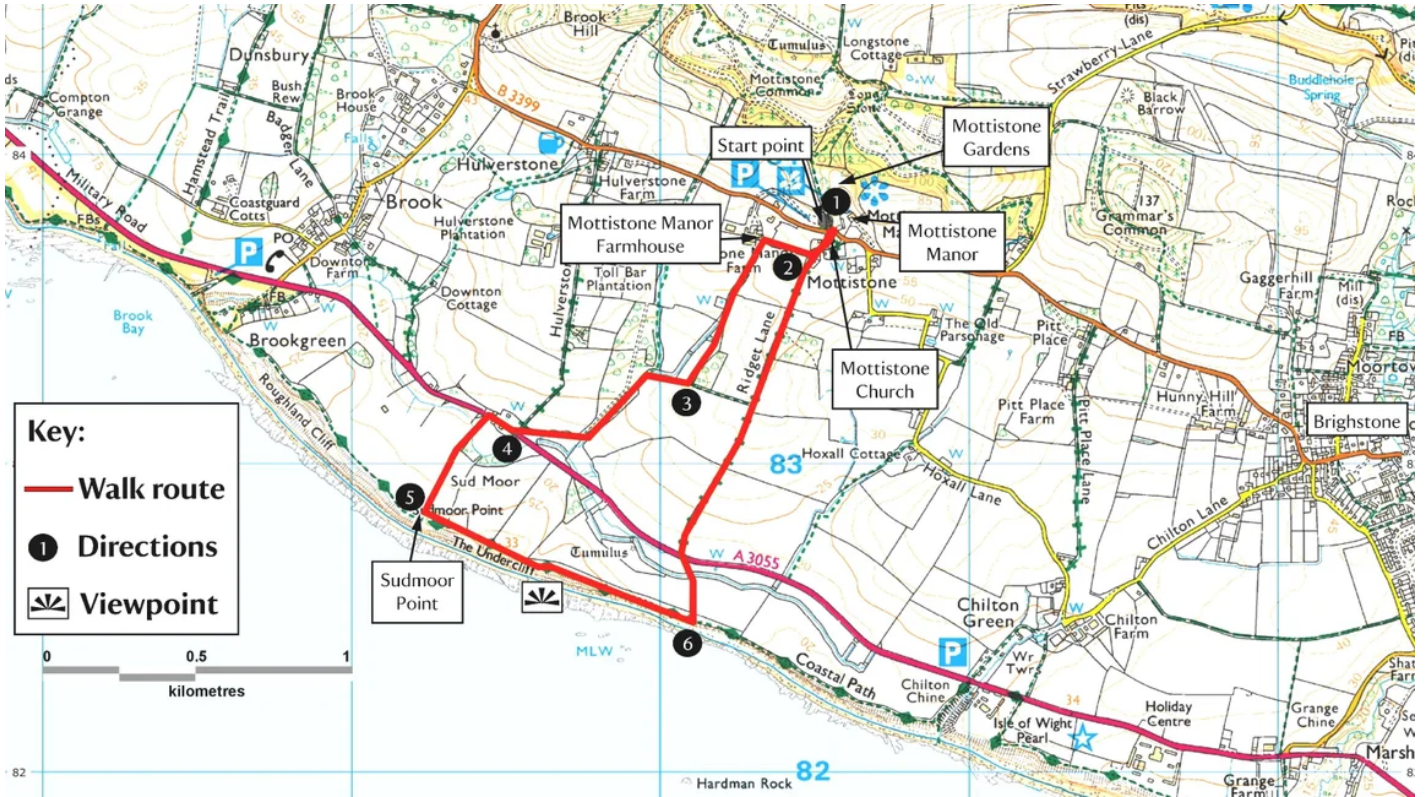


ISLE OF WIGHT

A Mottistone meander: south to the sea

On this easy walking trail, you'll explore the farmed countryside stretching south from Mottistone Gardens to the coastal cliffs at Sudmoor Point. Along the way, enjoy sea views and the chance to encounter rare wildlife.



Information

Address: Mottistone Gardens National Trust car park, Mottistone, Isle of Wight.

OS map: OS Maps: Landranger 196, Explorer OL29

Activity: Walking

Easy: Follows farmland and coastal paths. For further details, see section marked Terrain.

Dog friendly: Dogs welcome, but please keep them on a lead around wildlife and livestock, and take any dog waste home with you. There is a dog bin in the car park.

Full trail: Miles: 2.8 (km: 4.48)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 1 hour 30 mins - 2 hours

Terrain

Total ascent is 75m (250ft). Paths can be muddy in wet seasons. For those wanting a longer walk, this route can be combined with the other downloadable Mottistone trail ('A climb to the common at Mottistone') to make a 6.3 mile (10km) figure-of-eight walk, starting from the car park.

Total steps: 6

Start point: Mottistone Gardens National Trust car park, grid ref: SZ405838

1. Take the path down the steps from the car park towards the entrance to Mottistone Gardens. Cross the road, enter the churchyard by the lych gate. Leave by the south gate, turn right into Ridget Lane and follow it for 80yds (75m).
2. Turn right along the track signposted BS74 towards Mottistone Manor Farm, but take the stile on the left just before the farm yard to continue along BS74. When the track opens out just after a pond, bear left and follow the boundary keeping the trees to the left.
3. Turn right at the T-junction where a hedgerow crosses. Bear left before the trees, keeping the wood and a small stream on the right. At the end of the wood, the path bears right over a plank bridge and stile. Follow the meandering path across the meadow. Cross the stile at the end of the field by a fingerpost and turn left through a farm gate onto the Military Road.
4. Turn right at this road and walk along the right-hand verge. Just after passing two cottages, cross the road and go over a stile opposite onto a permissive path. The path crosses a wooden footbridge then follows the field edge with hedges on the left to reach a stile almost in the corner of the field. Cross the stile and the next field, keeping close to the fence on the left until reaching the cliffs.
5. Turn left onto the coast path. Follow the cliff-top path, passing through a kissing gate near an eroded section of cliff with a few steps on the far side, and continue onwards.
6. At the sign marked "Public Footpath" go through the kissing gate on the left and follow the field edge with the fence on the left to the field corner. Go through another kissing gate then cross the busy Military Road to join the byway BS100. This is a hedge-lined farm track which leads straight back to Mottistone. At the top of this track bear right and then left past the church to reach the road and the entrance to the car park.

End point: Mottistone Gardens National Trust car park, grid ref: SZ405838
