passing the Church. At the village square walk over the bridge and turn left into Bourne Meadow; follow road back to the Recreation Ground.

Portway Walk ●●●
1.5 miles - 45 minutes

Gradual uphill climb, steep downhill descent.

Start as the Lake Walk, passing through the 3 kissing gates, but at the Test Way sign turn right, following Derrydown Lane through gateposts to the hill top. Continue through wooded section, passing through another gateway. At T junction * turn right along the track between the hedge and the plantation. At end of plantation turn right down ** hedgerow leading into copse, path descends towards woodland. Proceed with caution; this path can be slippery in all conditions (handrail fitted towards bottom of slope). Go through kissing gate and then downhill until reaching the kissing gate at the Recreation Ground corner. Retrace your steps to the car park.

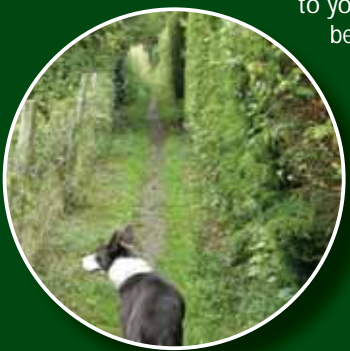


* 20 minute extension (shown by smaller dots on map): continue until track bends left, turning right into enclosed footpath leading to corner of road. Turn immediately right into centre of field, following path to the **

Lollipop Walk ●●●
2 miles - 50 minutes

Suitable for single width buggies; 1 steep uphill climb.

This walk follows the "Walk to School Route" which has local children's poems on the gateposts. Cross the Recreation Ground diagonally, towards the far side of Sports Pavilion. Follow the Test Way and the "Walk to School Route", passing through 5 locally crafted green gates with poem posts (caution on crossing the road). Bear left at the school onto a Byway and after the 2nd bungalow on your right turn right onto the Test Way. Follow the Test Way through the gate on the left and ascend a steep hill, keeping the fence to your right. Go through a 2nd gate, bearing right; on reaching the road go through the 3rd gate and turn left for a quarter of a mile. Turn left onto the Byway and follow this to the back of the school. Bear right and retrace your steps back to the Recreation Ground.



The Drove Walk ●●●
5 miles - 2.5 hours

9 steps at the start of the walk, 3 stiles with dog latches and a steep uphill climb.

This walk passes through woodland with bluebells and cowslips in spring, taking you along an ancient Drovers' track with views towards Stoke and Hurstbourne Tarrant, dropping down to the Bourne Rivulet and then returning to the Recreation Ground via the Test Way and gateposts showing children's poems.

Leave the Recreation Ground and walk to the village square, cross the bridge and bear left into Springhill Lane. At Hirst's Bank Top Yard entrance turn right, climb the footpath steps and continue on this path past the Woodland Burial Ground. Pass through 3 stiles with dog latches and cross the road opposite the farmhouse, follow footpath (ignoring all paths off to your left) until you pass through a gap in the hedge leading to a wide track. Turn left and follow the track into Wadwick.

Turn left and walk along this quiet road until the next junction where you turn right towards Binley. Walk up the hill, ignoring the 1st footpath on the left and continue, taking the 2nd path on your left. Follow the Drove Path through a tree lined section before reaching open fields. After the next tree lined section, bear right following the path along the field edge. Turn left at the field end, following the path along the hedgerow, through a gap in the hedge and then bear right diagonally across the field until meeting the Byway. Turn right and follow the Byway to Gangbridge Lane and Bourne Rivulet. Turn left along this lane until meeting the main road opposite the school.

Cross the road and turn right into School Lane. At the top of the lane bear left, following the Test Way and "Walk to School" route to the Recreation Ground, taking care when crossing the road.





- Should not plough paths at field edges (including certain bulls) on paths
- Should not keep dangerous animals
- Should not obstruct paths or deter use of them
- Maintain most stiles and gates
- Reinstate paths across fields after ploughing or planting crops
- Keep back side growth and overhanging vegetation



Hampshire County Council:

Maintaining rights of way

- Ensures that rights of way are not obstructed
- Maintains the surface in a fit condition for its intended use
- Maintains some bridges
- Signposts and waymarks paths
- Authorises stiles and gates
- Keeps the definitive map up to date

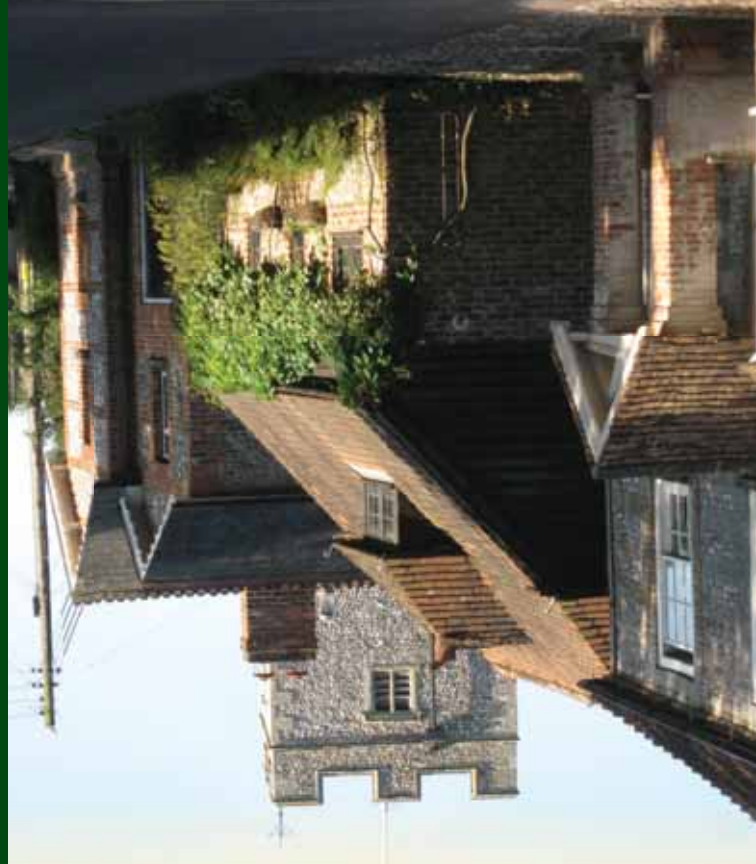
Landowners:

- Keep back side growth and overhanging vegetation
- Reinstate paths across fields after ploughing or planting crops
- Maintain most stiles and gates
- Should not obstruct paths or deter use of them
- Should not plough paths at field edges (including certain bulls) on paths



Using local paths

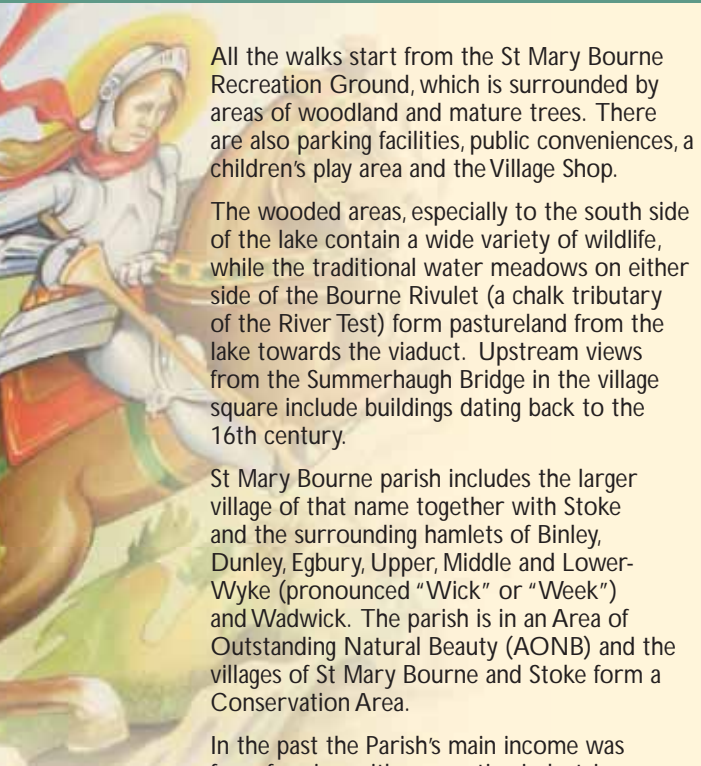
- Many rights of way cross private land, and we ask you to bear this in mind by keeping to the path and being responsible when using them. There are four types shown on the map key; please check which paths you are entitled to use (for example, cyclists cannot use footpaths). Wheelchairs, pushchairs and dogs are allowed on all types of way, but the landowner has given marked areas not rights of way, but the landowner has given permission for the public to use them.
- To ensure that the countryside is protected for future generations be sure to:
- Be safe – wear suitable clothing and shoes and take care when crossing roads
- Plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them and take your litter home
- Protect plants and animals
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people



Hampshire boasts an extremely rich and diverse countryside and an extensive network of public paths which provide a range of opportunities for enjoying the great outdoors. Rights of way are linear routes, often ancient trackways through deep countryside; there are over 3,000 miles of these in Hampshire. The map in this leaflet may also show access to other areas of land, such as commons, woodland, recreation grounds or conservation areas, and your Parish Council may know of guided walks or events. Many people will be able to reach countryside within a few hundred yards of home, and the plants, trees and views along the same paths often change dramatically through the seasons. We hope that this leaflet will encourage you to explore and enjoy your local countryside.

Enjoying the countryside

Welcome to the village of St. Mary Bourne



All the walks start from the St Mary Bourne Recreation Ground, which is surrounded by areas of woodland and mature trees. There are also parking facilities, public conveniences, a children's play area and the Village Shop.

The wooded areas, especially to the south side of the lake contain a wide variety of wildlife, while the traditional water meadows on either side of the Bourne Rivulet (a chalk tributary of the River Test) form pastureland from the lake towards the viaduct. Upstream views from the Summerhaugh Bridge in the village square include buildings dating back to the 16th century.

St Mary Bourne parish includes the larger village of that name together with Stoke and the surrounding hamlets of Binley, Dunley, Egbury, Upper, Middle and Lower-Wyke (pronounced "Wick" or "Week") and Wadwick. The parish is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the villages of St Mary Bourne and Stoke form a Conservation Area.

In the past the Parish's main income was from farming, with supporting industries and trades. Swampton Mill was the earliest recorded business; it was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086.

Traditional rural employment continues in farming, including a 'pick your own' fruit farm and watercress production.

Walks in this leaflet will take you through the Bourne Rivulet valley and up to the surrounding chalk downland. All walks have been colour waymarked for your assistance.



Parish Council & further copies of this leaflet:

St. Mary Bourne Parish Council, clerk@stmarybourne-pc.gov.uk 01264 738039

The parish website, www.stmarybourne.org contains a wealth of information about the parish and local events and services.

Public Houses

The Bourne Valley Inn 01264 738361
The Coronation Arms 01264 738432
The George Inn 01264 738989

Public Transport

Cango Bus 0845 602 4135
www.hants.gov.uk/cango
National Travel Line 0870 608 2608
www.traveline.org.uk

Tourist Information

Basingstoke Tourist Information Centre 01256 817618
Andover Tourist Information Centre 01264 324320
Hampshire County Council Information 0800 028 0888
Hants CC Rights of Way queries 0845 603 5636

Walking in Hampshire www.hants.gov.uk/walking

Cycling in Hampshire www.hants.gov.uk/cycling

Enjoying Hampshire's Countryside www.hants.gov.uk/countryside

Rights of way maps on-line www.hants.gov.uk/maps/paths

OS Explorer Map no.s 131 & 144 cover this area

Disclaimer: Published by St Mary Bourne Parish Council and Hampshire County Council, through the Small Grants Scheme www.hants.gov.uk/sgs. The routes described have been put forward by the Parish Council; whilst the County Council endeavours to maintain all rights of way to a high standard, additional resources are not allocated to routes promoted in this leaflet. Photos by kind permission of Chris Talbot, Graham Horn and local residents. Every care has been taken in the preparation of this leaflet, however Hampshire County Council is unable to accept any responsibility for accident or loss resulting from following the information contained within this leaflet.

Exploring St. Mary Bourne

