



The Peat Spade

The Peat Spade Inn is a picture perfect spot in the peaceful village of Longstock. Set in the beautiful Test Valley, with its reed beds, foot bridges and slow moving chalk streams, less than a mile from Stockbridge The rivers and downs surrounding our Inn are simply breathtaking.

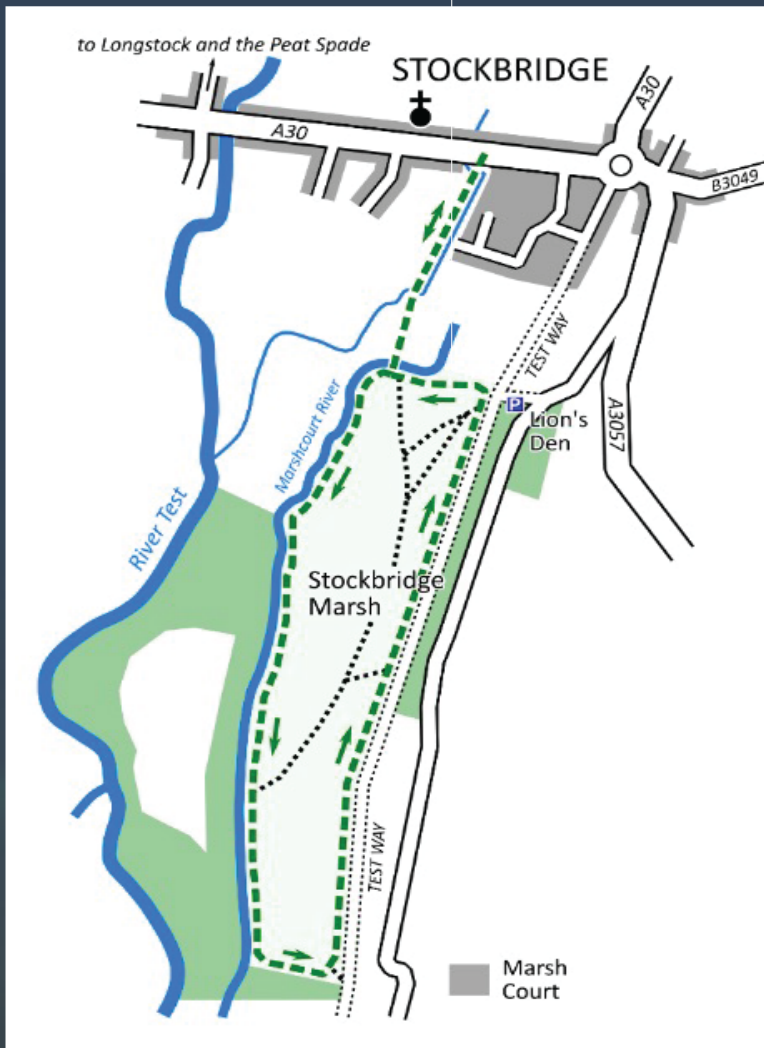


Stockbridge Marsh: Approximately 4 minutes' drive (1¼ miles).

Stockbridge Marsh

A short, level walk from Stockbridge round a meadow

Allow 1 hour. The Marsh may be muddy in winter.



Marsh Court Marshes



Grassland



River Test



This walk begins from the centre of Stockbridge, next to the Little Whisky Shop. Alternatively, drive through Stockbridge, take the A3057 at the roundabout (signposted Romsey and King's Somborne) then after the chapel take the first right (signposted Marshcourt) and park at the Lion's Den NT car park.

1 From the High Street in Stockbridge, follow the path next to the Little Whisky Shop through a gate onto a path beside a stream. 2 Follow it to a footbridge into a field. 3 Cross the field, parallel to the power lines, to a second footbridge, this time over the Marshcourt River, and onto the main open area of Stockbridge Marsh. 4 Turn right and then follow the river as it bends left. 5 Continue approximately parallel to the Marshcourt River for a little over half a mile, crossing occasional footbridges over wet areas, until you reach the far end of the meadow. 6 Follow the path round to the left, with trees on your right and the buildings of Marsh Court visible on the hill ahead of you.

7 When you reach the end of a boardwalk at the other side of the marsh, turn left and walk parallel to the edge of the trees on your right (alternatively, you could follow the Test Way along the former railway within the trees). 8 Near the gate to the Lion's Den car park, bear left along the top of the meadow to return to the footbridge over the Marshcourt River. 9 Turn right over the bridge and retrace your steps along the footpath back to Stockbridge High Street.

What to Bring for Your Walk?

We recommend wearing comfortable walking shoes or lightweight waterproof boots, especially if the ground is damp. Dress in weather-appropriate layers, opting for breathable clothing in warmer months and a light waterproof jacket if rain is expected.

Enjoy a Packed Lunch from Our Pub!

To make the most of your walk, why not take a delicious packed lunch prepared by our pub? We offer a selection of fresh sandwiches, snacks, and drinks to keep you fuelled on your journey. Simply place your order in advance, and we'll have it ready for you before you set off!

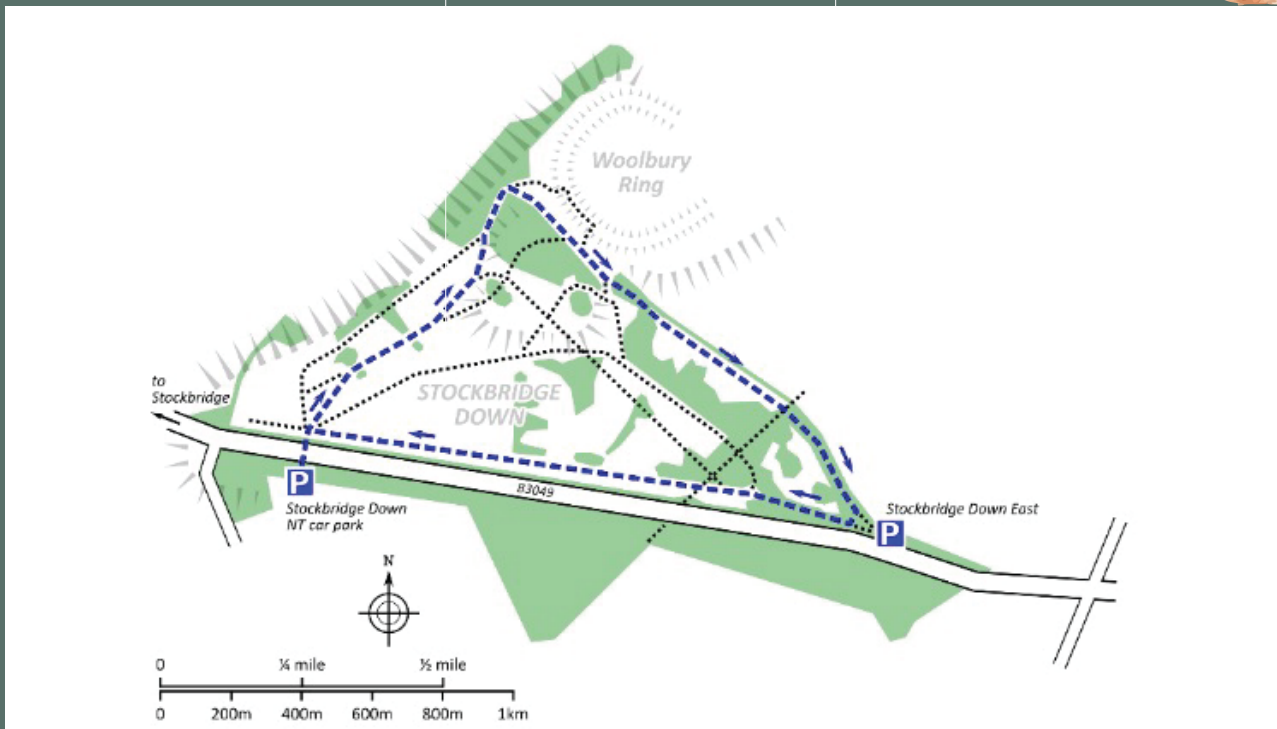


Stockbridge Down: Approximately 6 minutes' drive (3¼ miles).

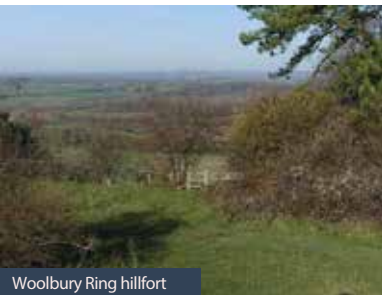
Stockbridge Down

A walk around a public area of chalk grassland, with downland flowers and butterflies, prehistoric burial mounds and Iron Age ramparts.

Allow 1 hour. Mostly gentle grassland slopes; may be muddy after rain.



Stockbridge Down



Woolbury Ring hillfort



Woolbury Ring

Stockbridge, Hampshire
SO20 6DR

peatspadeinn.co.uk

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Drive to Stockbridge and turn left through the village. At the roundabout at the end of the village, carry straight on along the B3049 (signposted Winchester). After 1 mile, look out on the right for the National Trust car park. 1 Exit the car park and cross the road with care. 2 Go through either gate and walk across the turf until you meet a track running parallel to the road. 3 Aim for a gap between two areas of woodland ahead of you. 4 Beyond the trees, continue uphill to another similar gap between woods. 5 Ignore the path towards the highest point of Stockbridge Down (capped with gorse), instead following a path that bears left, below the summit. 6 In the bottom corner, a path leads between two areas of scrubby woodland that gradually converge, then open out close to the ramparts of the Woolbury Ring hillfort. 7 Bear right uphill, along a path to the right of the deep ditch surrounding the earthwork. 8 Beyond the end of the ramparts, the path descends the grassy hillside then enters woodland as a valley forms, before opening out again, but still with trees on your left.

9 Partway down the hill, a public footpath crosses at right-angles. 10 As you approach the eastern car park, turn right and right again. 11 Follow the path parallel to the road on your left for three-quarters of a mile, until you return to the gate giving access to the road and western car park.

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Test Way

A mostly level stroll, including a disused railway, with glimpses of the Rivers Test and Anton.

Allow 2–3 hours. Considerable road walking, on quiet roads. Paths may be muddy in places.



Longstock village



Thatched Cottages



River Test



S1 Exit via the car park onto The Bunny, the side road off the main village street, and turn left. 2 Follow the road out of the village, round a couple of bends, and over the main channel of the River Test overlooking a thatched fishing hut. 3 Continue along the road between reedbeds, crossing a couple more channels. 4 Just before you reach the main road, and before the bridge over the old railway, turn right and descend to the former trackway, now followed by the Test Way. 5 Turn left and pass under the bridge. 6 Follow the Test Way close to the A3057; after quarter of a mile, pass under a bridge. 7 After a further three-quarters of a mile, just before a bridge, an unofficial path on the right across an area of grass gives access to Leckford village and the church of St Nicholas; otherwise continue along the Test Way and pass under the bridge. 8 Pass under another bridge after a further quarter-mile. 9 After another three-quarters of a mile, the Test Way passes through the left-hand of two arches below the main road. Beyond the bridge, leave the Test Way (which heads right) and carry straight on, signposted 'Andover 6m'.

10 Follow the former railway over a bridge over the River Test and continue past a metal barrier by a 'Fullerton Permissive Bridleway' sign. 11 Beyond another barrier, pass a house on the right to a junction of tracks by a wooden fingerpost. Turn left, past the map headed 'Explore Wherwell and its local countryside'. 12 After a short distance, turn right under another double-arched bridge carrying the A3057. 13 Turn immediately left and walk out to the road. 14 Turn right over the River Anton and pass a thatched cottage on your right. 15 Turn left at a triangular junction, signposted to Longstock. Pass the buildings of Fullerton Grange on your right and a pyramidal-roofed granary on the left. 16 Follow the winding lane, ignoring a byway on the right at the bottom of a dry valley. 17 Beyond the sign for Longstock and a house on the left, the road climbs through parkland and past the entrance to Longstock House.

18 At the top of the hill, between a couple of houses on the left and opposite the entrance to the farm shop, turn left along a signposted footpath. 19 After a short track between gardens, the path emerges into fields; follow the hedgerow on your right. 20 After a short distance, the path passes through the hedge and continues in the same direction over a slight rise, with the hedge now on your left. 21 Join the end of a farm track and follow it out to the road. 22 Turn left and follow the road back through Longstock to the Peat Spade, with thatched cottages on both sides.

What to Bring?
Wear comfortable shoes and weather-appropriate layers. A light waterproof jacket is handy if rain is expected.

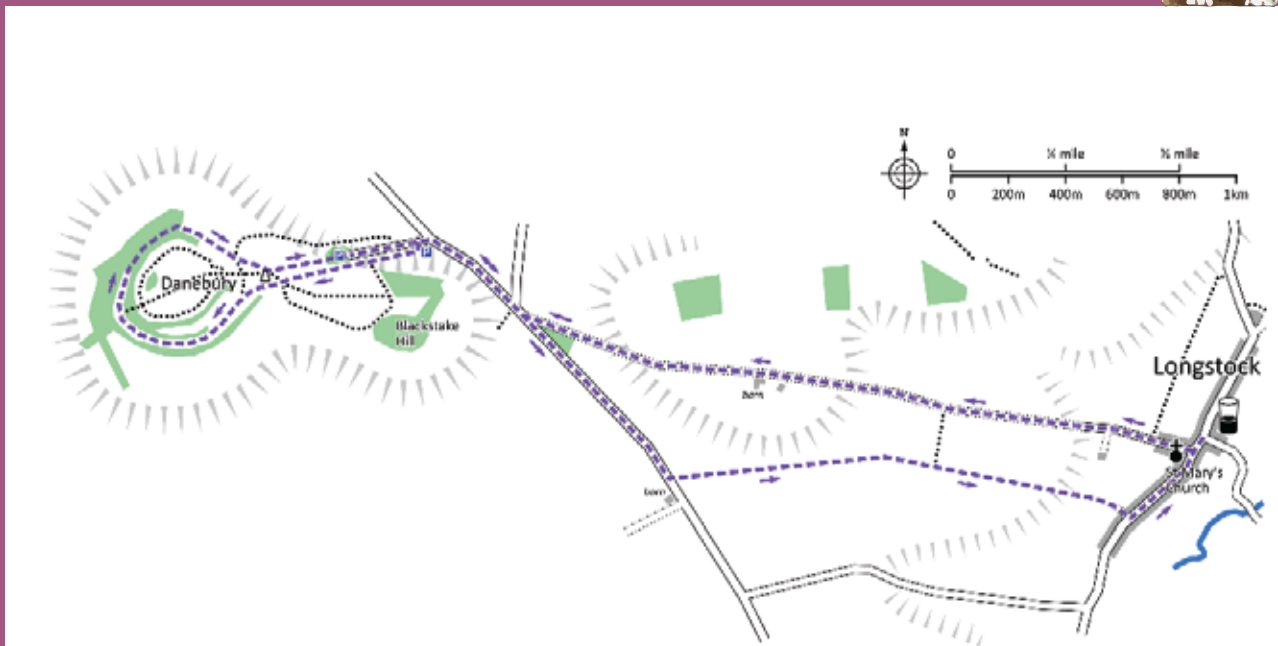
Grab a Packed Lunch!
Order a fresh packed lunch from our pub—sandwiches, snacks, and drinks—to enjoy on your walk.



Danebury

A downland walk to a well-preserved Iron Age hillfort within a nature reserve.

Allow 3 hours. Some gradual ascents and descents, and significant road walking. Patches may be muddy in winter.



St Mary's Church



Approaching Danebury



Earthworks Of Danebury



1 From the front door of the pub, turn left towards the church. 2 Turn right by the lych-gate into Church Lane and follow it uphill past the houses. As you leave the village, ignore a footpath and pass a cemetery, both on the right. 3 The lane deteriorates into a farm track and continues past a barn and silo, and under a line of pylons (beyond which a footpath departs via a kissing gate on the left). 4 Continue along the track until, at more or less the top of the hill about a mile from the village, you pass another barn on the left, then begin to descend gently with Danebury Hill visible ahead. 5 At the end of the track, pass a piece of woodland on the left and walk under a barrier to meet the road. 6 Turn right and keep left at the junction (signposted "The Wallops"), ignoring the entrance to a byway on your left. 7 Follow the road downhill, then turn left into the entrance to Danebury Hillfort. 8 Go through the gate at the rear of the first car park, to your left. 9 Turn right and walk uphill with the road to your right. 10 Climb to a gate and pass the second car park within the trees on the right. 11 Continuing uphill, pass a bench and walk to the left of the trig pillar. Follow the obvious path beyond, between juniper bushes and towards the hillfort. 12 Bear slightly left and follow the main path around the outside of the central hillfort, with the main ramparts to your right. 13 Three-quarters of the way round, the path passes through yew woodland before re-emerging onto open downland. 14 Continue below the rampart back in the direction of the trig point. Pass the eastern entrance of the hillfort, where there is an option to explore the interior and earthworks. 15 When you have seen enough, exit via the same entrance and walk left of the trig point and directly downhill towards the car park among the trees.

16 Go through a gate past the round toilet block and into the car park. 17 Continue down the entrance road to the public road. 18 Turn right and retrace your earlier steps uphill to the road junction. 19 Ignoring the byway off to the right, and shortly the byway on the left that you followed earlier, stay on the road past the wood ahead and walk downhill for a further half-mile. 20 Shortly before a barn on the right and by a field gate, turn left through a gap in the hedge at a footpath sign. 21 Follow the fieldside path uphill and continue along the hedge as the path levels off. 22 At the far end of the field, go through a kissing gate and continue ahead beneath the pylons. 23 Follow the left-hand edge of a narrow field to a gateway by a kissing gate. 24 Continue downhill to a final kissing gate and follow the driveway beyond down to the road. 25 Turn left and follow the road back past the church to the Peat Spade.

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