

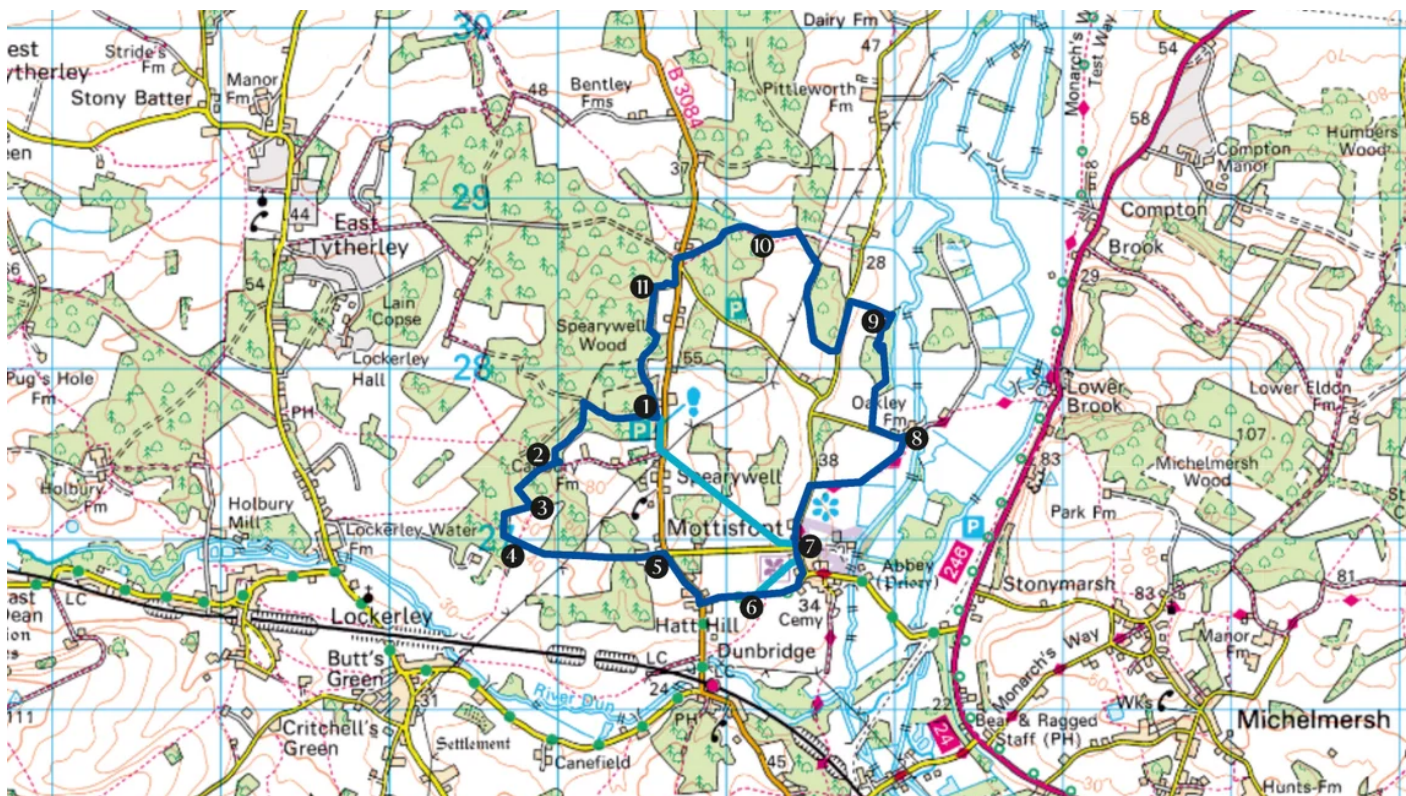
HAMPSHIRE

Mottisfont estate walk

Discover the diverse Mottisfont estate on a varied walk through ancient woodlands and historic farmland. This walk takes in part of the Test Way and showcases some of the best of Hampshire countryside. Look out for fingerpost signs and way markers to guide you along the route. The route is designed to be walked anti-clockwise, but is waymarked in both directions. We have numbered the route to aid orientation.

! Road walking

The route involves walking along some country lanes and roads with no pavements.



Information

Address: Spearywell car park, Spearywell, Hampshire SO51 0LS. Grid ref: SU316275

OS map: Landranger 185

Activity: Walking

Moderate: Route follows established paths with some uneven terrain and walking on country roads. For further details, please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly

Full trail: Miles: 5.7 (km: 9.12)

Duration: 2 hours 40 mins - 4 hours

Terrain

The route follows grass and gravel footpaths, woodland and vehicle tracks. There's some rough and narrow terrain across fields, and some road walking. Please ensure you are prepared with suitable footwear.

Total steps: 11

Start point: Spearywell car park, grid ref: SU316275

1. Starting at Spearywell car park, take the gravel path next to the welcome board into the woods. Continue following the blue way markers until you reach a fingerpost sign. Follow the 'Estate walk' sign pointing left to reach Cadbury Junction.
2. When you reach the Cadbury Junction sign, take the immediate path to the right. Keep following the blue 'Estate walk' way markers. Continue along this path, passing a woodland rest area on your right. The path gently slopes downhill and bends to the left. Continue on this path until you reach the boundary fence of Spearywell woods.
3. Turn right, following the path until you reach the next way marker. Turn left here, following the woodland footpath and keeping the hedgerow to your left.
4. Follow the way marker and continue straight. This single track path takes you past several fields. Halfway down the track, you'll continue to follow the path on an uphill stretch. At the top of this stretch you'll see a double-width metal gate that cuts across the path. Continue to the gate and take the pedestrian side access to reach a road called Keeper's Lane. On your left you'll pass a cottage and to your right, Keeper's Car Park (National Trust).
5. Continue on Keeper's Lane, passing the Village Hall on your right. You'll reach a busy road junction – please take care. Turn right and follow the road (B3084), Hatt Hill. There is no pavement for the first 300m of the walk. Continue walking along the road until you reach a metal National Trust fingerpost sign pointing left towards 'Mottisfont

Abbey'. Cross over the road and continue to follow the blue Estate Walk way markers. This path is part of the National Cycle Network. Continue on this path for until you reach a way marker on your left.

6. You have two options here. For a short cut, follow the light blue 'Short Cut' way markers: turn left through a metal pedestrian gate and cross the field diagonally until you reach a single pedestrian gate leading out towards a busy road, Mottisfont Lane. Immediately in front of you is a road and a brick wall with a way marker pointing left. Continue along this road, passing 'Benger's Lane' bus stop on your right and black iron wrought gates until you reach a road sign, 'Oakley Road, Mottisfont'. The second option is a slightly longer route, which takes in the Millenium Orchard – an apple orchard which is home to several varieties of English apples. Follow the road past the orchard and old phone box until you come out on to Mottisfont Lane. Turn left onto Mottisfont Lane – this section of road is on a bend, with no pavement.
7. Continue along Oakley Road, keeping a red brick wall to your right and cottages to your left. You'll pass a set of cream gates to your right as the road gently slopes downhill. Continue along the road until you reach a fingerpost sign on your right, signalling the Test Way, Estate Walk and other local trails. Follow the single track until your reach the end, which is marked by a National Trust 'Mottisfont Estate' omega sign. Turn left on to the road (Oakley Lane), following the way marked route for approximately 300m before turning right into a field signposted with a way marker.
8. Turn left at Oakley Lane and head down the road for approximately 218yd (200m) before turning off the road at a field gate. Head round the gate and follow the path between two fields into the woodland. The path skirts around the edge of a woodland enclosure, before it turns right, and through open woodland. Carry on until the path turns off to the left leading out of the woods. To see the Oakley Oak, Mottisfont's 800 year-old oak tree, you can turn right at Oakley Lane and head over the river. The oak is just off the 'Oakley Beat'. Walk around the double black gates and take the vehicle track between two fields, following the way markers. Along the route you'll pass fencing to protect the coppice woodland from deer browsing on your left. Continue along this track, following the way markers along the route. Eventually you'll reach a boundary hedge with a way marker pointing left. Follow this route along the verges of the field edge. As you walk along the field verge, you'll see Mottisfont house and gardens in the distance. Keep following the path along the verge of the field until you come across a gap in the hedge line on your right hand side, identified by a way marker pointing right. Follow the arrow, leaving the field and head across the country road into the field opposite.
9. Continue along the footpath, with open fields on your left and woodland hedgerows to your right. Keep straight on the path following the way markers for approximately 1yd (0.9m). You'll pass a Hampshire County Countryside Services access stile leading to various national walks on your right. Follow the path, bending left until you reach a black metal pedestrian gate with a 'Mottisfont Estate' omega sign. Enter through the gates and continue straight ahead.
10. You're now walking through a woodland called Great Copse. Keep straight ahead on the defined footpath, passing several way markers along the route. As you approach the end of the woods, you'll see a double-width metal gate that cuts across the path. Continue to the gate and take the pedestrian side access, following the track towards a main road called 'Jerram's Hill'. From here, turn left (please take caution on the road) following the way markers along Jerram's Hill for approximately 185yds (170m) until you see a way marker on the right, pointing right. Take this little path to re-enter Spearywell Wood.
11. Keep straight ahead until you reach a way marker bending off slightly to the right. This path will lead you back on to the main gravel track heading towards the car park. Here, turn left at the gravel track (stacked timber lines the path) and keep following the way markers - please be aware that heavy forestry machinery is often in operation in this area during the winter months. Keep right and make your way up a slight incline until you reach Spearywell car park.

End point: Spearywell car park, grid ref: SU316275
