

**2026  
TOUR**

**Portsmouth**

***GUIDE***



Welcome to the 2026 NOPS Kit Kat Tour

Portsmouth and Hampshire is a dynamic blend of maritime heritage, coastal landscapes and vibrant urban regeneration. From documenting Royal Navy history to capturing the natural beauty of the New Forest, this region offers diverse subjects, both historical and contemporary for capturing engaging images. I found a website listing many of the bird hides <https://birdaware.org/solent/guide-to-the-solents-bird-hides/>

Photographs included are attainable compositions for all, not drone shots. You may also find large scale OS maps at 1:25000 useful to check out final locations: OS Map of The Solent & Isle of Wight: Landranger 196 and OS Map of New Forest: Explorer OL22. Some locations are run by the RSPB or a national organisation. It would be worth holding a membership or going with a member so that the weekend can be enjoyed to the full. Prices listed are correct at time of publication.

Please take care and be respectful of the landscape around you. If you intend climbing or doing any other dangerous activities, please go in pairs (at least) and consider whether you have the appropriate clothing or equipment.

| Date   | High  | Low   | High  | Low   | Sunrise | Sunset | Shooting tips                                                          |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fri 18 | 03:56 | 09:16 | 16:13 | 21:22 | 06:43   | 19:14  | High tide matches arrival window. Excellent for coastal long exposures |
| Sat 19 | 04:36 | 10:03 | 17:01 | 22:15 | 06:44   | 19:11  | Mid-afternoon push matches golden hour prep across the Eastern Solent  |
| Sun 20 | 05:51 | 11:17 | 18:53 |       | 06:46   | 19:09  | Evening high tide directly intersects astronomical sunset window       |
| Mon 21 | 07:59 | 13:25 | 20:40 | 00:18 | 06:47   | 19:07  | Low tide window opens up structural ledges and sand ripples            |
| Tue 22 | 09:17 | 02:04 | 21:49 | 14:38 | 06:49   | 19:05  | Morning high tide aligns with coastal harbour departures               |

Accommodation

Premier Inn, Binnacle Way, Cosham, Portsmouth PO6 4FB

///full.tested.swim Just off the M27 with a Tesco Extra, Tesco Petrol Station and a Costa coffee on the doorstep. M27 gives us easy access to Southampton whilst we are only 5 miles from the centre of Portsmouth.



# Beaulieu River

**Map Ref 1** Various

Daytime, Sunset

45 minutes from the hotel.

## **National Motor Museum 1a** Beaulieu, SO42 7ZN ///rave.envoy.havens

There are over 800 years of heritage to be seen on the Beaulieu Estate, which has been in the ownership of the Montagu family for over four centuries. Visitors have been exploring the ruins of Beaulieu Abbey since 1912. In 1952, Edward, Lord Montagu opened the house and gardens to the public for the first time. For the opening, he displayed five Veteran cars in the entrance hall. From these humble beginnings, the Montagu Motor Museum expanded, supported by the British motor industry and enthusiasts, becoming the National Motor Museum in 1972. It boasts a world famous collection of vehicles and associated motoring archives.

## **Keeping Marsh Birdwatching Hide 1b** ///intruding.exhales.unsightly

Located off the woodland walk north of Bucklers Hard.

Park: Visitor Car Park, Bucklers Hard, Brockenhurst SO42 7XB ///pads.unlucky.lakeside

## **Bucklers Hard 1c** Beaulieu, SO42 7XB ///spell.tickling.files

This 18th century shipbuilding village is steeped in history from its beginnings in the 13th century when owned by the Cistercian monks, to its time as a shipyard where boats for Nelson's Navy were built. Discover its stories in the Museum and reconstructed cottage displays.

Park: Visitor Car Park, Bucklers Hard, SO42 7XB ///pads.unlucky.lakeside



## **Bolderwood Ornamental Drive & Deer Sanctuary**

**Map Ref 2** SO43 7GZ

Sunrise, Daytime

45 minutes from the hotel.

The Bolderwood Arboretum Ornamental Drive leads from the A35 (the Lyndhurst to Christchurch road), past the Knightwood Oak ///trunk.quest.intersect and through the glorious ancient woodland of Mark Ash Wood, to Bolderwood Arboretum. Way-marked trails provide walking routes around the Bolderwood Arboretum.

Start of the Drive off the A35: ///encrusted.cabbies.quieter

Bolderwood Deer Sanctuary is at the other end of the Drive and is one of the top spots to witness the natural beauty of the New Forest and observe free-roaming deer. A short walk from the car park brings you to a purpose-built deer viewing platform overlooking a broad meadow where deer are often seen grazing. This platform provides fantastic photo opportunities to observe these beautiful animals in their natural habitat.

Park: Bolderwood Deer Sanctuary Car Park SO43 7GZ ///yummy.anthems.logic

Parking is permitted from 04:00 to 23:00.

[www.forestryengland.uk/bolderwood](http://www.forestryengland.uk/bolderwood)



# Boscombe Pier

**Map Ref 3** BH5 1BN

Sunrise, Daytime, Sunset

55 minutes from the hotel.

Unlike ornate Victorian piers, Boscombe features clean, smooth, brutalist concrete columns that anchor strongly into the breaking shoreline surf. Smooth out the chaotic rolling waves with a long exposure, highlighting the brutalist concrete structures. Sunrise provides intense light that hits the columns sideways, revealing deep structural shapes.

An original Victorian pier was built in 1888 with a pierhead to act as a landing stage for boats. In 1897, a whale washed up on Boscombe Beach and the skeleton was put on display on Boscombe Pier. In 1940, the pier was partially destroyed for defence reasons and it remained derelict until 1962, when the new entrance was built in a modernist style. It was designed by Borough architect John Burton, with a cantilevered roof designed to mimic the wings of a jet plane. A building was added at the end of the pier, which served as a theatre, roller skating rink and arcade before it fell into disrepair. In 2008, Boscombe pier underwent extensive renovation. The derelict and unsafe building at the end of the pier was demolished, and replaced by a simple viewing and fishing platform.

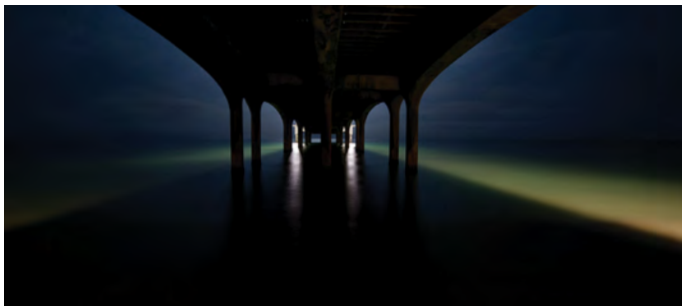
## Musical play trail

There are six sets of percussion instruments dotted along the pier, including drums, tubular bells and chimes, which form a Musical Play Trail to keep visitors entertained.

**Pier** 2494 Undercliff Dr, Boscombe, Bournemouth BH5 1BN ///magma.luck.brave

The pier is open from 09:00 until 23:00 daily. There is also a viewing platform at the end of the pier. No charge to go on Boscombe Pier.

Park: Undercliff Drive on the seafront or Overstrand Car Park, Boscombe, Bournemouth BH5 1BT  
///wire.basket.quick



# Bosham

**Map Ref 4** PO18 8HZ

Daytime, Sunset

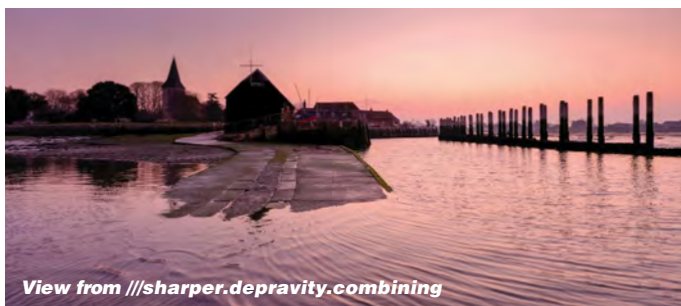
20 minutes from the hotel.

A small attractive village on one of the small inlets of Chichester harbour, Bosham (pronounced 'Bozzum') has played an important part in the history of this country over the centuries. Inhabited by the Romans, Bosham was an important town in Sussex in the 8th century. Legend has it that the Danish King Canute commanded the waves to go back and when they did not, he got his feet wet! King Canute's eight year old daughter was drowned in the Brook Stream and is buried in Bosham Church in a Saxon coffin at the foot of the chancel steps. It was from Bosham that Harold II set forth in 1064 to negotiate with William of Normandy, a voyage that led to William the Conqueror's return in 1066; Bosham features in the Bayeux Tapestry.

Today Bosham is both picturesque and a thriving centre for sailing. Chichester harbour is a sanctuary for migrating wildfowl, shellduck, wigeon, Brent geese, waders and many more. A favourite haunt for artists and photographers, this picturesque village offers something to suit all tastes. Visit the Quay and stand on the Northern shoreline retaining wall looking back at the iconic Holy Trinity Church (viewpoint from the quay [///sharper.depravity.combining](http://sharper.depravity.combining)). The tide floods the coastal road completely, lapping directly against the walls of historic waterfront cottages.

Park: 5 Bosham Ln, Bosham PO18 8HZ [///protected.revision.cure](http://protected.revision.cure)

Critical safety: Do not park on the shoreline road under any circumstances. High tide fully submerges cars here. However, long exposures can make the asphalt road look like an underwater path leading to the church. [///tumble.pacemaker.refer](http://tumble.pacemaker.refer)



## Calshot beach

**Map Ref 5** SO45 1BR

Daytime, Sunset

50 minutes from the hotel.

Calshot beach forms part of a mile long shingle spit which reaches out into the mouth of Southampton Water. It hosts a long row of individual beach huts at the start of the spit. The beach also offers panoramic views of the Solent, Southampton and the Isle of Wight. Outdoor and watersports are popular including windsurfing, kitesurfing, sailing and climbing.

On the other side of the spit is an extensive salt marsh which is home to a wealth of birds and other wildlife.

### **Calshot Castle**

Built by Henry VIII as an artillery fort in 1539, as part of his chain of defences along the English south coast. As one of 30 coastal forts erected to defend England, the Castle was built using stone and lead from the recently closed monasteries of Beaulieu and Netley. The Castle is also surrounded by a deep moat. With the outbreak of WW2, the Castle was re-armed in the face of possible German invasion. The station closed in 1961 as military seaplanes became obsolete. Today, Calshot Castle is owned by English Heritage.

Park: Jack Maynard Road, Calshot Spit, Calshot, SO45 1BR ///obligated.wipes.voter



# Chichester

**Map Ref 6** Various

Daytime, Sunset

20 minutes from the hotel.

West Sussex's only city, Chichester is a contrast of ancient and modern. Explore the quaint side-streets or walk the towpath beside Chichester Canal.

Park: Cattlemarket Car Park, Market Rd PO19 1JW [///shade.spends.caged](#)

**Chichester Cathedral 6a** West Street PO19 1PX [///rotate.mats.stores](#)

It has dominated the skyline around Chichester for nearly 950 years. The iconic building is home to Marc Chagall's stained-glass window, John Piper's incredible tapestry and Roman mosaics.

**Chichester Cross 6a** South St PO19 1YH [///drops.down.gravel](#)

An elaborate Perpendicular market cross in the centre of the city at the intersection of the four principal streets. It is a Grade I listed building and was built in 1501 so that the poor people should have somewhere to sell their wares.

## Roman legacy 6a

An almost complete circuit of Roman city walls offer an incredible raised perspective on the city. Enter in several places including 58 Orchard St, PO19 1DD [///shares.wonderfully.bring](#). The Novium Museum, Tower St, PO19 1QH [///watch.stress.emerge](#) displays remains of a Roman bathhouse.

**Pallant House Gallery 6a** 9 North Pallant, PO19 1TJ [///danger.rare.oiled](#)

Explore important modern British art set inside an 18th Century Queen Anne town house with an award-winning modern extension.

## Dell Quay and abandoned boat 6c

An old commercial harbour wharf. At high water, the timber pier structure looks isolated. For the abandoned boat [///goats.relaxed.segmented](#), turn right after the pub and walk about 100m.

Park: limited roadside parking near the Crown & Anchor pub PO20 7EE [///appraised.value.strikers](#)



# Cobnor Point

**Map Ref 7** PO18 8TD

Daytime

26 minutes from the hotel.

A skeletal, decaying row of wooden pilings from an abandoned jetty //costumed.engages.modem jut out into the fast-flowing water. High tide isolates these wooden stumps from the mudbanks. A 30-second exposure simplifies the scene, leaving the raw, decaying textures of the wood standing alone in a calm, flat sea.

Park: Cobnor public car park PO18 8TD ///laws.donor.putts then walk 15 minutes (1km) south on the public path (Chidham Walkway) to the Southern tip of the peninsula. Frame looking East across the open channel.



# Eastney

**Map Ref 8** Various

Sunrise, Daytime, Sunset

20 minutes from the hotel.

## **Eastney beach 8a**

2km long at the south-east end of Portsea Island. It hosts significant amount of vegetation containing nationally rare species such as Nottingham Catchfly, Sea Holly and Sea Radish. The beach and the adjoining Eastney Lake are also valuable roosting and feeding sites with regular visits from gulls and waders. Park: There is ample pay and display parking along Eastney Esplanade Car Park PO4 9GE.

## **Eastney sea defenses 8b** ///taker.slower.square

The line of World War II anti-tank concrete cubes are Grade II listed. Brutalist, angular concrete interlocking armour units meet the tidal swell of the Solent giving dramatic, high-contrast images.

Walk onto the beach and head east. There are several clusters on the way to the steps.

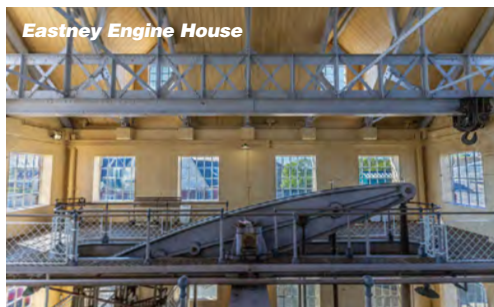
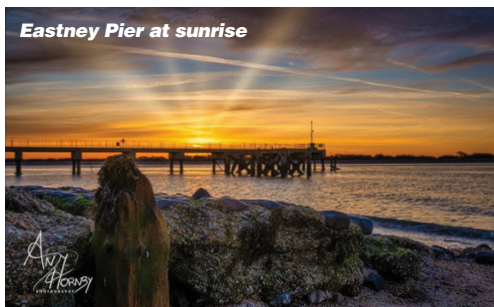
Park: Eastney Esplanade, Southsea PO4 9ND ///square.files.shop or Fort Cumberland car park, Fort Cumberland Road PO4 9LG ///demand.scouts.magic then path between caravan park and fort ///ruled.falls.scores

## **Eastney Pier 8c** ///snake.narrow.heap

A hidden gem that offers an array of compositions. Catch the views over Langstone Harbour towards Hayling Island at sunrise. Apparently the car park can be tricky to navigate, especially in low light, it's worth it for the stunning scenery. Park: Ferry Road PO4 9RJ ///accent.museum.gained

## **Eastney Engine Houses 8d** 201 Henderson Road, Southsea, PO4 9JF ///bound.token.gears

The Victorian group of Engine Houses include the 1865 pump house and boiler house; the 1887 boiler house, pump house and chimney; and the 1904 gas engine house. To view the opening dates and to find out more visit [eastneyenginehouses.co.uk](http://eastneyenginehouses.co.uk). Park: Bransbury Park Car Park, PO4 9SA ///shrimp.vague.tamed



# Farlington Marshes

**Map Ref 9** PO3 5LY

Sunrise, Daytime, Sunset

10 minutes from the hotel.

<https://www.hiwwt.org.uk/nature-reserves/farlington-marshes-nature-reserve>

Farlington Marshes is a coastal wildlife expanse with internationally important populations of wading birds and wildfowl. Farlington Marshes has stunning views around the harbour.

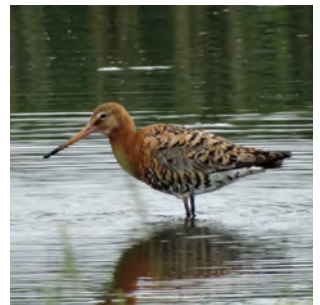
Dark bellied brent geese, wigeons, teals, avocets, redshanks and dunlins flock to Farlington Marshes in their thousands, creating unrivalled bird watching opportunities. Winter sees the return of short-eared owls, which hunt over the Point Field and southern end of the main marsh.

Also view the remains of the Oyster Catchers House from the reserve southerly point. Only the footings remain which are made up of brick and stone as well as some timber structures on the island edge. Believed to have been built in 1819 to guard the Oyster Beds.

Solent Way, Portsmouth PO6 1UN. OS Map Reference SU 685 045.

Park: Eastern Rd, Portsmouth PO3 5LY ///amber.quen.ch.refers

Also less spaces but sit at the access to marsh ///vibes.mass.likes



# Goodwood Revival

**Map Ref 10** PO18 0PH

Daytime

30 minutes from the hotel.

[www.goodwood.com/motorsport/goodwood-revival/](http://www.goodwood.com/motorsport/goodwood-revival/)

The world's most spectacular historic motor racing event, Goodwood Revival presented by Dunlop is an immersive celebration of vintage cars and fashion. In 2026, step into La Dolce Vita, where Italian style, passion and romance weave their way through an unforgettable weekend.

It is expensive and requires full commitment but there may also be opportunities to see attendees travelling to and from the weekend in the surrounding area.

Parking is free and open from 07:00 each day. Please note that all parking will be in grass fields and appropriate footwear is recommended. Goodwood public car park, Chichester, PO18 0PH  
///saying.form.spared



30 minutes from the hotel.

Gosport is awash with museums. Whilst the KitKat guide aims to cover photographic locations rather than attractions, the following venues offer unique photo opportunities:

**Royal Navy Submarine Museum 11a** Haslar, Jetty Road, PO12 2AS ///flash.dash.bucked  
(Part of the Royal Historic Dock Ticket: see page 31) Open Wednesday to Sunday, 10:00 to 16:00.  
Explore the depths of Britain's only surviving Second World War-era ocean-going submarine, HMS Alliance. Free parking ///rungs.hoping.dreams

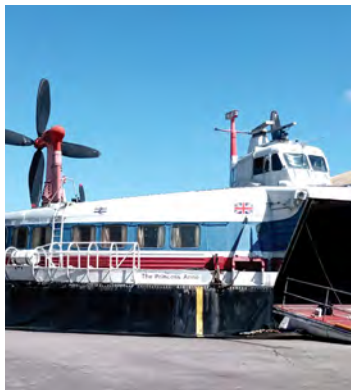
**Explosion! 11b** Museum of Naval Firepower, Heritage Way, Priddys Hard, PO12 4LE ///rally.post.saves  
(Part of the Royal Historic Dock Ticket: see page 31) Open Wednesday to Sunday, 11:30 to 15:50  
A hands on, interactive museum set in the historic setting of a former gunpowder and munitions depot at Priddy's Hard. Also not far from here is the Millenium bridge ///haven.many.taps for more views of Portsmouth, water and marinas. Park: as location.

**Fort Brockhurst 11c** Gunners Way, PO12 4BP ///maker.stream.fully  
English Heritage. A Victorian fortifications built to protect Portsmouth Harbour featuring ramparts, a moat, and original buildings. Closed on KitKat but the exterior of the fort is open daylight hours. A circular walk around the moat and into woodland gives views of moat, the back of the fort and its defences. A £2 parking charge applies to all non English Heritage members. Park: as location.

**The Diving Museum 11d** No. 2, Battery, Stokes Bay Rd, PO12 2QT ///remaining.pointer.sleepless  
From ancient times man has reaped the natural treasures of the oceans and the 18th century saw an explosion of interest in recovering treasures from sunken vessels. The beach also has interest in the Browdown Battery. Park: as location.

**Hovercraft Museum 11e** Marine Parade W, PO13 9NS ///random.employer.plump  
The only one in the world dedicated to this unique concept. The collection consists of 60 hovercraft, ranging in size from single-seat fun craft to giant SRN4 that operated across the English Channel. Park: as location.

**The Lightship & Haslar Marina 11f** Haslar Rd, Gosport PO12 1NU ///hero.most.gums  
The Lightship at Haslar Marina is a unique dining experience aboard a lovingly restored 1940's lightship. Haslar Marina, with its rich naval history, is a hub of activity and a great place to explore. Park: Haslar Marina Car Park, Haslar Rd, PO12 1NU ///total.they.launch



## Hatchet Pond

**Map Ref 12** SO42 7WE

Daytime, Sunset

50 minutes from the hotel.

Hatchet Pond is the New Forest's largest body of fresh water and home to rare wetland plants and freshwater animals. As one of the most wildlife rich water bodies remaining in lowland England, it is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Special Area for Conservation. The Pond also supports a wide range of wildlife who visit it to mate, lay eggs, feed, or source water. These include reptiles, amphibians, snakes, bats and New Forest ponies and other livestock who roam freely across the Forest.

To reduce the risk of pollution into the pond there are no longer toilet facilities here. Alternative facilities can be found in the nearby villages of Beaulieu, Brockenhurst or Lymington.

Travel west from the pond and you enter to broad expanse of heathland, with possible minimalist compositions, depending on the weather.

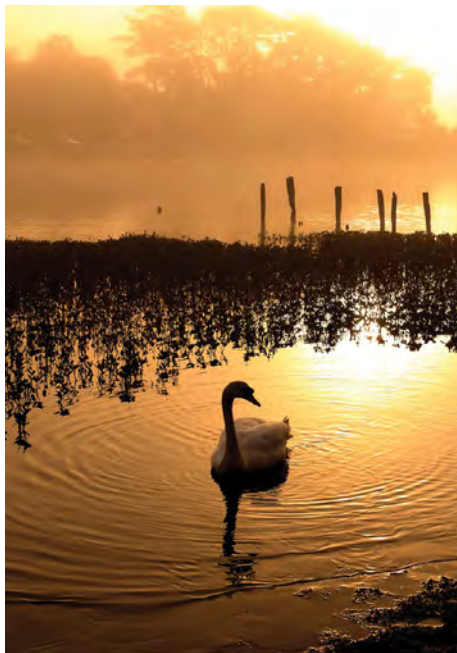
Park:

Charges for parking in the New Forest are currently planned to begin in late April 2026. Please park only in designated car parks, not on a verge or in gateways.

Near East Boldre, off B3055, Hants SO42 7WE. OS Grid Ref: SU 369 017 [///sleepless.dude.hostels](http://sleepless.dude.hostels)

From Beaulieu take the B3055 towards Brockenhurst. Hatchet Pond car park is situated on the junction with the B3054.

Opening hours: dawn to dusk.



# Hayling Island

**Map Ref 13** Various

Daytime, Sunset

25 minutes from the hotel.

Hayling Island combines all the attractions of a traditional seaside with excellent sporting facilities. Windsurfing was even invented on Hayling Island. Miles of unspoilt coastline and countryside offer a wide range of photo opportunities. Originally dependent on fishing, farming and salt production, Hayling Island is now known for its Funland amusement park.

## **World War II Heritage Trail 13a**

The Island is rich in military history with a World War II Heritage Trail ([www.discoverhayling.co.uk/heritage-trail](http://www.discoverhayling.co.uk/heritage-trail)) which takes in many historical landmarks such as Mulberry Harbour (situated in Landstone harbour), pillboxes, the old railway and battery, park and location: Ferry Rd PO11 0BY  
///renew.plans.venues.

## **Hayling Bay and Beach 13b**

Funland Amusement Park, Sea Front, Hayling Island PO11 0AG w///funnels.poet.operation  
Beach huts all along from West Beach Car Park, 6 Sea Front PO11 0AS ///encoder.cured.laugh  
to Bound Lane Car Park, 116 Sea Front Havant PO11 9HW ///foster.stubborn.baker

## **Groynes 13c**

Multiple wooden groynes holding the shingle beach in place. A good location for a sunset high tide composition. Park: Eastoke Beach Car Park, Creek Rd PO11 9FD ///training.trio.disbanded

## **Hayling Island Ferry Landing 13d**

You can view the Mulberry Harbour from the landing. Interesting beach to the south with fallen trees  
Ferry Road Car Park, Marina, PO4 9RJ ///twins.entire.water



# Hengistbury Head

**Map Ref 14** BH6 4EW

Daytime, Sunset

60 minutes from the hotel.

<https://www.visithengistburyhead.co.uk/>

Hengistbury Head is a Site of Special Scientific Interest with panoramic views of the nature reserve, Christchurch harbour, Bournemouth Bay and across to the Isle of Wight. It has a wide variety of habitats: heathland, grassland, scrub, woodland, freshwater wetland and coastland. These habitats create homes for over 500 plant species, 300 types of birds, a large variety of insects, reptiles and small mammals – adders, skylarks, sand-lizards and natterjack toads (one of Britain's rarest creatures).

Hengistbury Head is a relatively unspoilt beach. It has a south-facing pebble beach, with imposing clay and ironstone cliffs, and soft, sandy beaches at Mudeford spit, which is lined with the colourful beach huts.

There is plenty of parking, with toilets and café. Hengistbury Head Nature Reserve, 200 Broadway, Southbourne, Bournemouth BH6 4EL ///rocks.boot.nets



## Hillhead Beach and Groynes

**Map Ref 15** PO14 3JT

Daytime, Sunset

20 minutes from the hotel.

Set across the Solent from the Isle of Wight is a lengthy stretch of shingle beach backed by a tarmac walkway and Saltern Park. Like much of this stretch of coast the beach is divided up by a classic sequence of timber defensive groynes marching out into the sea. These offer some protection from the erosive forces of longshore drift, helping to keep the shingle in place. Great for long exposures.

Hill Head beach is popular with watersports enthusiasts offering good sailing, windsurfing and kitesurfing. And also, typical of the area is the long line of beach huts. It is also a popular spot for fishing. To the western end of the beach is a small harbour, located at the mouth of the River Meon where it enters the Solent. Just beyond is the Titchfield Haven National Nature Reserve, which is home to a vast array of birdlife (see page 40).

The Hill Head shoreline overlooks the Solent. As one of the busiest sea lanes to and from the English coast this is a great spot for just watching the boats come and go.

Park: Hove-to Car Park, Fareham PO14 3JT [//eased.park.flipping](#) or on Cliff Road PO14 3JT [//shippers.storms.harvest](#)



# Hockley Viaduct

**Map Ref 16** SO21 2BD

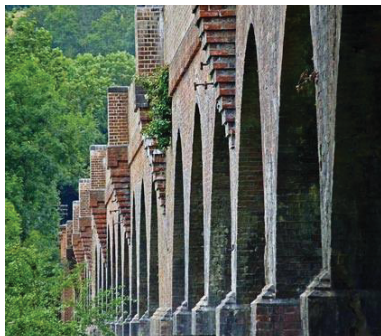
Sunrise, Daytime

28 minutes from the hotel.

A massive, historic concrete and red-brick railway viaduct. The thirty long, repeating arches creating a powerful architectural pattern. Sunrise is the prime time, as the low-angled light rakes across the face of the viaduct, bringing out the rich textures and deep geometric shapes of the historic brick archways.

Opened in 1891, the Hockley Viaduct was part of the Didcot to Southampton railway. It closed to passengers in 1960, and to freight in 1966 as part of the national programme of closures proposed by Dr Richard Beeching. Winchester City Council acquired the viaduct in 1968. Until recently, the viaduct was in a state of disrepair. It has now been repaired to begin a new life as part of the National Cycle Route Network Route 23, for walkers and cyclists to enjoy.

Park: In the small layby near the base of the Hockley trail path. Hockley Link, Compton, Winchester  
SO21 2BD ///roses.fired.reduce



## Lepe Beach & D-Day Concrete Remains

**Map Ref 17** SO45 1AD

Sunrise, Daytime, Sunset

50 minutes from the hotel.

The sand and shingle shore at Lepe was used as a troop embarkation point for D-Day, for soldiers camped in 'Marshalling Area B'. To support landing craft and amphibious operations against Europe, Lord Mountbatten ordered the construction of special 'hards' around Britain's south coast to enable the loading of two types of assault vessels, Landing Craft Tank (LCT) and Landing Ship Tanks (LST). At Lepe, the 'Q' hard was built in front of Lepe House.

Many troops with their equipment, vehicles and ammunition were hidden along the narrow roads and wooded areas across the New Forest. From 31 May 1944 onwards, soldiers embarked onto the ships that would take them to Normandy. The Lepe shore area is now part of Lepe Country Park and remains of the wartime past are still visible, including concrete blocks on the beach which aided vehicles loading onto landing craft, several 'dolphins' that formed part of the pier where landing craft were moored while troops boarded, and a stretch of platforms and slipways where the Mulberry Harbours caissons were built and launched.

Today the long stretch of shingle beach is also popular with kite surfers and wind surfers, and the meadows and woodlands in the park are protected habitats for wildlife.

Dolphins ///wins.engulfing.similar

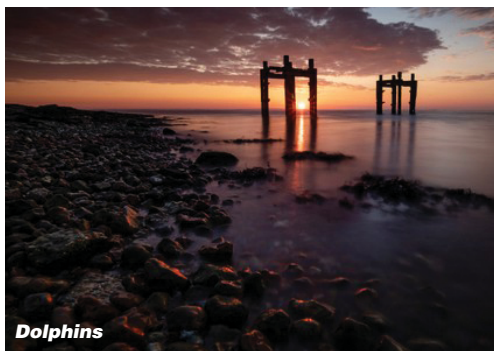
Memorial and Ruins ///meals.mouth.manly

Zig Zag groynes ///fake.stung.clips

Lighthouse ///pelting.users.lizards

Park: Lepe Country Park Car Park, Lepe Rd, Southampton SO45 1AD ///encoded.swims.cattle

Walk East for a few hundred metres along the shoreline from the car park to the D-Day remains.



## Little Woodham 17th Century Village

**Map Ref 18** PO13 8NZ

Daytime

20 minutes from the hotel.

Surrounded by woodland, the 17th century village of Little Woodham allows the visitor to step inside the pages of history books, to open the doors of real homes and immerse in the everyday life of a small village. Meet the seamstress embroidering elaborate decorations on clothing for the wealthy members of the parish, or simply repairing a pair of britches! Visit the weaver busily spinning wool or making beautiful cloths, or the potter at his wheel throwing pots. Hear the chopping of wood at the sawyers, or the rhythmic hammering of metal at the blacksmiths forge, or listen to a mother telling tales of faeries to her children.

Open only 19 and 20 September. 10:30 to 16:30, last admission 15:30. Adult £7, concessionary rates available for senior citizens.

Location and park: Little Woodham, Barrington Close, Gosport PO13 8NZ [///racing.them.lines](http://racing.them.lines)



# Lymington

**Map Ref 19** SO41 3SE

Daytime, Evening

55 minutes from hotel.

The town began as an Anglo-Saxon village. From the Middle Ages to the 19th century, Lymington was well-known for its salt making and thriving ship building industry. Much of the architecture you see today in Lymington is Georgian and Victorian. At the top of the High Street sits the Church of St Thomas. A church has been at this location since the mid-thirteenth century. This Grade II Listed building was badly damaged during the English Civil War, when Puritans occupied it. Over subsequent centuries architectural additions have been added to the building including the tower and cupola. Within the church take a look at the magnificent glass doors and needlework. Head on down to Lymington on a Saturday and enjoy the hustle and bustle of a traditional street market along the High Street.

There are so many marinas and sailing clubs in the area. However, situated on the west bank of the Lymington River, on the edge of the Solent, Lymington is a major yachting centre with three marinas and offer plenty of photographic opportunities.

Near to the Royal Lymington Yacht Club you will find Lymington's famous sea water baths which date back to 1833. These are the oldest sea water baths in the UK and are a popular addition to the town in the summer months.

Park:

For Marinas and Sea Baths: Bath Road Car Park, 19 Bath Rd, SO41 3SE [///shams.expired.zaps](#)

For Church and Town Centre: St Thomas Car Park, SO41 3NP [///valley.yield.expert](#)



# Milford-on-Sea & Hurst Castle

**Map Ref 20** Various

Daytime, Sunset

50 mins from the hotel

Milford on Sea is a large coastal village. Its shoreline has many locations in the area including Hurst Spit which protects marshes behind providing great wildlife.

## **Hordle Cliff 20a**

The beach at Hordle Cliff is sandy at low tide, revealing a sand bar. Home to brightly coloured beach huts over two levels and is popular with swimmers, kite surfers and paddleboarders. Hordle Cliff (west) amenity car park, with toilets. Downton SO41 0UX. [///barbarian.amphibian.restless](#)

## **Hurst Road 20a**

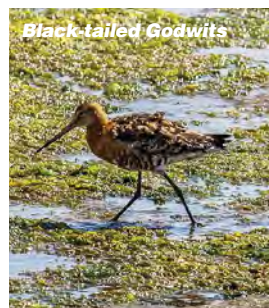
Award-winning concrete beach huts with views of the Solent. Park: Hurst Road West SO41 0PY [///easels.fruitcake.negotiators](#) and Hurst Road East SO41 0PY [///puppets.cupboards.trend](#)

## **Hurst Spit and Castle 20b**

No vehicle access to Hurst Castle, so access is either a 3km walk along Hurst Spit or a leisurely ferry ride. Park Keyhaven Rd, Keyhaven SO41 0TP [///released.backward.demotion](#). Ferry tickets are purchased on day of visit, on board or at the castle ticket office. Catch the ferry from the other side of the sailing club [///brightens.reminder.sized](#) £8.50 return

[hurstcastle.co.uk](#) 10.00 – 17.30. English Heritage Free. Adults £9.50 [///threading.nitrogen.lordship](#)

Since 1544, Hurst Castle has guarded the entrance to the Solent. Arriving by ferry the first glimpse of the massive, historic coastal stone fortress is truly astonishing. The longshingle spit, surrounded by wild tidal marshes provides one of the most unique locations in England. You can see the Needles on the Isle of Wight on a clear day. Low tide opens up the mudflats, providing great opportunities to capture wading birds like egrets and curlews with a telephoto lens.



24 minutes from the hotel.

**Royal Victoria Chapel 21a** Royal Victoria Country Park, SO31 5GA ///caller.covers.think  
The chapel is a massive, solitary Victorian red-brick chapel tower standing isolated in open grassy parklands. It was once at the heart of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital, which stretched for a quarter of a mile along the shores of Southampton Water. The hospital opened in 1863 and treated military personnel from across the British Empire. It was in operation for nearly 100 years. The hospital building was demolished in 1966 and only the Chapel remains. Highly dramatic at sunset or during the evening night hours when the architectural brickwork is lit, creating a powerful, minimalist subject against a dark sky.

Park: Royal Victoria Country Park West, Victoria Rd, Netley, SO31 4NA ///trash.under.angel.  
Pay on exit.

**Netley Abbey 21b** Abbey Hill, Netley, SO31 5FB ///excuse.goes.space  
A beautifully 13th-century preserved medieval ruin. The skeletal stone window tracery creates intricate geometric patterns against the open sky. Mid-morning is the ideal time to shoot, as the sun reaches an angle that casts dramatic stone shadows across the grass-floored nave, emphasizing the rich historical textures. Open daily, 10:00 to 16:00. Free.

Park: Netley Abbey Dedicated Car Park, SO31 5FB ///excuse.goes.space



**Netley Abbey**



**Royal Victoria Chapel**

# New Forest & Lyndhurst

**Map Ref 22** Various

Sunrise, Daytime, Sunset

The New Forest is one of the most special places for wildlife in the UK. From majestic oaks to the tiniest fungi, from the flash of a dragonfly to the call of a curlew, the New Forest is a place to slow down, look closely, and feel connected to the natural world around you. Wander through its ancient woodlands and open heathlands.

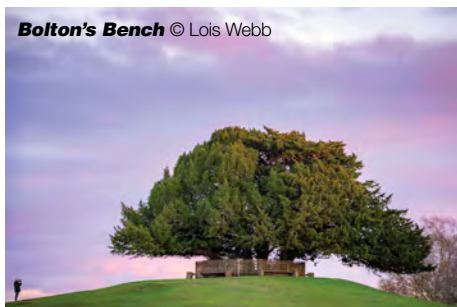
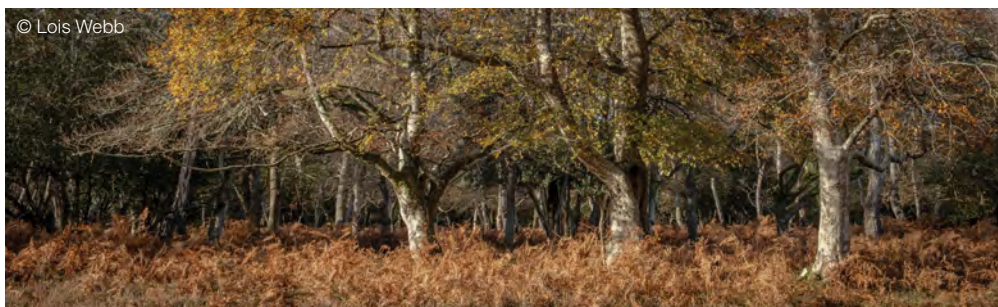
Too many routes to cover in this book so please choose a walk from [www.forestryengland.uk/new-forest/walking-the-new-forest](http://www.forestryengland.uk/new-forest/walking-the-new-forest) or [newforestwalks.co.uk](http://newforestwalks.co.uk).

**The Knightwood Oak 22b** ([///plausible.chucked.octopus](http://plausible.chucked.octopus)) has been around since before the pilgrims set sail in the Mayflower. It is the largest oak in the New Forest, at 7.4m girth and a spectacular example of the ancient art of 'pollarding'; harvesting wood without killing the tree. Park: Minstead, Ringwood SO43 7GR [///players.saved.sped](http://players.saved.sped).

Near the oak is **'The Portuguese Fireplace' 22b** ([///vaulting.surnames.modem](http://vaulting.surnames.modem)), a memorial to the Portuguese who helped with the allied war effort during World War I. Park: Millyford Bridge Inclosure, A35, Lyndhurst SO43 7GR [///snoozing.newlyweds.results](http://snoozing.newlyweds.results).

**New Forest Reptile Centre 22c** keeps British amphibians, lizards and snakes and also has a forest trail (off A35, Bournemouth Rd, Lyndhurst SO43 7GR [///recently.trainers.amphibian](http://recently.trainers.amphibian)).

The capital of the New Forest since William the Conqueror established **Lyndhurst 22a** as a royal hunting ground in 1079. The Victorian Church of St Michael and All Angels has pre-Raphaelite windows designed by William Morris and a fresco by Lord Frederick Leighton. Outside is the grave of Alice Pleasance Liddell, the girl who inspired Lewis Carroll's 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland'. Nearby is Kings House, which is the property of the Crown and provides offices for Forestry England. Located just beyond the lower end of the High Street, Bolton's Bench offers fantastic views of the landscape. Park: Beaulieu Road, SO43 7DA [///submerge.fired.compress](http://submerge.fired.compress) or Gosport Lane, SO43 7BF. [///muted.unsightly.hexes](http://muted.unsightly.hexes)



# New Forest Pigs & Ponies

Map Ref 23

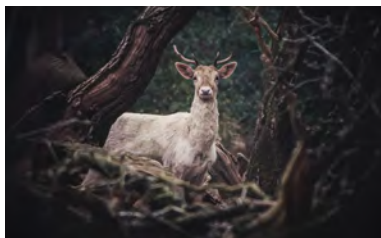
Daytime

The New Forest is one of the most special places for wildlife in the UK – a living, working landscape where people, animals and nature have shared space for generations. The most iconic residents of the New Forest are its free-roaming animals. Around 5,000 New Forest ponies wander freely through the landscape. Alongside them, you'll often see donkeys, cattle and, in autumn, pigs, which are released for pannage to eat fallen acorns and nuts that are harmful to ponies. Pannage is an ancient practice that is still used today by New Forest Commoners, who turn out their pigs into the Forest during the season. The pannage season lasts around 60 days, between September and November.

These animals aren't wild – they belong to local commoners who hold traditional grazing rights. But they are unsupervised, and they play a vital role in shaping and maintaining the New Forest's patchwork of habitats.

The New Forest is home to five species of wild deer: red, roe, fallow, sika and muntjac. You may catch a glimpse of one deep in the woods or peering over gorse on the open heath.

The best way to see any or all of these animals is to spend time in the area though for a higher chance of a sighting deer, head to Bolderwood Deer Sanctuary (see page 4).



## ***Ober Water and Puttles bridge***

**Map Ref 24** SO42 7QB

Sunrise, Daytime

50 minutes from the hotel.

Ober Water is a stream which crosses the central New Forest before flowing into the Lymington River. Perhaps its most beautiful section is where it flows through the woods in an area called Aldridge Hill, just south of Ober Heath. The stream bed itself is brown in colouration due to peat sediment in the water, so lower angles that show the stream and surrounding woods work well. Autumn colours are fantastic with lots of interesting fungi to photograph in this area (don't pick them, it's illegal).

Park: Location is a gentle 15 minute walk east from car park. Puttles bridge car park Rhinefield Rd, Brockenhurst SO42 7QB [///segmented.gallons.dimension](#)



# Old Portsmouth

**Map Ref 25** Various

Sunrise, Daytime, Sunset

15 minutes from the hotel.

Portsmouth's original medieval town is in the south west corner of Portsea Island by the narrow entrance into the harbour. It is an excellent place to watch ships come and go and to get a great view of Spinnaker Tower (see page 39). The tip of the area is also known as Spice Island due to the area's historic seedy reputation; it is from here that men were often press-ganged into the navy. The area has many interesting buildings and pubs as well as a small fishing fleet and fish market. Walk along the 'Hot Walls' (sea walls) and see the old battlements, the round tower and square tower. Visit the Old Garrison Church as you do, you will pass a monument to Nelson. Also in the area is the Cathedral and Portsmouth Museum and Art Gallery.

**Portsmouth Museum 25a** Museum Rd, PO1 2LJ ///cigar.perky.snap

Here you can take a walk through Portsmouth's heritage, discover the world of Sherlock Holmes, trace the history of Portsmouth FC and a whole load more besides.

**Portsmouth Cathedral 25b** High St, PO1 2HA ///casino.ranged.myself

From humble beginnings in 1180 at the heart of Portsmouth's original settlement, this church, dedicated to Thomas Becket, became a parish church around 1320 and a Cathedral in 1927.

**Round Tower and Hotwalls 25c** Broad Street, PO1 2JR ///photos.limbs.locate

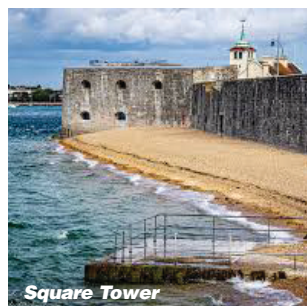
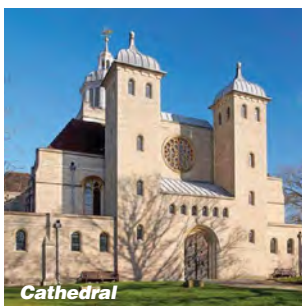
The old eighteen gun battery was built in 1680. Locally known as the 'Hot Walls' because the south facing walls get hot in summer but this nickname originated from heating cannon balls to make them more deadly when fired at wooden ships.

**Old Garrison Church 25d** Penny Street, PO1 2NJ ///claims.frames.lakes

Park **25e** on the road or:

Clarence pier car park, Southsea PO5 3XX ///spin.water.ramp

Broad Street Car Park, East St, Old Portsmouth, Portsmouth PO1 2GR ///glad.polite.silver



# Portchester

**Map Ref 26** PO16 9QW

Daytime, Sunset

10 minutes from the hotel.

Tucked away on a promontory between Fareham and Portsmouth, is the historic village of Portchester. Castle Street has survived centuries unspoiled and one of the finest streets for domestic architecture. It is lined with individual character properties; timber-framed thatched cottages, fine Georgian residences once home to naval commanders and elegant Victorian villas. The family-run pub, The Cormorant, on Castle Street reputedly has the best Sunday roast.

**Portchester Castle 26a** Church Road, Portchester, Hampshire, PO16 9QW ///bolt.snacks.lovely  
A 12th-century Norman keep is one of the tallest in the country. It's the best-preserved Roman fort in northern Europe and the only one whose entire defensive circuit survives with little altered from when it was built. You can climb to the top of the keep and enjoy views across the Solent.

From 1665 Portchester served as a prisoner-of-war camp. During French Revolution and Napoleonic wars of 1793–1815, Portchester housed up to 8,000 prisoners, of many nationalities and backgrounds, including 2,000 African-Caribbean soldiers who were captured while fighting on St Lucia.

Park: ///fade.mime.owners or ///grant.suffer.anyway

## Wrecks 26b

There are easily accessible wrecks on either side of the promontory.

Near the castle: ///easy.chats.carry (park: as castle)

South side: ///bracing.penned.scaffold (park: Wicor Recreation Ground, Cralneigh Road, Portchester, PO16 9DN. Walk to the beach and turn left, walk past the marina and the wrecks are about 30m after the marina).



# Rhinefield Ornamental Drive & Blackwater Arboretum

Map Ref 27 SO42 7QB

Daytime

45 minutes from hotel.

## Rhinefield Ornamental Drive

A stunning 3km scenic route in the New Forest near Brockenhurst, famous for its towering redwoods, conifers, and vibrant rhododendrons planted in the mid-1800s; a magical, tree-lined driving experience, complete with nearby trails like the Tall Trees Trail that allow close up views of giant sequoias over 50m tall [///brushing.media.technical](#)

The Tall Trees Trail is a short walk on a level graded gravel track that runs each side, and parallel to, the road. The walk can be started from either Blackwater or Brock Hill car parks and is the perfect way to experience the height of these trees first hand.

## Blackwater Arboretum

A short stroll from Blackwater car park will get you to the Blackwater Arboretum. This is a relatively small area that contains a selection of trees from around the world.

## Getting to Rhinefield Ornamental Drive

The easiest way of entering the Ornamental Drive is from the A35 road, approximately 3km west of Lyndhurst. Turn left at the crossroads of Rhinefield and Bolderwood Ornamental Drives, Brock Hill car park, 52 Rhinefield Ornamental Dr, Brockenhurst SO42 7QB [///economics.retailing.cookies](#) is almost immediately on the right.

Blackwater car park, Brockenhurst SO43 7FD (with toilet) is further down the Drive on the left [///executive.grower.maternal](#)



## River Hamble

**Map Ref 28** Various

Sunrise, Daytime, Sunset

25 minutes from the hotel.

The River Hamble runs through the picturesque villages of Bishop's Waltham, Botley and Hamble where the river enters into the Southampton Water. The river is internationally famous for its sailing and has been a boat building centre for centuries. The river is not just a sailing Mecca, it is a nationally an internationally important site for nature conservation and a birdwatchers' paradise.

### **Hamble 28a**

Officially known as Hamble-le-Rice, is a pretty place which has a great history including its contribution to the D-Day landings.

### **The Hamble-Warsash Pink Ferry 28b** ///plums.goose.seducing

A ferry has operated across the River Hamble for around 500 years, but its distinctive bubblegum pink is a more recent addition. Take the ferry to the opposite shore and head north along the riverside path for wildlife amongst the reeds and marsh.

[www.hambleferry.co.uk](http://www.hambleferry.co.uk)

Park: For Hamble, boats and ferry, Foreshore Car Park, SO31 4JB ///roughest.respond.icicles

Park: For more boats, Port Hamble Car Park, Satchell Lane, SO31 4QD ///furniture.mile.extra

Park: For even more boats (and a wreck), Swanwick Shore Car Park, SO31 7EF ///input.rating.onion

### **Regatta 28c** [www.royal-southern.co.uk](http://www.royal-southern.co.uk)

Mercury Yacht Harbour, Satchell Lane, Hamble-le-Rice, SO31 4HQ ///lifeguard.local.promising

Friday 18 September: Ladies Afloat Rally Series and Late Summer

Saturday 19 to Sunday 20 September: Summer Series 2026 incorporating J/70 Grand Slam 6

### **Wrecks**

For information about the wrecks [www.maritimearchaeologytrust.org](http://www.maritimearchaeologytrust.org)



# Royal Historic Dock & The Hard

**Map Ref 29** PO1 3LJ

Daytime, Sunset

15 minutes from the hotel.

[www.historicdockyard.co.uk](http://www.historicdockyard.co.uk)

Victory Gate, HM Naval Base, Portsea, Portsmouth PO1 3LJ ///moved.cross.thing

Unlock an unforgettable experience with the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard ticket. Pay only once and visit Portsmouth Historic Dockyard all year! 10:00 to 17:00. Unlimited annual access £51.

## Attractions 29a

The Mary Rose Museum

HMS Victory, Victory Live: The Big repair & Victory Gallery

HMS Warrior

HMS M.33

Royal Navy Museums with Explosion & Submarines (Gosport, see page XX)

Nelson Gallery

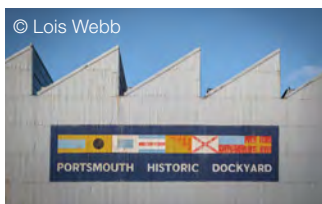
Boathouse 4

Dockyard Apprentice

Park: **29b** Portsmouth Historic Dockyard Car Park, Admiralty Road, PO1 3GU ///learns.radio.lowest  
or **29c** Havant Street, Portsea, PO1 3EQ ///glaze.pool.hiking

## The Hard 29d PO1 3DT ///pounds.twice.toast

A hard is a firm or paved slope by water for hauling boats out of the water. The term is especially used in Hampshire. In Portsmouth, the name comes from the clay that was deposited on the coastline at low tide, which was then dried, becoming a natural slipway. You can view HMS Warrior without paying for the Docks from The Hard.



## **RSPB Pagham Harbour**

**Map Ref 30** PO20 7NE

Sunrise, Daytime, Sunset

30 minutes from the hotel.

### **Pagham Harbour 30a**

This sheltered inlet is an important wetland site for wildlife, featuring saltmarsh, mudflats, lagoons, reedbeds, farmland and shingle beach. Follow trails around the reserve, venturing past the old Sidlesham tramway, along the pebbly beach, and even to our neighbouring reserve, Medmerry.

One of the highlights of summer at Pagham is our tern colony on Tern Island. Take a seat at Church Norton and look out across the harbour to the flurry of activity over the island. The sound of chattering terns drifts across the languid waters mingled with the harsher squawks of the Black-headed Gulls. Common, Sandwich and Little Terns all nest on the island.

Ferry Pool Hide: 250m from visitor centre. Approached by a level, surfaced path with a ramp or steps to access hide.

Church Norton Hide: About 1km from the visitor centre. Up a steep bank, accessed by steps, tidal footpath and boardwalk.

Park: RSPB Pagham Harbour LNR, Selsey Rd, Chichester PO20 7NE ///clutches.applauded. smokers. Car park is 24 hours, though the toilets and visitor centre is daytime only.

**The Salt House 30b** Little Welborne, Pagham, PO21 4NX ///corkscrew.building.panther For views across the Pagham Harbour from the other side. This restored thatched building was once used for storing salt, now used for tourist information.

Park: On Church lane, PO21 4NX ///superhero.friend.bandstand



We are so close to the Isle of Wight it's worth a fun trip to cross the Solent to experience a taste of the island. The car ferry is quite expensive so I am assuming that any trip will be on foot. Also, from my own experience, I know that the public transport is limited, certainly not nearly as frequent as the NCT buses.

## Transport

20 minute Wightlink Catamaran from Portsmouth (see page 39) or Harbour Pier as foot passengers on Wightlink ferry ([www.wightlink.co.uk](http://www.wightlink.co.uk)). From £28.20. Havant St, Portsea, PO1 3EQ  
///glaze.pool.hiking

## Ryde Pier 31a

///labels.shack.homes

The world's oldest seaside pier and second longest in the UK. It is really three piers in one. A second, parallel pier was built in 1864 to support a horse-drawn tramway. The mainland rail companies operating into Portsmouth built a third pier to carry a double-track rail line from the pier head to Ryde Esplanade. Today, the pier features repeating structure of thousands of iron and timber columns rising from the sea. Disappearing converging parallels are so tempting whilst on the pier and underneath a long exposure creates a clean, misty sea to emphasise the endless rows of pillars.

## Ryde Esplanade 31b

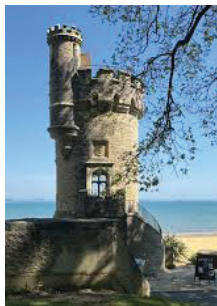
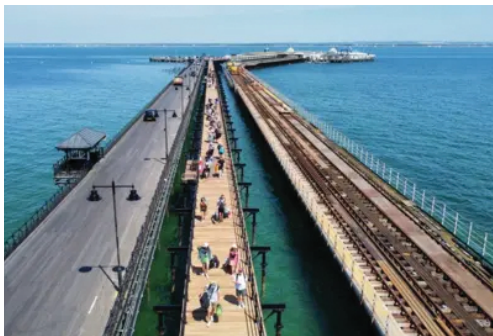
///scan.rates.bottom

Runs the full length of the seafront, followed by the promenade along the sea wall, which passes the Canoe Lake and reaches as far as Puckpool Park to the east.

## Appley Tower 31c

///plenty.divisions.rust

A Victorian mock castle tower on the esplanade overlooking the beach at Ryde. The tower is in private hands, but visitors can mount to the top for excellent views across the Solent.



# Salisbury & Stonehenge

**Map Ref 32** SP1 2PH

Daytime

1 hour from the hotel.

A cathedral city of ageless beauty and captivating history since 1227. At it's heart is Salisbury Cathedral and surrounding the cathedral is a medieval city, full of buildings crafted with the care of another age. Park: Old George Mall Car Park, 6 New St, SP1 2PH ///desks.winner.hotels

**Salisbury Cathedral 32a** SP1 2EJ ///moon.snake.dart

The finest Medieval cathedral in the country. Topped with the country's tallest spire, it boasts many claims to fame including the oldest working mechanical clock in the world and the best-preserved copy of the Magna Carta in existence.

**The Cathedral Close 32a** Around the Cathedral, Start High St Gate SP1 2PE ///pigs.lend.quest

The Cathedral Close around Salisbury Cathedral is the largest of its kind in Britain, covering more than 80 acres. As well as being a attractive place to wander, the Close is also great for its museums and attractions, including The Salisbury Museum, the National Trust's Mompesson House, the former home of Sir Edward Heath, and The Rifles Berkshire & Wiltshire Museum.

**Poultry Cross 32a** Minster Street, SP1 1TH ///bother.tops.magic

This market cross dates from 1450, the peak of the city's prosperity. The curving buttresses which support the pinnacle and cross were late additions, only being added in the early 1850s.

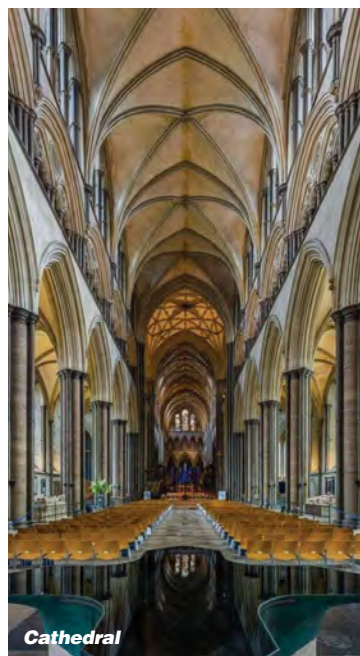
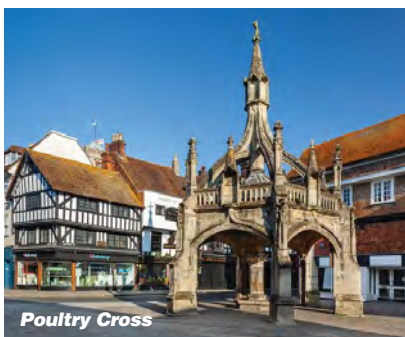
**Stonehenge 32b** Located off A303. Use SP4 7DE and follow brown signs ///widely.warned.liners

Experience the atmosphere of the Stone Circle and follow in the footsteps of the prehistoric people.

Explore the monuments and mysteries of the wider Stonehenge landscape. 09:30 to 17:00.

Free for English Heritage members. £4 parking plus entrance ticket (£29) if not a member.

[www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/)



# Southampton

**Map Ref 33** Various

Daytime, Sunset, Nighttime

35 minutes from the hotel

Southampton is a world-class port city. Its reputation sealed with the departure of the RMS Titanic in 1912, commemorated at the SeaCity Museum (Havelock Rd, SO14 7FY ///cloud.grabs.clots). Today, Southampton remains a hub for the global cruise industry, welcoming ships from all over the world.

## **Boat Show 33a**

Mayflower Park (SO14 2AQ ///closer.swaps.hero) is a charming green space is the venue for the annual International Boat Show. 18 to 27 September [www.southamptonboatshow.com](http://www.southamptonboatshow.com)

## **Medieval City Walls 33b** SO15 1DE ///visa.slurs.museum

These ancient fortifications offer excellent photo opportunities with their weathered stones and charming turrets. Bargate (High St, SO14 2DJ ///author.alone.start) is a medieval gatehouse that was originally part of the city's walls. This remnant dates back to 1180 and features archways, ornate leaded windows, a stone statue of George III and a 17th-century watch bell.

## **Southampton Common 33c** ///vocab.salsa.funny

An expansive green space perfect for capturing nature's beauty with sprawling lawns, majestic trees, and serene ponds.

## **Tudor House and Garden 33d** Bugle St, SO14 2AD ///record.recent.fortunate

A beautifully restored historic house with intricate timber beams and traditional Tudor architecture.

## **Ocean Village Marina 33e** 5 Maritime Walk, SO14 3QT ///loving.reply.digit

Elegant luxury yachts bob gently in the harbour, framed by modern architecture and vibrant cafes. Sunset is an especially magical time as the colours are reflected in the tranquil waters.

## **Southampton Docks 33f**

You can't just wander into the main container port (it's a secure site!), but the areas around Town Quay (viewpoint 30 Town Quay, SO14 2NT ///bravo.moves.notes) offer a taste of that maritime industrial vibe: weathered sea walls, old brick warehouses, huge mooring bollards and rusty chains. Views of the docks can be taken across the River Test from **Maggy Beach 33g**, 12 Quayside Walk, Marchwood, SO40 4AH ///hoot.equal.flag. Watch massive cruise ships, cargo vessels, and sleek yachts come and go. Include the colourful containers stacked high in the docks or the huge industrial cranes in the background across the water.

## **Bedford Place's Alter Ego 33h** SO15 2DG ///since.count.scary

Bedford Place is known for its trendy bars and nightlife. But the real magic is in the network of back alleys and service roads that run behind it: rusty metal fire escapes, overflowing wheelie bins, industrial-looking air conditioning units and huge loading bay doors. It's also a hotspot for some of the city's best graffiti and street art.

## **Abandoned boats 33i** ///volume.sands.loads

Easy to get to, near Northern Bridge. Take the footpath off Bitterne West Road at the start of bridge.

Park:

For Boat Show, Walls, Bargate, SeaCity; West Quay Multi-Storey SO15 1ST ///coherent.firms.silks

For Southampton Common, Cemetery Rd, SO15 7NN ///long.spine.digs

For Ocean Village, 4 Ocean Way, SO14 3TL ///glass.simply.charm

For Town Quay 30 Town Quay, Southampton SO14 2NT ///bravo.moves.notes

For Maggy Beach Viewpoint Quayside Walk, Marchwood, SO40 4AQ ///chins.ocks.manliness

For Abandoned boat, Quayside Road, SO18 1DH ///gazed.formal.bring

For Bedford Place, 19 Lower Banister St, SO15 2DB ///trend.income.bravo

**Southampton**

**Map Ref 33** Various

Daytime, Sunset, Nighttime



Southsea emerged as a tourist destination during the Victorian era. It is flat and walkable. Well-known former residents include Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Rudyard Kipling and Peter Sellers. Southsea is also known for independent restaurants and bars along Albert Rd and Osborne Rd. The Southsea Coastal Scheme has unveiled its latest section of sea defences between Blue Reef Aquarium and Hovertravel. The upgraded area features a wider promenade, new cycle lanes, improved road layout and enhanced public spaces including seating, planting and play areas.

## **Clarence Pier 34a**

A small seaside amusement park with fairground rides open on the weekend. Alongside the rides, are arcades of colourful games and crazy golf. Great for street photography. Southsea PO5 3AA  
///jumpy.smug.stays

## **Hovercraft 34b**

HoverTravel flies from Southsea Hoverport at the western end of the Clarence Esplanade PO5 3AD. A quick jaunt over to the Isle of Wight only takes 10 minutes to Ryde and there are regular flights. £34/£23. See website for details [www.hovertravel.co.uk](http://www.hovertravel.co.uk) ///ally.churn.term

There is a viewing platform ///belt.glaze.grain

## **Southsea Common 34c**

Southsea Common is a vast open space adjacent to the popular seafront promenade and beach, ideal for kite flying, picnics and ball games. The common also contains a tennis club and skate park though I am not sure whether they offer photographic subjects. Southsea Common has an iconic, historic bandstand next to the castle which makes a great subject for a seafront composition.  
///choice.smile.races

## **Blue Reef Aquarium 34d**

Good choice for a bad weather day. Clarence Esplanade, PO5 3PB ///taps.overnight.kicks  
[www.blureefaquarium.co.uk](http://www.blureefaquarium.co.uk)

## **D-Day Story 34e**

History told through archive films, landing craft, weapons and the 83m Overlord Embroidery. Clarence Esplanade PO5 3NT ///coins.trio.waving theddaystory.com

## **Southsea Castle 34f**

Explore the keep, enjoy panoramic views from the ramparts to the Isle of Wight and Solent. Built in 1544, designed by King Henry VIII. In 1545 the French fleet approached Portsmouth. Henry VIII was at the Castle for the Battle of the Solent, where The Mary Rose sank during battle. The castle was a military base for 400 years. In 1814 the Castle was renovated to gain extra guns and a larger garrison. 10:00 to 17:00, Closed Monday. Free. Clarence Esplanade PO5 3PA ///beam.thinks.comical

Southsea castle lighthouse is glowing again. An illuminated artwork wraps around the lantern gallery. The artwork features seven overlapping words: OUTWITH, WITHIN, INSIDE, SIDEWAYS, SOMEWHERE, HEREWITH and WITHOUT.

## **South Parade Pier 34g**

Traditional pier, great for a sunrise/sunset or street photos. S Parade PO4 0SW ///lace.entry.heavy

## **Parking 34h**

Park on the road along the length of Clarence Esplanade

West (For Clarence Pier, HoverTravel and onto Spice Island)

Seafront The Esplanade Car Park with toilets, Southsea PO5 3SB ///scales.tubes.remedy

Middle (For Rock Garden, Castle and D-Day Museum)

Pyramids Car Park, Clarence Esplanade, Southsea PO5 3NZ ///kept.system.global

D-Day Museum car park PO5 3NT ///exchanges.press.regime

East (for beach, South Parade Pier, Canoe lake and model village)

Seafront Canoe Lake Car Park PO4 9RU ///frost.traps.vibrate



# Spinnaker Tower

**Map Ref 35** Various

Sunrise, Daytime, Sunset

Above Portsmouth harbour, the 170m Spinnaker Tower [///hope.voter.lake](#) delivers panoramic views over the harbour, with cruise liners, naval ships, and city events unfolding beneath. Look out for the resident owl! Look up from the base for structural details. There is a charge to go up the tower: £19.50 (save £5 online) 10:00 to 18:00. Park Gunwharf Quays [///rewarding.legs.inspector](#)

Viewpoints

## **Gosport 35a**

25 minutes from the hotel. Great for night views of Portsmouth

Falkland Gardens [///regime.full.panels](#)

Include Gosport Tidal clock in composition [///lives.worm.loses](#)

Gosport Millenium Pier [///latter.loudly.visual](#)

Park: South Street Car Park, High St, Gosport PO12 1DS [///successes.rests.dangerously](#)

## **Gunwharf Quays 35b**

15 minutes from hotel. The Tower can be seen from many places throughout the Quays but a great shot can be had from HMS Marlborough Figurehead [///shark.drain.unity](#)

Park: 79 Park Rd, Portsmouth PO1 3FD [///rewarding.legs.inspector](#)

## **Spice Island 35c**

15 minutes from hotel. Bath Square, try down by the water if tide allows to get the harbour wall in your composition [///tube.notion.towers](#). Alt composition from slipway [///curving.email.drive](#)

Park; Broad Street Car Park, East St, Old Portsmouth, Portsmouth PO1 2GR [///glad.polite.silver](#)

## **Portsmouth Hill 35d**

10 minutes from hotel. Views over Portsmouth

Park: and view over the city, Portsmouth Hill Rd, Cosham, PO6 3LZ [///ready.waddled.scare](#)

or over water [///decide.tasty.apples](#) or over Paulsgrove Lake [///rock.free.spend](#)



# ***Titchfield Haven National Nature Reserve***

**Map Ref 36** PO14 3JT

Daytime, Sunset

20 minutes from the hotel.

Titchfield Haven, is a low lying and generally flat diverse wetland area in the Lower Meon Valley, part of the lower floodplain of the Meon River. The reserve comprises of open water, river, reedbeds, fen vegetation, scrapes, wet meadows with ditches, scrub and mature woodland. There are two trails with 8 hides to watch wildfowl.

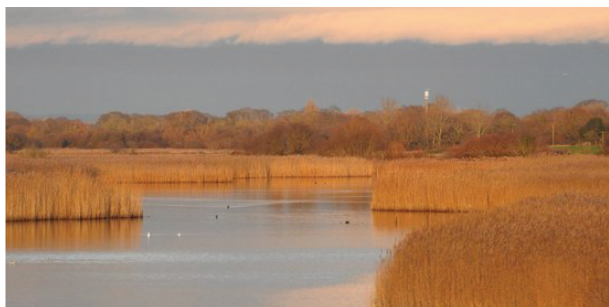
Species on the reserve include Bearded Tit, Marsh Harrier, Snipe, Avocet, Turnstone, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Fieldfare, Pintail and other ducks, Green Sandpiper, Buzzard and garden species. The reserve is also home to dragonflies and damselflies (18 species), butterflies and rare plants, such as Bog Pimpernel, Lesser Spearwort, Marsh Bedstraw, Great Water Dock, Marsh Mallow and Southern Marsh Orchid.

Please note that due to the ongoing boardwalk replacement, the east side of the reserve beyond the Suffern Hide will be closed from 8 June until the work is complete. Reduced entry charge will apply. Hopefully work is finished by September.

Information and tickets are available at the ticketing point in reception. Adult £6.50 (£5.50). Monday to Sunday 09:30 to 16:00.

[www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/titchfield](http://www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/titchfield)

Park: Hove-to Car Park, Fareham PO14 3JT [eased.park.flipping](http://eased.park.flipping) or on Cliff Road PO14 3JT [shippers.storms.harvest](http://shippers.storms.harvest)



# Weald & Downland Living Museum

**Map Ref 37** PO18 0EU

Daytime

35 minutes from the hotel.

[www.wealddown.co.uk](http://www.wealddown.co.uk)

Town Lane, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0EU ///[stolen.jump.grin](http://stolen.jump.grin)

Because it was ordinary, rural life wasn't always treated as 'history'. It happened in kitchens and yards, in calloused hands and early starts. Here, you get close to what it felt like. Ordinary lives are made to feel vividly present as you step inside over 50 rescued historic and working buildings, travelling through 1,000 years of rural life, learning the human and material stories that each has to tell. Outside, the whole rural system can be seen in motion, with humble cottage gardens and a living rural landscape, where people and animals work side by side through the seasons. This is the precious un-precious. A legacy and rare collection of everyday buildings, objects and a library that's cared for, and shared, so everyone can immerse in it, feel part of it, and carry it forward, keeping rural life alive.

10:00 to 17:00, last admission 15:00, historic houses close from 16:00

Online price: £16.90. Walk in price £18.75.

The use of tripods, monopods or supplementary lighting is not permitted, this is to ensure the safety of visitors, staff and volunteers and prevent damage to our exhibits and collections. Drones are not permitted. Photographers are asked to make sure they have asked for permission from anyone: members of staff, volunteers and other visitors, prior to taking their photograph.



# Winchester

**Map Ref 38** Various

Daytime, Evening

30 minutes from the hotel.

## **Winchester Cathedral 38a**

Centuries of English heritage, magnificent architecture and priceless treasures.

Park: Colebrook Street Car Park, Colebrook St, SO23 3SD ///trouser.shimmered.snippets

## **Curle's Passage 38a**

17th century stone archways and vaulted passages that lead to the Inner Close of the Cathedral.

The massive stone buttresses and historic flint walls cast long, dramatic shadows under the evening lights. Look for the Latin inscription translating to "to the left to pray, to the right to walk".

## **Priors Gate & Kingsgate 38a** Dome Alley, SO23 9JP ///palms.cringes.humans

Behind Winchesters Cathedral is the 15th century Priors Gate. Just through it you will find Kingsgate village which makes you feel like you have stepped back in time... Don't miss the hidden staircase up to St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate Church which is built on top of the arch of the medieval city gate.

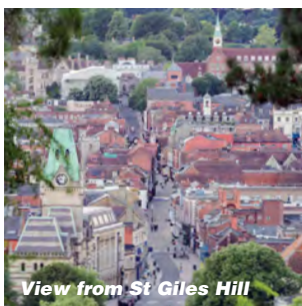
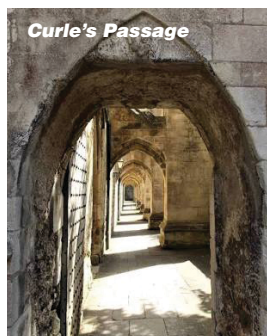
## **Guild Hall & King Alfred's Statue 38a** The Broadway, SO23 9GH ///outline.politics.pianists

Guildhall Winchester is a magnificent late 19th century building situated in the heart of the city of Winchester. An iconic urban landmark, the massive bronze statue of King Alfred stands as a powerful subject against the historic city architecture.

## **St Catherine's Hill & St Giles Hill viewpoints 38b**

St Catherine's is a chalk downland hill overlooking the city and the River Itchen valley. Climb the wooden steps to the summit. Park: Garnier Road Car Park SO23 9PA ///corner.thrusters.polished

St Giles Hill viewing platform, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8BL St. Giles Hill offers breathtaking views. The climb is steep but worth it. Park: Chesil Street Multi-Storey, Barfield Cl, SO23 0HU ///deciding.highbrow.pizzas. Turn right and head up Magdalen Hill, sign posted to St. Giles Hill.



## Winkworth Arboretum

**Map Ref 39** GU8 4AD

Daytime

50 minutes from the hotel.

An internationally significant collection of over 1,000 different species of trees and shrubs, Winkworth Arboretum was created in the early 20th Century by Dr Wilfrid Fox, a local doctor with a passion for preserving the wooded hillside near his home. Winkworth is perfect for visiting any time of the year as the landscape changes with the seasons. In spring, magnolias, bluebells and azaleas bloom, and in autumn, the trees provide a vibrant, colourful display. Summer visits are perfect for picnics, while winter sees frost cover the landscape.

Hascombe Road, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 4AD [///sooner.slot.flask](http://sooner.slot.flask). 10:00 to 17:00.

Free entry and parking for National Trust members. Please note that all members must bring their individually named membership cards.

Adults £15.00. Parking charges are 1 hour: £1.50; 2–3 hours: £2.50; all day: £5.00.

