

DORSET

## Brownsea Island wildlife walk

There is plenty of wildlife and history to observe on this walk, which cuts through mixed broadleaf and pine woodland at the centre of the island. Catch a glimpse of a rare red squirrel or discover traces of Brownsea's once industrial past.



### Information

Address: Start: Path next to church, grid ref: SZ022876

OS map: Explorer OL15; Landranger 195

Activity: Walking

Easy: Gentle terrain, although paths uneven in some places.

Not suitable for dogs

Full trail: Miles: 1 (km: 1.6)

Duration: 30 mins

### Terrain

Gentle terrain, although the paths are uneven in some places.

### Total steps: 6

Start point: Path next to church

1. Start the walk from the path to the right of the church and walk in the opposite direction from the quay.
2. Carry straight along this path. In spring and autumn, this is one of the best places to see red squirrels as they feed on sweet chestnut and beech tree nuts.
3. Pass the Vinery and turn left at the Whispering seat, then continue through ideal red squirrel territory, with mature Scots pine trees on your left.
4. Pass the lily pond and at the top of the hill take the next path on your left signposted to the Visitor Centre and quay.
5. Follow the path and on your right you will see what remains of the daffodil plantation which was established in the early 20th century by the Van Raaltes, who were the owners at the time.
6. At the farm buildings turn left, which brings you onto Church Field and back to where you started.

End point: End: Path next to church, grid ref: SZ022876