

Corfe Castle, East Circular Route

How to get there: - Grid Reference 958818; Coming from Wareham, turn right in the middle of Corfe Castle, opposite the Bankes Arms Hotel. Follow West Street for about 1/3 mile, turn right where indicated and park in the Pay and Display Car Park.

Information: Toilets are available at the entrance to the car park.

Walk details:-

Exit the car park at the opposite end from where you entered it and turn right along the road up to Corfe Common.

Turn left through the gate and walk for ½ mile until you meet the gate at the road.

Cross the road carefully (road summit directly to your right). Follow the path for about 200 metres and take the signed right fork along the Purbeck Way which will lead you at an angle of 45 degrees to a small wooden bridge at the bottom of the common (signposted 'Chapman's Pool 3').

Cross the 2 wooden bridges, through the gate and up the path for 30 metres until you meet the farm entrance on your left. Continue for another 50 metres to a gate under the tree on the left. Go through the gate and through the 4 little dell to the stile (20 metres).

Turn right and follow the right-hand hedge up through the next 3 fields (½ mile) to meet a track. Follow the path across the other side of the track, cutting off the corner off the track route, and then follow the track up to the road.

At the road, turn left along the road for about 200 metres, then turn left, back into another field. Continue through the fields, through 2 gates and you will come to a farm and other houses (1 1/3 miles).

Just after the houses, you will see a sign to your left for Corfe Castle. Follow the path through the first gate (¼ mile), continue to follow the hedge on your right until you meet a gate-sized gap in the hedge.

Turn right here and walk to the bottom right hand corner where you will go under the railway line and turn right (½ mile).

Follow the path which will lead you over a stream, behind a school and into the main street in Corfe Castle. Cross the road, turn right and there will be a path on your left between the houses which will lead you back to West Street.

Turn left and proceed back to the car park.

